

**ВЫСТУПЛЕНИЕ**  
**на Общих дебатах 146-ой Ассамблеи**  
**Межпарламентского союза на тему на тему**  
**«Продвижение мирного сосуществования и**  
**инклюзивных обществ: борьба с**  
**нетерпимостью»**

**11-15**  
**марта**  
**2023 г.**  
**г.**  
**Манама,**  
**Бахрейн**

**Mr. President,**  
**Mr. Chairman,**  
**Dear colleagues,**

First of all I would like to thank the Parliament and Government of Bahrain for their hospitality and the IPU for the perfect organization of this Assembly.

Today's topic is intolerance, which is a persistent problem that has caused discrimination and violence against people based on their religion, ethnicity, gender, social status, or other identities. This issue is more important than ever in our globalized and

interdependent world, and we must develop new approaches to fight and prevent intolerance and discrimination at both the national and global levels.

I would like to highlight Kazakhstan's experience in fighting intolerance in multicultural societies. Our country is home to about 100 ethnic groups and 18 confessions, and we have developed a unique model to promote tolerance. Back in 1995, we established **the Assembly of People of Kazakhstan**, which is a constitutional body headed by the President of the country. The status of the Assembly is fixed in our country's Constitution and secured by a special law. Its mission is to improve cooperation between state institutions and civil society in the sphere of interethnic relations. The Assembly represents the interests of all ethnic groups in the highest legislative [лeджислейтив] body and has a quota of five seats in the Senate filled by members of ethnic groups. This became part of the reform by the President of Kazakhstan, Mr. Tokayev.

Laws are an effective instrument for protecting human rights and combating discrimination, but they cannot guarantee and protect human rights on their own. We must promote values of solidarity, tolerance, and mutual respect to create an effective moral ground for co-existence. Education is key in advancing mutual respect and understanding, and we should promote the belief that diversity is a gift to be celebrated. We should

also educate the younger generation to be true patriots, open-minded, and empathic, as well as respectful and curious about other cultures [калчерс].

Kazakhstan also pays attention to religious concord, and we initiated **the Congress of the Leaders of World and Traditional Religions** in 2003. It has become a unique platform to discuss important issues related to interreligious dialogue and cooperation. The forum's contribution to the promotion of global dialogue between cultures and religions is widely recognized by the United Nations and other international organizations. Last year we held the VII Congress that was devoted to the discussion of the role of religious leaders in the spiritual and social development of mankind in the post-pandemic world. The forum brought together more than 100 delegations from 50 countries, including representatives of different religions, international organizations, and politicians. Among them were His **Holi-ness** Pope Francis and Grand Imam of Al-Azhar Sheikh Ahmed At-Tayeb. So, we should use the peacemaking potential of religions to unite the efforts of spiritual authorities in search of long-term stability.

In conclusion, our message is clear: dialogue and mutual support are the only way to efficiently overcome the challenges the world **faceS** today.

**Thank you for your attention!**