

**H.E. Mr Igor GROSU, President of the Parliament of the
Republic of Moldova**

**General Debate on A world in turmoil: Parliamentary
cooperation and multilateralism for peace, justice and
prosperity for all (4 minute)**

Dear colleagues,

Honourable parliamentarians,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

We live in a world marked by uncertainty, conflicts and multiple crises – from military aggression, hybrid wars to climate changes. In such times, the role of parliaments is not only to create laws, but also to protect democracy and citizens, to keep peace.

For the Republic of Moldova, a country which chose the path of democratic development and European integration, the cooperation and dialogue with you, all these years, have been crucial. They enabled us to advance on our road toward becoming part of the European family. You have encouraged and have been there for us in complicated times, and this support determined us to be firm in the reforms we have started in our country.

For 3 years, the Republic of Moldova, has been bordering a ruthless war. We are witnessing every day how Ukrainians are being killed by drones and missiles launched by Russian Federation. For Moldova, this is not some faraway reality. Drones and missiles flying toward Ukraine are crossing the airspace of our country. In the past weeks, two big Ukrainian cities, Odesa and Cernăuți, situated at the border with the Republic of Moldova have been attacked. We stand by Ukraine, which is our neighbour, our partner and a future member of the European Union, together with us. Over 100 thousand Ukrainian refugees continue to stay in our country. In front of these threats, from the first day, Moldova chose to stay firm on its positions and to plead with all sincerity for peace, respect for international law and supporting a global order based on rules.

Dear colleagues,

The Parliament of the Republic of Moldova is firmly committed to supporting peace, justice and sustainable development. We have promoted essential reforms for the strengthening of the rule of law, we have offered humanitarian help to the refugees and recently, we have been advancing in the process of EU integration – a project of peace and prosperity, which unites us in a community of values.

Dearcolleagues,

I would like to express my deep gratitude for the fact that all these years, we have received real support from you. In autumn, Republic of Moldova will hold parliamentary elections and Moldovans will have to make a choice –shall we leave Moldova at the mercy of an alien state like the Russian Federation, which wants to control it through oligarchic and criminal groups or shall we move forward on the path of integration and accession to the EU, guaranteeing rule of law, democracy and prosperity. We must take the right direction. Moldovans have always known to choose what is good for their families and country in moments of hardship. However, we saw in the presidential election, Russian Federation, through criminal groups, using huge amounts of money, billions, to compromise our European future. And here, I'll give you only one example: a Russian bank opened over 138.000 accounts in order to influence the election results by paying the voters.

Therefore, dear friends, I earnestly ask you to be by our side again. What is happening in Moldova matters, because we have a 1.200 km shared border with Ukraine – the longest in Europe.

We believe in a peaceful and prosperous future of the European Union and we believe we can defend peace, democracy and unity together.