



Inter-Parliamentary Union
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138th IPU ASSEMBLY AND RELATED MEETINGS

Geneva, 24 – 28.03.2018

Assembly
Item 2

A/138/2-P.4
24 March 2018

Consideration of requests for the inclusion of an emergency item in the Assembly agenda

Request for the inclusion of an emergency item in the agenda of the 138th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union submitted by the delegation of Turkey

On 24 March 2018, the IPU President received from the Speaker of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey a request and accompanying documents for the inclusion in the agenda of the 138th Assembly of an emergency item entitled:

"Respect for the status of the Holy City of Jerusalem (Al-Quds) with a view to achieving just and comprehensive peace based on a two-state solution".

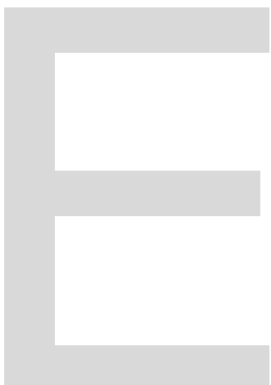
Delegates to the 138th Assembly will find attached the text of the communication submitting the request ([Annex I](#)), as well as an explanatory memorandum ([Annex II](#)) and a draft resolution ([Annex III](#)) in support thereof.

The 138th Assembly will be required to take a decision on the request of the delegation of Turkey on Sunday, 25 March 2018.

Under the terms of Assembly Rule 11.1, any Member of the IPU may request the inclusion of an emergency item in the Assembly agenda. Such a request must be accompanied by a brief explanatory memorandum and a draft resolution which clearly define the scope of the subject covered by the request. The IPU Secretariat shall communicate the request and any such documents immediately to all Members.

Furthermore, Assembly Rule 11.2 stipulates that:

- (a) A request for the inclusion of an emergency item must relate to a recent major situation of international concern on which urgent action by the international community is required and on which it is appropriate for the IPU to express its opinion and mobilize a parliamentary response. Such a request must receive a two-thirds majority of the votes cast in order to be accepted.
- (b) The Assembly may place only one emergency item on its agenda. Should several requests obtain the requisite majority, the one having received the largest number of positive votes shall be accepted.
- (c) The authors of two or more requests for the inclusion of an emergency item may combine their proposals to present a joint one, provided that each of the original proposals relates to the same subject.
- (d) The subject of a proposal that has been withdrawn by its authors or rejected by the Assembly cannot be included in the draft resolution submitted on the emergency item, unless it is clearly referred to in the request and title of the subject adopted by the Assembly.



#IPU138

**COMMUNICATION ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT
BY THE SPEAKER OF THE GRAND NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY**

Ankara, 19 March 2018

Dear Ms. President,

I would like to bring to your attention that the Inter-Parliamentary Group of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey would like to submit a request for the inclusion of an emergency item in the agenda of the 138th IPU Assembly in accordance with Article 14.2 of the IPU Statutes. The proposed emergency item is titled:

"Respect for the status of the Holy City of Jerusalem (Al-Quds) with a view to achieving just and comprehensive peace based on a two-state solution ".

Kindly find attached a brief explanatory memorandum along with the draft resolution with regard to the above-mentioned title of the proposed emergency item.

Please accept the assurances of my highest regards.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed)

İsmail KAHRAMAN
Speaker
Grand National Assembly of Turkey

**RESPECT FOR THE STATUS OF THE HOLY CITY OF JERUSALEM (AL-QUDS) WITH A VIEW
TO ACHIEVING JUST AND COMPREHENSIVE PEACE BASED ON A TWO-STATE SOLUTION**

Explanatory memorandum submitted by the delegation of Turkey

The issue of Jerusalem (Al-Quds) is one of the final status issues that must be settled between the parties through peaceful negotiations. In this regard, the status of Jerusalem should be respected and safeguarded in order to reach a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the Middle East in accordance with the established parameters like those in the United Nations Resolutions and Arab Peace Plan and to ensure the establishment of an independent, sovereign and contiguous Palestine within the 1967 borders with East Jerusalem as its capital. The historic and religious importance of Jerusalem is key to achieving peace in the Middle East, but also to regional and international stability.

Any attempt to alter the character, status or demographic composition of Jerusalem has no effect, is null and void, and must be rescinded since any decision, measure or action that the parties or any third state would take contrary to the resolutions to change the status of Jerusalem would affect the peace process and the search for a two-state solution as well as regional and international stability.

