



Inter-Parliamentary Union
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152nd IPU Assembly

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The urgent need for concerted parliamentary efforts to preserve ceasefires and support peacebuilding in the Middle East and other regions

*Resolution adopted unanimously by the 152nd IPU Assembly
(Istanbul, 19 April 2026)*

The 152nd Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,

Recalling the purposes of the United Nations, as set out in the Charter of the United Nations, which include the maintenance of international peace and security and the achievement of international cooperation in addressing humanitarian issues, and *recalling also* the principles of international law, including international humanitarian law, as well as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

Reaffirming its firm commitment to the 1949 Geneva Conventions, which constitute the cornerstone of international humanitarian law and are binding on all parties to armed conflicts,

Emphasizing the interrelationship between international humanitarian law and international human rights law, and the necessity of respecting both under all circumstances, particularly with regard to the protection of civilians, civilian objects, vital infrastructure and essential services,

Affirming the importance of ensuring accountability and preventing and combating impunity for all violations, in accordance with international law, including international humanitarian law and international human rights law, in a manner that ensures justice for victims and reinforces the rule of law,

Bearing in mind previous IPU resolutions underscoring the vital role of parliaments in strengthening peace, security and the rule of law,

Deeply concerned about non-compliance with United Nations Security Council resolution 2286 (2016), which strongly condemns attacks on medical facilities and humanitarian personnel,

Deeply alarmed by credible reports of serious and systematic violations of international humanitarian law in ongoing conflicts in the Middle East and elsewhere, including indiscriminate attacks on civilians, the destruction of hospitals and schools, the denial of humanitarian aid and the use of starvation as a method of warfare,

Emphasizing that impunity fuels cycles of violence and undermines prospects for just and lasting peace, and that accountability is essential for genuine reconciliation,

Stressing the importance of mechanisms for effective redress and compensation for victims, in accordance with international law and through competent UN agencies,

Recognizing that national parliaments have broad legislative and oversight powers over executive authorities, including in the areas of military and foreign policy, and play a key role in translating international commitments into tangible national action,

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1. *Affirms* that respect for international humanitarian law in all conflicts, particularly in the Middle East, is a matter of priority, particularly with regard to the protection of civilians, civilian objects, vital infrastructure and essential services, as well as to ensuring rapid, safe and unhindered humanitarian access, without discrimination, and *also affirms* that ensuring such respect is a fundamental part of the role of parliaments in supporting international peace and security;
2. *Urges* Member Parliaments to take urgent steps to move from condemnation to concrete action, to review the extent to which their governments' policies and military practices comply with international humanitarian law, and to use all constitutional tools at their disposal to ensure accountability for violations and to promote effective mechanisms for their documentation;
3. *Encourages* Member Parliaments to intensify parliamentary diplomacy and strengthen coordinated engagement through IPU mechanisms and geopolitical groups in order to build international consensus on de-escalation, civilian protection, infrastructure preservation and peaceful solutions, especially in the Middle East;
4. *Calls for* the immediate reconvening of talks among the parties concerned in contexts where ceasefires are in place, with the aim of achieving the permanent cessation of attacks, and *urges* such parties to engage in such talks with renewed seriousness, political will and a clear commitment to preventing any further escalation of conflict;
5. *Stresses* that any renewed diplomatic process should be sufficiently serious, sustained and inclusive to address all major issues of divergence contributing to the crisis concerned, including, where relevant, matters relating to maritime security and freedom of navigation, the situation in the region, and other related political, security and humanitarian concerns;
6. *Calls upon* all parties, during any period of ceasefire and any subsequent negotiations, to refrain from military action, unilateral measures or any other steps liable to jeopardize prospects for dialogue or provoke further regional escalation;
7. *Instructs* the IPU Committee to Promote Respect for International Humanitarian Law, within its mandate: to monitor ongoing developments in the Middle East; to submit a report, at the 153rd Assembly, on parties' responses to calls for civilian protection, humanitarian access and de-escalation; and to propose immediate parliamentary measures to address any further deterioration;
8. *Requests* the President and Secretary General of the IPU, within their respective mandates, to use the IPU's good offices to support de-escalation efforts and facilitate urgent parliamentary dialogue focused on protecting civilians, preserving vital infrastructure, ensuring freedom of navigation where relevant, and creating conditions conducive to negotiated settlements between parties;
9. *Affirms* the readiness of the world's parliaments, acting through the IPU and other appropriate parliamentary channels, to support all genuine efforts aimed at reducing tensions, rebuilding confidence, and advancing peaceful and lasting resolutions of armed conflicts;
10. *Invites* national parliaments to engage actively, within their respective constitutional responsibilities, in support of diplomatic efforts, respect for international law, the protection of civilians and the prevention of any further widening of conflict, as well as in support of post-conflict recovery and reconstruction, including compensation for victims;
11. *Requests* the Secretary General of the IPU to circulate this resolution to all IPU Member Parliaments, to the Secretary-General of the UN, to the President of the UN Security Council, to the International Committee of the Red Cross and to the President of the International Criminal Court, with a view to mobilizing international support for parliamentary accountability and peacebuilding as essential pillars of just peace.