

# Parliamentarians, faith-based communities and the UN Summit of the Future

Intervention to the General Debate,  
IPU 2<sup>nd</sup> Parliamentary Conference on Interfaith Dialogue

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On behalf of *Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament*  
and the *World Future Council*

Your excellencies,

I have the honour of addressing you on behalf of [Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament](#), a Permanent Observer of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, and on behalf of the [World Future Council](#) which partners with the Inter-Parliamentary Union on the annual [World Future Policy Awards](#).

We commend IPU for facilitating interfaith dialogue to build trust and hope for our common future.

Last year the United Nations convened a [Summit of the Future](#) to build multilateral cooperation on sustainable development, peace and security, science and technology, human rights, youth and future generations. Parliamentarians and civil society, including religious and faith-based communities, are encouraged to engage in implementation of the [Pact for the Future](#) and the [Declaration on Future Generations](#) adopted at the Summit.

One of the commitments adopted in the *Pact for the Future* is to prevent nuclear war and achieve the global elimination of nuclear weapons. Yet the threat of nuclear war remains high, nuclear threats are stimulating armed conflict, and governments continue to spend over \$100 billion collectively per year on the nuclear arms race.

Parliamentarians and faith-based communities should engage in this issue. You can find information and guidance to do so in [Assuring our Common Future](#): the online disarmament guide for parliamentarians produced by PNND and the Inter-Parliamentary Union, and also in [Nuclear Disarmament for Religious Leaders and Communities](#), a resource guide produced by Religions for Peace available in [Arabic](#), [English](#), [French](#), [German](#), [Japanese](#) and [Spanish](#).

Special days for reflection, prayer and action on nuclear disarmament include [Nuclear Prayer Day](#) on August 6 and the [UN International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons](#) on September 26.

One of the key proposals in the *UN Declaration on Future Generations* is for the UN to establish an institutional representative for future generations. The UN Secretary-General has proposed a [UN Envoy for Future Generations](#), but needs further political support to achieve this. In addition, such representation for future generations should be established at local, national and regional levels as well as at the United Nations.

An excellent example of such a representative at the national level is the [Wales Commissioner for Future Generations](#) established by the [Wales Wellbeing of Future Generations Act of 2015](#). This is one of the four winning policies of the [2024 World Future Policy Award](#) run by IPU and World Future Council on the theme *Peace and Future Generations*. Other award winners include the [From Arms to Farms program](#) in Kauswagan, Philippines; [Canada's Feminist International Assistance program](#); the indigenous [Moriori Peace Covenant](#) and the [Nigerian National Action Plan on Youth, Peace, and Security](#) which won a visionary award.

We thank IPU for continued partnership on the World Future Policy Awards, including for this year's award on [Living in harmony with nature and future generations](#) which will highlight effective policies to address the triple planetary crisis of pollution, climate change and loss of biodiversity.

Thank you