



Inter-Parliamentary Union  
For democracy. For everyone.

# 140<sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly



**Doha (Qatar), 6 – 10 April 2019**

Assembly  
Item 2

A/140/2-P.6  
7 April 2019

## 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 140<sup>th</sup> Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union submitted by the delegations of Indonesia, Kuwait, Morocco and Turkey**

On 7 April 2019, the IPU President received from the delegations of Indonesia, Kuwait, Morocco and Turkey a request and accompanying documents for the inclusion in the agenda of the 140<sup>th</sup> Assembly of an emergency item entitled:

"Ensuring international protection of Palestinian people, rejecting Israeli authority over the occupied Golan Heights, promoting the values of peaceful coexistence among people and religions and combatting all forms of racism and intolerance".

Delegates to the 140<sup>th</sup> Assembly will find attached the text of the explanatory memorandum ([Annex I](#)) and a draft resolution ([Annex II](#)) in support thereof.

The 140<sup>th</sup> Assembly will be required to take a decision on the request of the delegations of Indonesia, Kuwait, Morocco and Turkey on Sunday, 7 April 2019.

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.

**ENSURING INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION OF PALESTINIAN PEOPLE, REJECTING ISRAELI AUTHORITY OVER THE OCCUPIED GOLAN HEIGHTS, PROMOTING THE VALUES OF PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE AMONG PEOPLE AND RELIGIONS AND COMBATting ALL FORMS OF RACISM AND INTOLERANCE**

***Explanatory memorandum submitted by the delegations of Indonesia, Kuwait, Morocco and Turkey***

For more than fifty years we are calling for the protection of Palestinians as well as for an immediate halt to the violent acts carried out by Israel. The Palestinian people are still being oppressed; they are subjected to various attacks, crimes and human rights violations, in addition to constant raids and unlawful arrests which blatantly and purposefully contradict all international and humanitarian laws amidst deliberate international silence and failure.

Since the beginning of the blockade imposed by Israel, Palestine and in particular the Gaza Strip, have endured successive rounds of hostilities, including violence by Israeli occupation forces against peaceful Palestinian protesters. In addition to the loss of lives and livelihoods, the extensive destruction of homes and basic infrastructure has had devastating humanitarian and economic consequences, from which many Palestinians, and especially Gazans, are still struggling to recover.

Since 1981, Israel has also tried in various ways to impose its laws, authority and administration on the Golan Heights. However, these efforts have been met with international rejection and condemnation resulting from the UN Security Council Resolution No. 497 of 1981. As we condemned the decision to recognise East Jerusalem as the capital of Israel, today we renew our feelings of outrage at the new decision to recognize Israel's authority on the Syrian Golan Heights.

It is imperative that our voices rise as parliamentarians and we call upon the world at large to strengthen the international presence through the United Nations and its bodies to provide the necessary international protection for the Palestinian people at all political, economic and demographic levels. We, as well, call for the protection of the historic heritage that has been jeopardized by the Israeli settlement policy.

In addition, there is an urgent need for concerted global parliamentary action to address the dramatic and disturbing rise of racism, intolerance, Islamophobia and xenophobia across the world. Concern within the international community is steadily increasing as more and more people become victims of various forms of racism on the grounds of their religious and/or ethnic background.

It is beyond discussion that it is essential to promote understanding, tolerance and respect in matters relating to freedom of religion or belief, it is now evident that bigoted hatred, fear or prejudice towards Islam and Muslims is more frequently resulting in discrimination, marginalization or oppression of Muslims living in many parts of the world. A case in point is the terrorist attack that took place in Christchurch, New Zealand, on 15 March 2019, which bitterly reminded us that racism, xenophobia and religious hatred are bloody and deadly.

It is of great concern that Islamophobic rhetoric is becoming more evident. Racism, discrimination, singling out, exclusion and marginalization on any grounds severely threaten peace, prosperity and the stability of societies and international systems. Therefore, peace-loving nations have to ensure the promotion and defence of the principle of equal treatment between persons irrespective of racial, religious or ethnic origin.

Based on the aforementioned, we kindly request the inclusion of this item in the agenda of the 140<sup>th</sup> Assembly of the IPU.

**ENSURING INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION OF PALESTINIAN PEOPLE, REJECTING ISRAELI AUTHORITY OVER THE OCCUPIED GOLAN HEIGHTS, PROMOTING THE VALUES OF PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE AMONG PEOPLE AND RELIGIONS AND COMBATting ALL FORMS OF RACISM AND INTOLERANCE**

