

**The Speech Text of His Excellency, Dr. Ali Larijani, the Honorable
Speaker of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Islamic Consultative
Assembly at the 140th Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) Meeting
Belgrade- Serbia**

In the Name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful

**Madam President,
Honorable Speaker of the Serbian National Assembly
Honorable Speakers of Parliaments
Ladies and Gentleman,**

At the outset, I would like to express my appreciation for the efforts of the Speaker of the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia, Her Excellency, Maja Gojković for the warm hospitality accorded to us and the excellent arrangements made for organizing this important meeting. Also, I would like to express my gratitude to Miss. Gabriela Cuevas Barron, the IPU President as well as Mr. Martin Chungong, the IPU Secretary General along with their colleagues for decent planning and coordination of this event. I hope that the results of this meeting prove to be an effective step on the path of further strengthening of inter-parliamentary cooperation and consultation among member states, particularly for genuine, fair promotion of international law and human rights.

Madam President,

Picking an accurate theme for this event shows that, more than before, the today's world has been exposed to rapid, complex developments while international law system, multilateralism and human rights are facing an unprecedented challenge.

The future of the international law system and accordingly that of the international order is dependent on the commitment and responsible behaviors of every state and their parliaments as well as the collective efforts of international entities and forums. The collective effort to safeguard the international law is no longer just a wise and ideal option. It is rather the only solution to upholding commitments and following binding standards, guaranteeing security, maintaining global governance and honoring humanity. An obscure, unpredictable future awaits us all should we fail to accurately address the lack of effective mechanisms for countering and disciplining violations of international norms and rules.

A serious issue is employing the weapon of economic sanctions by some states which has dealt a massive blow to international obligations and rules. Particularly, when we observe that leveraging illegal, unilateral sanctions, i.e. economic terrorism as a tool to advance illegitimate foreign policy objectives has been the first-line option of some powers. Since no specific international criminal rules have been foreseen for such a phenomenon, this form of sanctioning has transformed into an anomaly which seriously compromises the human rights.

Madam President,

Ladies and Gentleman,

At different times and in different manners, the US statesmen have consistently taken steps to counter international law norms. They have always proceeded to undermine, violate or in some cases even refused to implement international law systems. However, in keeping with its totally illegitimate and self-seeking American exceptionalism discourse, the incumbent US administration has embarked on a prolonged game of ducks and drakes with international law to the extent that violations of international law and rules has taken the shape of a standard procedure and/or a routine for the US administration. This approach has jeopardized the international peace, stability and security. Pulling out of the Paris Climate Accord, the INF treaty with Russia and upending trade arrangements with China and Europe clearly demonstrate that this regime does not adhere to international commitments and rules.

Dear Colleagues,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The prime example of such violations of international laws and regulations is the withdrawal of the incumbent US administration from the JCPOA followed by unilateral reinstatement of harsh and illegal against the Islamic Republic of Iran. Surprisingly, they have not stopped at these illegal measures and gone further in launching a massive

campaign to buy the support of other countries for their terroristic policies against Iranian people.

Although the UN, numerous countries along with most international and human rights entities have opposed these sanctions and decried them as illegal, no concrete and effective measures have as yet been taken by such international legal entities to counter and halt this economic terrorism. It should be noted that as of today, no international entity has provided a single plan to neutralize these sanctions. This failure has its origins in the defective international regulations.

**Honorable colleagues,
Distinguished Audience,**

I would like to announce to the US authorities that international relations resemble a chess board. Players never abandon the game and each move triggers a counter-move.

Of other such illegal measures was creation of terrorist networks for political goals. Today, the US can't deny that they created ISIS for their adventures in Iraq and Syria. The admission of former US State Secretary to creation of ISIS coupled which has been confirmed in several acknowledgements of the incumbent US President is sufficient to substantiate our claim. This terrorist ideology dealt the biggest material and spiritual blows not only to the people of Iraq and Syria, but also some other countries.

The great Iranian nation rushed to the help of Syrian and Iraqi governments upon their requests to quash these savage terrorists. However, the main question still remains; why the prime mover in their creation of this group should not receive its due punishment? By rights, the UN Security Council which is responsible for global peace and security should proceed to do so. However, the problem is that prime mover plays a decisive role in this council.

This is an irony of time that today the US is interfering in Syria without obtaining any legal clearance. For what? Supposedly for suppression of terrorism. We should not wonder though as the US has a rich background in playing such tricks. The main conclusion drawn here is that the world is lacking in an effective legal mechanism to safeguard the international rights and commitments.

Another example is the brutal, inhumane behavior of the Zionist Regime towards the wronged people of Palestine which has left the latter with several decades of displacement and destruction of their holy places. However, instead of punishing the terrorist regime of Israel, the US awards this suppressive regime with the unwise, fake “deal of century”.

Dear Friends,

Just mull this over for one moment that why several peace initiatives don't materialize, particularly this stillborn, fake deal?

Because they are not based on restoration of legitimate, fair rights of the Palestinians. Rather, they are pursuing hidden agendas. In particular, the so-called deal of century that brazenly has made the right to homeland of the Palestinians a trade issue between Trump and Netanyahu. Under such biased circumstances, one can't expect the establishment of peace and security in the region. Also, since international legal systems can't sustain to support the oppressed people of Palestine, they have no other choice but opt for resistance.

These are some examples of ailments and malaises of the current legal systems and international commitments. Some politicians including the incumbent US politicians are belaboring under the wrong assumptions that they can cover up these oppressions and disarrays through publicity stunts and continue to extort others via playing the game of making the region insecure. However, they must take note that such expired tactical achievements and creation of terrorist groups for flaming insecurity will come back to haunt them in the long run.

Our dear friend from UAE alleged in his speech that Iran is interfering in the region. We rushed to the help of Syria and Iraq upon the request of their legal governments to suppress ISIS. Instead of maligning Iran, you should commend it.

Had Iran not suppressed ISIS, it would be anyone's guess what would have happened in the Persian Gulf. However, I want to ask our UAE friends: why are you interfering in Libya and Sudan? What motives

do you have there? I give you this piece of advice; you are our friends. You pick a different tone in our secret talks. Why are speaking like this here? I hope the words of our friends prove to be constructive in this forum.

Thanks for Your Attention