



HENRY KISSINGER

Secretary of State in the administrations of President Richard Nixon and President Gerald Ford, Nobel Peace Prize 1973

I would like to thank my friend Thierry de Montbrial for inviting me to address the participants of the World Policy Conference for a few minutes. Right now, the world is dominated by at least two overwhelming realities. The first is that the international system of the 19th and 20th centuries has disintegrated. The system based entirely on the sovereignty of states is no longer enough to meet the needs of humanity and of the world as it is.

The second problem is that a number of issues have arisen that which did not traditionally form the subject of international discussions, but have threatened to become overwhelming. These include nuclear proliferation, climate, energy and the international financial system. The participants at this conference can make a great contribution by dealing, as I see they are, with the issues of international governance.

These issues never used to be the subject of international governance, but have now become central to peace and progress in the world. I wish you every success. I hope you have good discussions and I only regret that my own schedule did not permit me to participate in your deliberations. I wish you all the best.