

Speech of

***H.E. Mr. Hassan bin Abdullah Al-
Ghanim***

***The Speaker of the
Shura Council of the
State of Qatar***

***At the 152nd Session of the Inter-
Parliamentary Union General Assembly***

Istanbul – Republic of Türkiye

15–19 April 2026

In the name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful,

***Her Excellency Dr. Tulia Ackson,
President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,***

***His Excellency Professor Numan Kurtulmuş,
Speaker of the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye,***

***Excellencies, distinguished heads and members of
parliamentary delegations, representatives of organizations and
institutions,***

Honorable participants,

May Allah's peace, mercy, and blessings be upon you.

At the outset, I am pleased to convey to you the greetings of the members of the Shura Council of the State of Qatar, together with their sincere wishes for the success of the deliberations of this Assembly. I also extend our deep appreciation to the sisterly Republic of Türkiye for graciously hosting this meeting at a time of profound international uncertainty and unprecedented challenges.

Excellencies,

While the theme of our Assembly reflects noble values of hope, peace, and justice, the prevailing global reality reveals a widening gap between proclaimed principles and actual practices. We are witnessing an alarming escalation of conflicts and the expansion of wars ignited unilaterally, with no regard for international law or the authority of the United Nations.

The international system has reached a state of fragility and paralysis. Violations of international law occur without meaningful deterrence or accountability, in the absence of an effective global authority capable of safeguarding peace and security. This has entrenched disorder and eroded confidence in the international order.

Excellencies,

The destructive wars afflicting our region today, and their repercussions on the global economy, energy security, and supply chains, underscore the magnitude of the challenges before us. They highlight the urgent need to strengthen deterrence mechanisms and collective action to mitigate their impact on both regional and international stability.

Excellencies,

Despite this complex landscape, the State of Qatar, under the leadership of His Highness Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, Amir of the State — may Allah protect and safeguards him — has remained steadfast in its commitment to dialogue and mediation. Qatar has consistently sought to prevent escalation and foster rapprochement, including sustained efforts to reduce tensions with Iran, guided by the principles of good

neighborliness and the conviction that political solutions are the sole path to resolving disputes.

Yet, in the face of this constructive approach, Qatar was subjected to a treacherous Iranian assault targeting civilian facilities within its territory. This aggression damaged the infrastructure, endangered civilian lives, and extended to sisterly Gulf and Arab states.

It constitutes a grave violation of international law, a flagrant breach of the United Nations Charter, and a clear repudiation of the principles of good neighborliness. Such actions demand a firm international response to prevent recurrence and to reinforce accountability.

The gravity of this assault lies not only in its immediate consequences, but also in its deliberate targeting of purely civilian entities, wholly unrelated to any military activity. This renders the attack unjustifiable under any pretext, threatening innocent lives, undermining development, and exposing the dissonance between political rhetoric and actual practice. It raises serious questions about adherence to international law and the principles of neighborly relations.

At the same time, Israeli aggressions against Palestinian territories persist, alongside violations in other parts of the region. These deepen instability and once again highlight the absence of an international system capable of deterring wars or mitigating their consequences.

Ladies and gentlemen,

This reality compels us, as parliamentarians, to move beyond diagnosis to actions. We must devise more effective mechanisms that empower parliament to play a meaningful role in, reforming the international system, strengthening respect for international law, and that ensure the use of force remains strictly within the bounds of legitimacy. This is a call we have consistently raised across multiple platforms.

Based on that, and stemming from our responsibility as parliamentarians, the State of Qatar, in partnership with Australia, Türkiye, France, Brazil, Zambia, and Poland, and with support of Arab Group, the Group of Latin America and the Caribbean, and the African Group within the IPU, submits a request to include an emergency item under the title: “The urgent need to consecrate parliamentary efforts to preserve ceasefire agreements and support the establishment of peace in the Middle East and throughout the world”. This proposal underscores the gravity of the current stage and the necessity of unifying efforts to advance toward achieving a just and sustainable peace.

In conclusion, restoring the effectiveness of the international system is no longer a matter of choice but an imperative necessity. We hope that the deliberations of this Assembly will contribute to laying practical foundations for this goal, and that the Inter-Parliamentary Union’s strategy for 2027–2032 will incorporate clear and effective mechanisms to strengthen international peace and security.

May Allah’s peace, mercy, and blessings be upon you.