***Draft resolution submitted by the delegations of INDONESIA, KUWAIT, MOROCCO AND TURKEY***

The 140<sup>th</sup> Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,

- (1) *Taking into account* the principles embodied in the basic instruments of the United Nations concerning human rights, in particular the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,
- (2) *Considering* that one of the basic principles of the Charter of the United Nations is that of the dignity and equality inherent in all human beings, and that all United Nations Member States have pledged themselves to take joint and separate action to promote and encourage universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, without distinguishing between race, sex, language or religion,
- (3) *Reaffirming* UN Human Rights Council Resolution 16/18, *Combating intolerance, negative stereotyping and stigmatization of, and discrimination, incitement to violence and violence against, persons based on religion or belief*, which was adopted by a historic consensus that brought together divergent views on eliminating religious discrimination and intolerance,
- (4) *Stressing* that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenants on Human Rights proclaim the principles of the right to freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief, which also includes the freedom, either individually or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest one's religion or belief through worship, observance, practice and teaching,
- (5) *Recalling* that the disregard and infringement of human rights and fundamental freedoms, in particular the right to freedom of thought, conscience, religion or whatever belief, have brought, directly or indirectly, wars, conflicts and great suffering to mankind,
- (6) *Considering* that religion or belief, for anyone who professes either, is one of the fundamental elements in his/her conception of life and that freedom of religion or belief should be fully respected and guaranteed,
- (7) *Noting with grave concern* that terrorist attacks against Muslim communities across the world have reached unprecedented levels and that the world has been witnessing a disturbing rise in racism, intolerance, Islamophobia and xenophobia for some years,
- (8) *Bearing in mind* that Islamophobia is a specific form of racism that refers to acts of violence, discrimination and hate speech leading to the exclusion and dehumanization of Muslims and all those perceived as such,
- (9) *Expressing* its deep regret that more than 50 years have passed since the start of the Israeli occupation and stressing the urgency of restoring a political horizon conducive to accelerating constructive negotiations aimed at concluding a peace agreement that will bring the Israeli occupation dating from 1967 to a complete end, and at resolving all fundamental final-status questions, without exception, in order to reach a peaceful, just, lasting and comprehensive settlement leading to the creation of a viable, independent and sovereign Palestinian State, with East Jerusalem as its capital,
- (10) *Emphasizing* that Israeli-Palestinian agreements concluded under the Middle East Peace Process, and the Quartet Road Map to a Permanent Two-State Solution to the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict, must be fully respected and implemented,
- (11) *Deeply concerned* about the tensions and acts of violence recently observed throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

(12) *Reiterating* its support for the rights of the Palestinian people in their resistance and their legitimate struggle to liberate themselves from the Israeli occupation and to regain all their rights to return and to establish a sovereign nation state with Jerusalem as its capital based on the borders of 4 June 1967,

(13) *Convinced*, therefore, of the need for stronger political will from decision makers to ensure international protection of Palestinian people, reject the Israeli authority over the occupied Golan Heights, promote the values of peaceful coexistence among people and religions, combat all forms of racism and intolerance,

(14) *Noting that* in line with the spirit of *no one left behind* within the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, minorities should live peacefully and are equally entitled to participate in achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

1. *Expresses* solidarity with all the victims of racism, discrimination, exclusion and hate crimes, and those nations that have had to face the horror of terrorism;
2. *Underscores* the importance of co-existence of peoples and religions as a contributing factor to international peace, prosperity and security;
3. *Calls upon* States to act immediately to end racism, ensure equality and dignity, and realize the provisions of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination;
4. *Warns* that the international community and national authorities must not underestimate the dangers of racism, or forget the lessons of history;
5. *Condemns* the heinous terrorist attack that took place at Al Noor Mosque and Linwood Mosque in Christchurch, New Zealand, on 15 March 2019, which resulted in 50 people being killed and many wounded,
6. *Calls for* the encouragement of exchanges between groups which are the victims of racism, terrorism or the targets of hate speech with the aim of consolidating social ties and promoting inter-community solidarity and the fight against all forms of discrimination;
7. *Calls upon* the global parliamentary community to ensure that the legal framework on hate speech and hate crime includes the broadest possible range of grounds for tackling discrimination and supports all legal and political steps at the national and international levels to this end;
8. *Further calls upon* all IPU Members to recognize 15 March as the International Day of Solidarity Against Islamophobia;
9. *Reaffirms* its solidarity with the people of Palestine, standing alongside them in defending their just cause and their lawful rights that were guaranteed by the resolutions of international legitimacy;
10. *Calls for* the strengthening of the responsibilities of the United Nations, especially the Security Council, in order for it to play an effective role in guaranteeing respect of international human rights and International Humanitarian Law, thus contributing to the protection of the brotherly Palestinian people,
11. *Strongly urges* Member Parliaments of the Inter-Parliamentary Union to continue to lobby their respective governments to provide emergency assistance to the Palestinian people in order to alleviate the financial crisis and the dire socioeconomic and humanitarian situation, particularly in the Gaza Strip;
12. *Reaffirms* the pressing need to open the borders in the Gaza Strip immediately and permanently in order to provide humanitarian aid and goods in accordance with international law;
13. *Emphasizes* the necessity to guarantee the safety and protection of the Palestinian citizens in the occupied lands, including but not limited to the Gaza Strip, by sending an international protection mission, in addition to the complete lifting of all bans and restrictions on traveling and on reaching the Gaza Strip which are being enforced by the Israeli occupier;

14. *Urges* all parliaments to adopt necessary measures for the elimination of intolerance and racism in all their forms and manifestations and to prevent and combat discrimination on the grounds of religion or belief;
15. *Also urges* the social media platform to enhance efforts to take effective measures in combating hate speech and action related to xenophobia, intolerance and Islamophobia without undermining the freedom of speech and expression;
16. *Further urges* all states to ensure that all public officials including members of law enforcement bodies, immigration office, the military, civil servants, and teachers, in the course of their official duties, respect all religions and beliefs and not to discriminate against persons with religious symbols on the grounds of their religion/belief, and that all necessary and appropriate education or training is provided.