

The 152nd IPU Assembly
“Nurturing hope, securing peace and ensuring justice for future generations”
16 April 2026

**Madame President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,
Mr. President of the 152nd Assembly,
Mr. Secretary General,
Excellencies,
Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and gentlemen.**

It is a great honour to address this audience on behalf of the parliament of the Republic of Azerbaijan at the 152nd Assembly of the IPU in Istanbul.

At the outset, I wish to express my sincere appreciation to the Speaker of the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye His Excellency Mr Numan Kurtulmuş for his leadership and for the hospitality extended to all participants.

Dear colleagues,

We meet today at a time of growing uncertainty. Conflicts persist, tensions are rising, crises are deepening and inequalities continue to widen. These trends risk undermining the foundations of peace and justice. Climate change is immediate and demands urgent action. Against this backdrop, the theme of our Assembly is both timely and highly relevant. It calls on us to act collectively and responsibly.

Distinguished delegates,

Despite existing shortcomings, multilateralism remains indispensable. There is no alternative to a rules-based international order with the United Nations at its core. What is needed is stronger commitment, respect for international law, and consistency.

As parliamentarians, we must promote peace, uphold justice, and ensure that future generations are reflected in our decisions.

In this context, I would like to especially highlight the role of the Inter-Parliamentary Union. Being the oldest and the largest inter-parliamentary organization, the IPU plays an enormous role in making our voices heard more strongly in global governance.

Through tireless devotion to shared ideals, it brings us together for the realization of goals and aspirations that drive our parliaments forward.

Ladies and gentlemen,

The focus of this Assembly on youth is both timely and essential. Young people are not only beneficiaries of policy — they are active agents of change. It is our responsibility as parliamentarians to ensure that their voices are heard, their potential is realized and their participation is meaningful.

In this regard, the United Nations Declaration on future generations, adopted in 2024 is of particular importance, as it calls for inclusive and forward-looking policies aimed at sustainable development.

In Azerbaijan, youth policy is a strategic priority. To this end, the Parliament of Azerbaijan has established a comprehensive legislative and institutional framework — including the Law on Youth Policy.

Numerous state programmes have been successfully implemented to support young people — including initiatives facilitating education abroad, promoting employment, and enhancing youth participation in public administration. Programmes such as “Yukselish” meaning “Ascension” have proven particularly effective in motivating and empowering young individuals.

Azerbaijan also actively promotes international youth engagement through platforms such as Youth Forum and Volunteer Forum, fostering solidarity and encouraging contributions to global challenges.

In addition, Azerbaijan contributes to the global youth agenda through initiatives like the Youth Organization of the Non-Aligned Movement, as well as innovative platforms such as the “Let the youth speak, let us listen” panel organized by the Nizami Ganjavi International Center within the Global Baku Forum.

Our parliamentarians remain actively engaged in international cooperation, including the IPU Forum of Young Parliamentarians and the Young Parliamentarians Group of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Turkic States.

Distinguished participants,

We firmly believe that empowering youth means strengthening resilience, innovation, and peace which is the most important legacy we can leave to future generations.

In this context, I would like to underline that the South Caucasus is entering a period of transformation. Progress in dialogue between Azerbaijan and Armenia demonstrates that even long-standing conflicts can be addressed through political will and respect for international law. Parliamentary diplomacy plays a key role in building trust.

Dear colleagues,

In conclusion, I would like to mention that our efforts must be guided by cooperation, dialogue, and multilateralism. Only through joint action can we build a more peaceful and just world.

Let us act today with responsibility — for our citizens, and for future generations.

Thank you for your attention.