

## Flag Day 2022 Speech

My fellow Soualigans, dignitaries, boys and girls, a pleasant good morning, and welcome to this celebration of Flag Day!

I want to give a special salute to the groups that participated in the Patriotic School Parade. Thank you for the hard work and practice that you put in for this event. You all looked wonderful, you made us all proud today as you marched with pride and oh so patriotically!

As we celebrate this special day for St. Maarten, let us reflect and ask ourselves some questions.

Questions like:

What does Flag Day truly mean to us?

Why should we celebrate our flag on Flag Day, and why do we even need a flag?

What does a flag represent in general?

What does our own flag in particular represent?

How and what do we feel when we see our flag?

And, do we appreciate and respect our flag?

Each and every one of us can answer those questions for ourselves, and I assure you, the answers might differ from person to person.

And, how we answer those questions says something about our feelings of patriotism, national pride, and connection with our beloved island of soualiga

And it doesn't matter if you were born here, raised here, both, or came to these shores at a later age to make st. Martín your home for other reasons.

As a people who have all chosen to have st Martín as our home, we are all connected by our flag. A flag that combines a lot of Caribbean with an international blend of Europe and all other continents.

Fellow Soualigans, our flag speaks of who we are as a nation and a people. A nation with people of over a hundred nationalities.

It is my wish....that as we build and grow as a nation.....we will all continue to appreciate and respect our flag as our national symbol of unity, dignity, patriotism, and pride. Not only on Flag Day, but every day.

I wish you all a happy and blessed Flag Day 2022! Thank you!