

## SPEECH

by Ms. Tsovinar Vardanyan, member of the National Assembly of the Republic of  
Armenia at the General Debate  
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*Upholding humanitarian norms and supporting humanitarian action in times of crisis*

Honorable chair, distinguished delegates, dear colleagues,

When we speak today about upholding humanitarian norms and supporting humanitarian action in times of crisis, we are reminded that these principles are not only about responding to emergencies. They are about protecting the very essence of what makes us human — compassion, dignity, and peace.

I come from Armenia — a nation that knows too well the pain of conflict and displacement, but also the strength of resilience and the power of hope. For decades, our region has witnessed war, loss, and suffering. Generations have grown up knowing fear instead of trust, separation instead of cooperation.

Yet today, Armenia has chosen a different path — the path of peace. We are committed to building a future of reconciliation and coexistence with our neighbor, Azerbaijan. This is not an easy path. It demands courage to overcome the wounds of the past and faith that dialogue can replace division. But it is the only path that truly honors humanitarian values.

Because peace itself is the highest form of humanitarian action.  
It prevents crises before they happen. It heals communities before they break.  
And it allows children to dream of something greater than survival.

Dear colleagues,

In times of crisis, the world often looks to humanitarian actors to bring relief. But let us also remember our duty, as parliamentarians, to prevent those crises — to ensure that the principles of humanity, impartiality, and solidarity guide not only aid workers in the field, but policymakers in our chambers.

Armenia stands ready to work with all nations to transform our shared pain into shared progress. We believe that peace is possible when it is built on respect for human rights, recognition of suffering, and a sincere commitment to justice.

Let this Assembly be a reminder that humanitarian norms do not end where borders begin. They are universal. They belong to all people, in every crisis, in every land.

May our collective voice today be a voice for peace, for dignity, and for the belief that even after the darkest storms, humanity can still choose the light.

Thank you.