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برلمان البحر الأبيض المتوسط

**151<sup>st</sup> Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU)**

**General Debate**

**“Upholding Humanitarian Norms and Supporting Humanitarian Action in Times of Crisis”**

**Draft Suggested TPs for Hon. Deborah Bergamini (Italy), PAM Rapporteur on Political Affairs**

*19-23 October 2025*

*International Conference Centre Geneva (CICG)*

***Check against delivery***

*Excellencies,  
Distinguished Colleagues,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,*

- It is a pleasure to contribute to this session of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), on behalf of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean (PAM).
- First of all, let me express the full support of PAM to the implementation of the ceasefire in Gaza, calling on all parties to consolidate the ceasefire and transform it into lasting peace. Over the past two years, we were witnesses of an unprecedented humanitarian catastrophe in Gaza. Now, time has come for urgent life-saving humanitarian aid to be delivered at a fast pace to the most vulnerable.
- Overall, we meet today at a time when humanitarian action is on the brink of collapse. Humanitarian operations are shrinking due to the massive lack of funds and insufficient staff. Yet, millions of people depend on humanitarian assistance.
- With more than 120 active conflicts worldwide, the costs of human lives is immeasurable... and beyond Gaza, I wish to refer the severe humanitarian crisis in

Sudan, as well as the civilian casualties and attacks on civil infrastructure, including hospitals, schools, and water and energy systems, in Ukraine, as a result of the ongoing Russian war of aggression.

- Attacks on civilians are a blatant violation of International Humanitarian Law, and many countries, including members of the UN Security Council, which should be champions of Humanitarian Law, are the ones trampling on it.
- As the President of the International Committee of the Red Cross stated, nowadays the boundaries of warfare are being pushed, increasing human suffering and fostering conditions for new security threats to take hold. In a world characterized by shifting divisions and alliances, upholding humanitarian norms and principles in conflicts makes us all safer.
- As parliamentarians, representatives of our people, we are motivated by a deep sense of responsibility and urgency to act to ensure the respect of International Humanitarian Law, as well as the accountability of any disregards and violations. The respect of International Humanitarian Law also means protecting aid workers and medical staff, who are too often victims of conflicts.
- PAM Member Parliaments, from the Euro-Mediterranean and Gulf regions, will continue to supporting bold and innovative initiatives to implement International Humanitarian Law, regularly speaking out in regional and international fora, and actively supporting mechanisms for accountability.
- Following the rapid technological developments, it is equally important to bring clarity to the application of International Humanitarian Law when it comes to the use of autonomous weapon systems and other emerging technologies.
- PAM will also continue to promoting the implementation of public-private programs to ensure that humanitarian organizations have always the necessary funds to maximize their much-needed actions in conflict settings.

Thank you for the attention.

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