

Nurturing hope, securing peace and ensuring justice for future generations

The world today is facing challenges that, by their nature, scope and impact, go far beyond the borders of individual countries. With the growing number of armed conflicts, deepening social and economic inequalities, the climate crisis, and the rapid development of artificial intelligence, it is becoming increasingly clear that no country can effectively address today's global threats alone.

Therefore, now more than ever, we need stronger multilateral cooperation based on trust, responsibility and respect for international law. In this context, the United Nations plays an irreplaceable role as the central forum for jointly seeking solutions, preventing conflicts, and maintaining international peace and security.

The current complex geopolitical situation, marked by war in Ukraine, the war in Iran, the situation in Israel and Palestine, and several other crises around the world, is also directly reflected in the dynamics of the Security Council's work. It is therefore all the more important that the international community does not accept paralysis, but remains committed to dialogue, to searching for common ground, and to adhere to the fundamental principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

Peace should never be taken for granted. It is something we must build patiently, through cooperation and a sense of responsibility. At a time when the world is riven by wars, geopolitical tensions and divisions, we, parliamentarians from Europe and around the world, must once again reaffirm the importance of dialogue and mutual respect. Lasting peace does not rest simply on the silence of weapons, but on justice – on the principle that every individual and every nation, regardless of size or power, enjoys equal rights and freedoms.

Ensuring justice also means defending the truth. In today's world, marked by disinformation, manipulation and narrow self-interest, we must once again place the values of integrity, responsibility and respect for the rule of law at the forefront of our efforts. Justice is the foundation of trust — both among people and among nations. Without justice, there can be no peace, and without trust, there can be no freedom.

Slovenia will remain a constructive and connecting partner and, from the impartial perspective of a small country, will continue to look for ways to move forward on the most challenging international issues. We will continue to promote mediation as a key tool and one of the most effective means of preventing conflicts and supporting peacebuilding.

Ladies and gentlemen,

We need more cooperation, not less; more trust in international institutions, not less; and more responsible democratic policymaking, not less.

This is why the role of parliaments is particularly important today. Parliaments are a pillar of democratic legitimacy, political accountability and public trust. Our responsibility is to strengthen people's confidence in democracy, to uphold respect for international law, and to help shape solutions based on dialogue, inclusion and shared responsibility.

No country can effectively deal with the many challenges and threats to international peace and security alone. What we need is a collective, coordinated and timely response – and parliamentarians play an important role in this process. I therefore welcome today's discussion and believe that it brings us one step closer to a safer, more just and more peaceful world.

Thank you.