

GENERAL DEBATE

Madam President,

Distinguished Delegates,

I stand before you today not only in my capacity as a parliamentarian, but also as a person with a disability, to give voice, for the millions of people with disabilities affected by the wars and conflicts around the World.

My own experience gives me a deeper understanding of their struggle and a stronger sense of duty to make their voice heard.

At the outset, I would like to recall the Charter of the United Nations, the cornerstone of our collective commitment to peace and humanity.

It affirms the shared duty of all states to refrain from the use of force, to uphold international peace and security, and to respect and protect human rights as the foundation of a just international order.

Member States have therefore pledged to act together not only for the security of their own peoples, but for the dignity, security And wellbeing of all humankind

This shared responsibility calls upon every nation to translate words into action and to stand united in defense of human life and human dignity wherever they are at risk.

This moral and legal obligation is further reinforced by Common Article 1 of the Geneva Convention, which stipulates that States must both respect and ensure respect for international humanitarian law.

Even when a country is not party to a conflict, it bears responsibility for ensuring the protection of civilians, children, women, and humanitarian personnel.

The UN Security Council has consistently reaffirmed this obligation, emphasizing that the impact of armed conflict on persons with disabilities must be prevented.

Madam President,

Distinguished Delegates,

Conflicts around the world today are testing the conscience of humanity on a daily basis.

Today, nearly four hundred seventy three million children, one in every five worldwide, live in conflict zones.

Over fifty two million children in conflict-affected countries are deprived of their right to education, while approximately twenty five million children between the ages of six and fifteen are out of school.

The most devastating face of this tragedy has unfolded in Gaza.

With the end of hostilities, ensuring a permanent peace and a life worthy of human dignity is now a collective responsibility of humanity.

Across Ukraine, Yemen, Sudan, Somalia and Myanmar, the right to life of women and children continues to be directly threatened.

Conflicts, regardless of religion, ethnicity, or identity, always strike civilians the hardest.

Madam President,

Distinguished Delegates,

The responsibility of the international community cannot and must not be limited to the delivery of humanitarian assistance.

It must also include ensuring accountability, ending impunity, guaranteeing safe humanitarian access, and psychosocial support systems for survivors.

Türkiye fulfils this responsibility not only through words but through action.

In Gaza, working in partnership with UNRWA, Türkiye has delivered approximately hundred thousand tons of humanitarian aid, and two thousand three hundred and sixty nine injured Palestinians have received medical treatment in Türkiye.

Across Africa, particularly in Sudan and Somalia, Türkiye provides food, medicine, firefighting equipment, and infrastructure support.

The Turkish–Sudanese Research and Training Hospital in Nyala continues to serve

In Somalia, we provide crucial health services in Recep Tayyip Erdoğan Research and Training hospital.

Through these efforts, Türkiye acts not only as a provider of aid but also as a diplomatic actor committed to peace and reconciliation.

May every word spoken here today reach a wounded child in Gaza, give hope to a mother in Ukraine, and bring comfort to those struggling to survive in Yemen and Sudan.

These are not distant tragedies they are a test of our shared humanity and of our collective conscience.

Children are not only in need of protection; they are the future defenders of rights, the engineers, leaders, and parliamentarians of tomorrow.

As parliamentarians, we don't only have a moral duty to raise our voices for human dignity and for a future where every child can live, learn and dream in peace but also an obligation as signatories to the UN Charter on the Rights of the Child adopted by the UN General Assembly stating that every child should be raised in the spirit of peace, dignity, tolerance, freedom, equality and solidarity.

Thank you.

