



151st IPU ASSEMBLY AND RELATED MEETINGS

Monday, 20 October 2025, 11:00 – 13:00 hrs, *Amphitheatre D, level 1*
Geneva, Switzerland

*Theme: Upholding Humanitarian Norms in Supporting Humanitarian Action
in Times of Crisis*

By: HON. SENATOR DATUK NUR JAZLAN BIN TAN SRI MOHAMED

**Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen**

1. It is both an honour and a solemn responsibility to address this Assembly on a matter that transcends borders, politics, and ideologies.
2. Humanitarian norms are not just legal frameworks; they are the embodiment of our shared humanity, guiding us to relieve suffering and ensure the safety of civilians and humanitarian workers above all else. As parliamentarians, we have an essential role in making sure humanitarian action remains principled, impartial, and effective. We are the conscience of our nations, and our task is to ensure these ideals are realities on the ground, not merely words on paper.

Your Excellencies,

(Today's Global Crises)

3. Around the world, we face humanitarian challenges of unprecedented scale. For example, in Myanmar, more than 22 million people are in need of assistance, and over 3.5 million have been displaced. In Sudan, a quarter of the population has been forced to flee. Compounding this, the humanitarian community itself is under attack, where 385 humanitarian workers were killed across 20 countries in 2024.

Ladies and Gentlemen

(Malaysia's Experience)

4. Malaysia recognizes the vital importance of humanitarian values when facing recurring domestic disasters, such as monsoon floods, landslides, and disease outbreaks. The **National Disaster Management Agency (NADMA)** prioritizes close coordination between government and civil society to uphold humanitarian norms during these times. Furthermore, Malaysia has improved its laws to enhance disaster management and protect vulnerable groups, ensuring alignment with international standards.
5. As **ASEAN Chair**, Malaysia has played an active role, convening a Special Emergency Foreign Ministers' Meeting in March 2025 to urge swift aid for Myanmar after the devastating earthquakes.

6. This October, Malaysia has also deployed the **Special Malaysia Disaster Assistance and Rescue Team (SMART)** for a humanitarian mission to assist Philippines after the devastating earthquake in Cebu and the nearby areas¹.
7. At home, Malaysia continues to host nearly 200,000 refugees, mainly from Myanmar, Pakistan, Yemen, Somalia, Afghanistan, and Syria, even though we are not a signatory to the 1951 Refugee Convention. We do it because it is the right thing to do.
8. Upholding humanitarian norms requires collective political will. Malaysia calls on the **IPU** and its member parliaments to strengthen legal protections for humanitarian workers, safeguard vulnerable populations, and use parliamentary diplomacy to resolve conflicts before they escalate.

Ladies and Gentlemen

(GAZA: call to action)

9. I must express Malaysia's deep concern over the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Palestine. We have consistently called for full respect of humanitarian law and for humanitarian unrestricted access to those suffering from conflict, blockades, and displacement.

¹ Malaysia is sending its [Special Malaysia Disaster Assistance and Rescue Team](https://www.bernama.com/misc/rss/news.php?id=2473722#) (SMART) to the Philippines following a devastating earthquake in Cebu and surrounding areas in early October 2025. <https://www.bernama.com/misc/rss/news.php?id=2473722#>

10. Malaysia strongly condemns the criminal and cowardly attacks by Israel forces on the **Global Sumud Flotilla**, a peaceful humanitarian mission. This unprovoked action constitutes a **flagrant violation of international and humanitarian law**. Therefore, Malaysia urges the **United Nations Security Council** and the international community to act decisively, end Israel's impunity, and hold the perpetrators accountable.
11. Malaysia welcomes the agreement reached between Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas) and Israel on the Comprehensive Plan to end the Gaza Conflict² in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt on 8 October 2025. Despite the ceasefire agreement, Malaysia is deeply concerned with the ongoing attacks by Israel in the Occupied Palestine Territories.
12. Malaysia calls for swift and comprehensive implementation the agreed terms, and work with other members of the international community towards establishing an independent and sovereign State of Palestine, based on the pre-1967 borders with East Jerusalem as its capital².

² Malaysia Welcomes the Agreement on the First Phase of the Gaza Peace Plan. 9 October 2025. <https://www.kln.gov.my/web/guest/-/malaysia-welcomes-the-agreement-on-the-first-phase-of-the-gaza-peace-plan>

Ladies and Gentlemen

(Reconstructing Gaza with AI: Preserving Culture and Dignity)

13. The tragedy in Gaza³ is not only the destruction of buildings, it is the destruction of a people's history, their identity, and their dignity. It is an intentional destruction of property, archived knowledge, culture and heritage. It was an obliteration of teachers, scholars, academician and of knowledge of the land, society, heritage. In other words, it is an attempted erasure of Palestinian civilisation.
14. Reconstruction of Palestine can begin with the assistance of AI. Technology must always be guided by moral conscience, for without it, intelligence becomes merely another form of power. Through AI, we can map the destruction, identify what remains, and digitally preserve the heritage that war has tried to obliterate.
15. But let us remember, while AI can analyse, **it cannot feel**. It can rebuild the walls, but not the warmth of family and human interaction. Therefore, the reconstruction of Gaza **must be led by its own people, shaped by their culture and wisdom. The use of AI must be guided by ethics and empathy**⁴.
16. We must ensure that every act of rebuilding is an act of justice. **The reconstruction of Gaza is not a humanitarian favour; it is the world's moral obligation.**

³ Amid desolation in Gaza, heritage experts are pushing a huge reconstruction effort. March 2025. <https://www.theartnewspaper.com/2025/03/10/gaza-heritage-experts-huge-reconstruction-effort>

⁴ Ethics of Artificial Intelligence. <https://www.unesco.org/en/artificial-intelligence/recommendation-ethics>