

Madam President,  
Mr. Secretary General,  
Ladies and Gentlemen, Presidents of the Assembly,

When I think about parliamentary cooperation and multilateralism for greater peace, justice and prosperity for all, one word particularly resonates for me: dialogue.

First and foremost, dialogue between us here today. In a world where the rule of law and the mechanisms that guarantee respect for human rights are increasingly threatened, it is essential to exchange ideas and understand each other. Major challenges - climate, pandemics, conflicts, migration, misinformation - know no borders. The dialogue we can have with one another is a first step towards avoiding being overwhelmed by these challenges.

Our assembly is a rare forum for parliamentary diplomacy, for open dialogue. Let's seize this opportunity for frank exchange, respecting the fundamental principles of serene dialogue: respect, integrity and authenticity. When the conditions are ripe for dialogue that respects these principles, we are doing a useful job here and now.

Dialogue also means being ambassadors of multilateralism in our own countries. Our international credibility begins at home: embodying multilateralism can and must be done daily, by doing everything in our power to ensure respect for the institutions and procedures that enable everyone to express their voice in a democratic process. This includes respect for the opposition, the press, and minority voices.

As President of the Senate of a federal state, I see every day the richness and necessity of dialogue between communities. It's not always easy. But it's also in the diversity of viewpoints that we build our common future.

Dialogue also means speaking out courageously — and sometimes forcefully. It means speaking out for our fellow citizens, who have given us

the mandate to represent them. It means holding our governments accountable. It means denouncing unjust and unbearable situations, such as that of peoples stripped of their dignity, imprisoned journalists, or civilians caught under bombardment.

My hope is that, through meaningful dialogue extending beyond our formal speeches, this conference will contribute to peace, justice and prosperity - not for the few, but for all.