

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

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**VIDEO MESSAGE FOR THE
139TH ASSEMBLY OF THE INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION
Geneva, 14-18 October 2018**

I am pleased to greet the Inter-Parliamentary Union, a close partner of the United Nations.

I welcome your focus on promoting peace and development in an age of rapid technological change.

Advances in technology have brought wondrous gains and can turbocharge our work for the Sustainable Development Goals.

Yet we know there are also dangers, coming from the misuse of new technologies.

It is our responsibility to nurture a digital future that is safe and beneficial for all.

I encourage you to discuss these issues with technology leaders in your home countries, whether in the private sector or in university labs.

As elected representatives, you are in a unique position to advance the aspirations of the people – and to ensure no one is left behind.

The United Nations counts on your contributions.

Thank you.