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Monday 25 March 14:30 - 18:00

Thanks for the floor. Dear colleagues

Looking at the world situation today makes me concerned. Not long ago, there was a widespread belief that wars and conflicts were becoming a thing of the past. However, the reality proves otherwise. We are now witnessing numerous conflicts, leading to an increasingly insecure world. This leads to fear and unease among our populations, also in Denmark.

My primary aim as a parliamentarian is to contribute to the creation of a better society, both in the present and for the future. This entails providing opportunities for the new generations, first and foremost in my own country. Nevertheless, in today's interconnected world, decisions made within our borders impact other nations, whether it's regarding climate action or advancements in artificial intelligence.

One of the key solutions lies in fostering dialogue, a strength that I believe the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) exemplifies. Recently some friends of mine asked me about my work in the IPU and what it is good for. I had to recognize that the outcome of our dialogues may not always be easy to quantify. However, I am convinced that engaging in meaningful discussions about common challenges to find common solution remains vital. Dialogue is sometimes difficult, but without dialogue we will not be able to agree about anything. And when thinking about the discussions yesterday, I think that we still have a lot to learn according to dialogue and agreements.

These international conversations and discussion like the ones we are having here, ought to culminate in agreements. However, the true value of these agreements lies in the implementation. We must therefore commit ourselves to fulfilling our obligations and be willing to make compromises, especially when negotiating across borders and interests.

Drawing from my experience as a former schoolteacher, I understand the significance of merging various perspectives to foster unity. Reflecting on my time in the classroom, I often think about the young minds I've taught. Their future must remain at the forefront of our endeavours, motivating us to prioritize collaboration and honour our commitments.

Moreover, it's imperative for all of us, including my own country, to engage in introspection. We must recognize and address the challenges faced by others across the globe, recognizing that not everyone views the world through the same lens as us. This requires setting aside preconceptions and fostering trust among nations.

Ultimately, to prevent my concerns from getting real, it is paramount that we come together, driven by the ambition to secure a better future for our children and grandchildren. By demonstrating the power of

dialogue and the importance of upholding agreements, we can instil hope in the younger generation and pave the way for a brighter tomorrow.

Thank you for listening.