

Geneva, 21 October 2025
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Mr. President, Secretary-General, distinguished colleagues,

The global system we built to foster cooperation and prosperity is under growing strain.

Barriers — once the exception — are becoming the rule. Trade restrictions, technological fragmentation, and geopolitical polarization are reshaping the foundations of multilateralism.

Yet history teaches us that prosperity and peace advance only when nations remain open — not only to commerce, but to dialogue, innovation, and trust.

Today, parliaments must defend that openness.

We are the custodians of rules-based order — not merely as legislators, but as architects of predictability. Without predictable trade, there can be no sustainable development. Without cooperation, there can be no climate progress.

In recent years, we have witnessed a worrying return to protectionism disguised as prudence.

While legitimate concerns exist about security, competitiveness, and industrial policy, the collective consequence of unilateral barriers is clear: higher prices, slower growth, and deeper inequality.

Every wall built against trade is eventually felt as a wall built against opportunity.

Mexico believes that open markets, combined with fair regulation and environmental responsibility, remain the most powerful engines of shared prosperity.

Nearshoring, innovation, and energy transition offer new pathways for cooperation — but only if we resist the temptation to weaponize interdependence.

As parliamentarians, our task is not only to legislate, but to rebuild trust between nations.

The Inter-Parliamentary Union was founded to bridge differences — to remind us that dialogue is stronger than division.

Let us ensure that this century is not defined by the rise of new barriers, but by the courage to dismantle them.

In the words of Nelson Mandela: “May our choices reflect our hopes, not our fears.”