In this regard, it is absolutely imperative to preserve the international consensus on the status of Jerusalem. It is also necessary to preserve the legal and historic status of Jerusalem in order to ensure that the Holy City retains its diverse identity, as well as its spirit of tolerance and openness.

Based on the foregoing, we request the inclusion of this item in the agenda of the 138th IPU Assembly.

**RESPECT FOR THE STATUS OF THE HOLY CITY OF JERUSALEM (AL-QUDS) WITH A VIEW
TO ACHIEVING JUST AND COMPREHENSIVE PEACE BASED ON A TWO-STATE SOLUTION**

Draft resolution submitted by the delegation of Turkey

The 138th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,

- (1) *Recalling all* resolutions and decisions adopted by the United Nations on the status of Jerusalem (Al-Quds), the situation in Palestine and the Middle East,
- (2) *Reaffirming* its commitment to all provisions of the Final Communique and Resolution adopted at the Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference and Extraordinary Meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers held in Istanbul, Turkey, on 13 December 2017 and to the Istanbul Declaration on "Freedom for Al-Quds",
- (3) *Affirming* that the issue of Jerusalem is the essence for reaching peace in the Middle East and that there can be no comprehensive, just and lasting peace without preserving the international consensus on the status of Jerusalem,
- (4) *Reaffirming* its unwavering commitment to spare no effort to safeguard the city of Jerusalem, which is sacred for three monotheistic religions,
- (5) *Bearing in mind* the specific status of Jerusalem and the need for safeguarding the unique spiritual, religious and cultural dimension of the Holy City,
- (6) *Expressing* its rejection and condemnation of any attempts by any party aimed at altering the historic, legal and religious status of Jerusalem and endangering the peace in the Middle East by doing so,
- (7) *Condemning* the escalating and continuing aggressions of Israel on the holy places in the city of Jerusalem and other cities in Palestine and the desecration of sacred places and enacting legislations to that effect,
- (8) *Denouncing* all illegal measures and policies taken by Israel in the city of Jerusalem that are contrary to all provisions of international law and resolutions, including the forced expulsion of Palestinian inhabitants and building of new settlements,
- (9) *Reaffirming* the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and to establish an, independent, sovereign and contiguous Palestine within the 1967 borders with East Jerusalem as its capital,
 1. *Strongly condemns* the declaration of the United States Administration to recognize Jerusalem as the capital of Israel and to relocate its Embassy to Jerusalem and considers this a blatant attack on the historical, legal and natural rights of the Palestinian people;
 2. *Considers* that the declaration of the United States aimed at changing the legal status of Jerusalem is null and void and has no legal value and lacks legitimacy;
 3. *Emphasizes* that achieving peace and security in the Middle East starts with the withdrawal of Israel from the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem to enable Palestinian people to exercise its universally recognized right to self-determination;
 4. *Reaffirms* that all legislative and administrative measures and actions taken by Israel to impose its laws and measures on Jerusalem are illegal and have no legitimacy;
 5. *Warns* that the Israeli colonial plans designed to control Jerusalem and its continued endeavors could spark religious conflict in the region;

6. *Calls on* all states to abide by international resolutions on Jerusalem, which is an integral part of the Palestinian territory occupied in 1967;
7. *Also calls on* international organizations to take necessary steps in order to preserve and maintain the historical heritage of Jerusalem;
8. *Demands* that Israel cease all of its settlement activities and any other measures aimed at altering the status, character and demographic composition of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around Jerusalem all of which have detrimental impact on the human rights of the Palestinian people and the prospects for a peaceful settlement;
9. *Expresses grave concern* at the restrictions imposed by Israel that impede access of worshippers to holy sites in the Occupied Palestine Territory, including Jerusalem; and *calls upon* Israel to include guarantees for non-discrimination on grounds of religion or belief as well as for the preservation and peaceful access to all religious sites;
10. *Also expresses grave concern* at the fragmentation and the changes in the demographic composition of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, as a result of Israel's continuing construction and expansion of settlements;
11. *Reaffirms* its attachment to the just, comprehensive and lasting peace based on a two-state solution with East Jerusalem as the capital of the state of Palestine;
12. *Supports* all legal and political steps at the national and international levels, which contribute to preserving the historic and legal status of Jerusalem; and *supports* Palestine in its endeavours in all international forums to consolidate its sovereignty over Jerusalem and the Occupied Palestinian Territory.