

*Check against delivery!*

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Human society is at a pivotal moment of transformation. The AI-driven technological era of the Fourth Industrial Revolution is set to enhance productivity dramatically, promising unprecedented leaps that are difficult to fully grasp. The rapid pace of technological advancement is transforming societal norms and structures so quickly that traditional standards and orders are struggling to keep up.

Post-truth and political-social polarization are fostering distrust and inequality, creating an extreme confrontational structure of conflict and opposition.

The rapid technological progress and widening social divides are increasing global uncertainty, hinting at a restructuring of power dynamics. It's an era of multilateral conflicts and survival of the fittest.

The international order, once built on consensus, is being disrupted, and climate change caused by environmental degradation poses a direct threat to human survival.

War, terrorism, drugs, and violence have driven countless people to fear and suffering. Exclusive resources and environmental values have become economic weapons and tools of dominance.

Human civilization has achieved wealth and prosperity, but there has also been an increase in conflict and confrontation.

The upcoming era of technological leaps in the Fourth Industrial Revolution promises highly efficient means of production and increased productivity, unlike any previous industrial revolutions. However, looking at human history, the outcomes of the Fourth Industrial Revolution may bring about even greater conflicts and confrontations.

This is a critical moment where the international community must work together. I suggest promoting more active cultural exchange between countries, with the IPU playing a leading role.

Culture represents the collective values accumulated and shared over time within a national community. Therefore, cultural exchange can foster shared values among global citizens. Countries must actively promote their cultural policies and engage in cultural exchange.

Cultural exchange will enhance shared understanding and solidarity among global citizens. Through cultural exchange, we can turn potential periods of intense conflict into periods of

reconciliation, cooperation, and connection.

Parliaments, representing the rights and wellbeing of citizens, can take the lead. The IPU has the responsibility to fulfill this role.

As a concrete initiative, I propose the establishment of a “Culturalympic,” led by the IPU and the IOC.

The fundamental spirit of the Olympics is to strive for peace through the participation, empathy, and solidarity of global citizens. Now, we must seriously consider ways to expand and maximize the Olympic spirit, with a focus on cultural exchange.

We must complement the potential structures of conflict and confrontation that could arise from technological growth with a collaborative framework of empathy and solidarity through cultural exchange.

South Korea’s *Hallyu* (Korean Wave) is the only historical example of a nation that has never invaded another country, yet has spread its culture to all corners of the world. South Korea is proving that through culture, global citizens can create values of empathy, solidarity, peace, and cooperation.

Parliaments, representing the rights and well-being of their citizens, must take an active role. The IPU is the only institution that can lead in this endeavor.

Thank you for your attention.