

Beat: Politics

PRESIDENT OBAMA SPEAKS ABOUT DEMOCRACY AT UN 70 TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

EXCERPTS OF HIS SPEECH PART I

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USPA NEWS - "Democracy""inclusive democracy""makes countries stronger. When opposition parties can seek power peacefully through the ballot, a country draws upon new ideas says President Obama at the United Nations General Assembly late September.

EROSION OF THE DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES AND FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHTS

When civil society thrives, communities can solve problems that governments cannot necessarily solve alone. When immigrants are welcomed, countries are more productive and more vibrant. When girls can go to school, and get a job, and pursue unlimited opportunity, that's when a country realises its full potential."

"On this basis, we see some major powers assert themselves in ways that contravene international law. We see an erosion of the democratic principles and human rights that are fundamental to this institution's mission; information is strictly controlled, the space for civil society restricted. We're told that such retrenchment is required to beat back disorder; that it's the only way to stamp out terrorism, or prevent foreign meddling. In accordance with this logic, we should support tyrants like Bashar al-Assad, who drops barrel bombs to massacre innocent children, because the alternative is surely worse." Says Obama-----The US president protests on the rise of nationalist and extremist certain countries, as was the case with the construction of walls to prevent migrants to cross the border in Eastern Europe. This is unworthy of "advanced democracies".-----

The increasing skepticism of our international order can also be found in the most advanced democracies. We see greater polarisation, more frequent gridlock; movements on the far right, and sometimes the left, that insist on stopping the trade that binds our fates to other nations, calling for the building of walls to keep out immigrants. Most ominously, we see the fears of ordinary people being exploited through appeals to sectarianism, or tribalism, or racism, or anti-Semitism; appeals to a glorious past before the body politic was infected by those who look different, or worship God differently; a politics of us versus them. ""President Obama to the United Nations General Assembly.

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