



WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON

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Warm greetings to everyone gathered in Brussels for the Crans Montana Forum's 21st annual session.

The future of the world hinges on the strength of relationships. Our destinies are bound together, and if we hope to create a more stable, more equitable, and more sustainable world, it is our responsibility to enhance the positive benefits of our widening interdependence.

Endeavors like the Crans Montana Forum play a key role in promoting partnerships -- whether sharing opinions on energy security or civil society's role in the peace process, the ideas generated by this Forum will spread awareness on important issues. Over the next several days, I encourage you to evaluate how the Crans Montana Forum can continue to drive this kind of collaborative effort among nations, businesses, and nongovernmental organizations.

As we strive to build constructive partnerships, I believe it is crucial that we remember that there will always be differences among us. We must respect those differences and approach our relationships with an understanding of how we can complement each other. When we do, I am confident that our diversity will unite us in a more promising future.

Best wishes to you for a successful event.

*Bill Clinton*