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146° IPU Assembly

General Debate:

***“PROMOTING PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE AND
INCLUSIVE SOCIETIES : FIGHTING
INTOLERANCE.”***

President,

Honourable Colleagues,

Distinguished guests,

it's a pleasure and a privilege to take the floor in the 146° IPU Assembly and bring the contribution of the most ancient Republic in the world, the Republic of San Marino, which is a proactive member State of the Council of Europe for 34 years,

a member of the UN General Assembly,

and an active member of the organisations that protect and promote human rights, democracy and the rule of law, seeking peace through multilateralism.

The Republic of San Marino is a country that has embraced individuals' fundamental rights, by deeply contributing to the inter-religious dialogue and by providing shelter to those in need, including Ukrainian refugees in the past year.

War is a dramatic event, especially for civilians who are forced to leave everything they have to save their lives and seek a more promising future for their families.

San Marino highly values the respect for individuals' fundamental rights and as a result,

we strongly supported Ukraine and its people during this extremely difficult time.

San Marino has a history of rejecting war as a mean to resolve conflict,

encouraging dialogue and cooperation that sparkle mutual understanding.

Today we are proud to say that San Marino has achieved a very high protection of the fundamental rights for its citizens.

For instance, over the years, we have come to a better understanding of the causes and the effects of domestic violence against women.

Among various actions of which we are pride of, in 2016 San Marino ratified the Istanbul Convention to fight violence against women

and we worked extremely hard to integrate the principles of the Convention in our culture and processes.

As a matter of fact, the latest report by Grevio, the body responsible for monitoring the implementation of the Istanbul Convention, appreciated the efforts made by San Marino's authorities, who modified the Penal Code to assist and protect victims, and also design preventive actions and raise awareness on gender violence , via an interdisciplinary approach in schools.

Integration, inclusion, solidarity, and a culture of non-discrimination, are strategic to drive cultural change in a country.

Colleagues,

to lay out a better future, we need to start from the respect of every single human being,

regardless of whether he is a man or a woman,

of his sexual orientation,

of her cultural differences or economic status.

For this reason, I want to express my appreciation for the choice of this theme for this Assembly,

promote peaceful coexistence and fight intolerance,

themes that we particularly feel close to us .

We are living in a time in which a deep reflection on these issues is more necessary than ever,

so I want to thank the IPU for the work it has led so far.

Naturally we shouldn't forget about ongoing issues that require our attention

to achieve inclusive societies:

ensuring the rights of minorities,

upholding the rights of vulnerable groups,

such as LGBTI people,

women, migrants, refugees and asylum seekers,

the right of gathering and protest,

and guarantee freedom of speech .

The answer to the present challenges can come through responsible and real DIALOGUE between nations, cultures and religions.

Relationships play a fundamental role to achieve agreements, integration, social and cultural inclusion, all pillars for a peaceful coexistence.

Colleagues,

time is up. We need to take up our duties and responsibilities;

it is now the time to share a common goal and agree on a position about the severe problems that affect our societies.

Let's create a joint program made of actions

to bring people together.

Our societies need us to be the guardians of universal values such as justice, solidarity and love for each other.

I hope that this meeting will enable us to reach the desired results.

I'm sure that if we work together and ^{CLOSE} united, we will set the basis for a better future, for the benefit of the whole world.

Thank you.