

**SPEECH DELIVERED BY HON. AHMET AYDIN,  
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ON THE SECOND PLENARY “ENDING VIOLENCE, SUSTAINING PEACE”  
ON THE OCCASION OF THE WORLD PARLIAMENTARY FORUM ON  
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS  
(6 September 2017, Bali)**

Distinguished Chairman,  
Dear Colleagues,  
Dear Participants,

I would like to start my words by thanking the House of Representatives of Indonesia and Government of Indonesia for their unique hospitality and this international platform. Taking this opportunity I also would like to convey greetings and wishes of success of our President H.E. Recep Tayyip ERDOĞAN and the Speaker of Turkish Grand National Assembly H.E. İsmail KAHRAMAN.

Valuable speakers before me stroke the right notes, so I would like to thank them.

Esteemed Guests,

In our today's world where borders are lost and the understanding of security has been globalized, none of us is exempt from the risks of security. We do not have any luxury to sit and wait against the examinations we confront. We do not have any option to neglect the developments experienced and threatening the peace and security either in our regions or in any geography of the world. I believe that as the elected representatives of our nations, we also have responsibility for responding to all these exams in an accurate and effective way.

As the representatives of prominent countries of international society, it is our duty that we exhibit an active attitude in these issues. This is more importantly a moral and conscientious responsibility than also being a political responsibility. Indeed, the entrepreneur and humanitarian diplomacy that we carry out as Turkey is dependent on this responsibility. To expect that crises and threat would disappear themselves is neither realistic nor a humanitarian approach. On the contrary we need to sustain our interventions for peace diplomacy without any interruption. Within this context, as Turkey, we are trying to fulfil our responsibility. According to Global Humanitarian Aid Report our country ranks the second greatest donor with the official humanitarian aid of 3.2 billion US Dollars it provided and as compared to its national income it is the most generous country (0.37%) of the world. As it stands, within the framework of sustainable development, wherever it is experienced it is our priority to sustain an international policy compliant with objectives like prevention of poverty and eradicating hunger.

On the other hand, we have been hosting more than 3 million Syrians as a result of the crisis lasting and causing great humanitarian tragedies for more than 7 years in Syria and we are a country in a position accommodating the maximum number of refugees in the world. Within the framework of the agreement we made with the EU, irregular migration in Aegean has been taken under control and as a result of our efforts it has been decreased to negligible level. However,

load of refugee crises which transformed from regional to global dimension was left on shoulders of some countries and besides factors triggering the crises could not be avoided. Unless the humanitarian crisis and violence ongoing in Syria are not stopped, solely focusing on eliminating the results remains will remain as a restricted effort and besides, it feeds terrorist organizations which are established under different names as derivative of the previous ones each year.

Dear Colleagues,

As you know Syria and Iraq have become nests for local and global terrorist organizations benefitting from victimization in the region. We need to isolate these pro-terror formations fed from each other and the problems in the region and which try to establish their own zone of influence and as friendly nations we need to support each other at maximum level. Besides, we should not stretch the rules for the terrorist groups by avoiding the understanding of short term solutions and the understanding of enemy if my enemy is my friend, we should deny terrorism absolute and unconditionally. For example, stretching the rules by providing support for PYD/YPG a terrorist organization, extension of the PKK and a separate terrorist organization, for struggling against ISIS creates a conflict. What it should not be forgotten is that violence and terrorism are contagious. Each organization for which we stretch the rules someday in future shall also touch us with a different name. To stay neutral or negative shall harm us one day. If we want to render peace everlasting, we have to oppose to all kinds of violence in hand in hand regardless of their place, religion, language, locality and regionalism.

Whatever the source of violence wherever it comes from, we all have to exhibit a sincere and common stance against terrorism. We need to be against the tyrant and be with the aggrieved. Yet we stay quiet, do not take responsibility and act humanity shall perish in our hands. Who will be accountable for children's corpses on the sea coasts? And as the parliaments representing the nations how shall we clean our consciences? It will not be possible to render peace everlasting, provided that we do not stand as one and own the issues as our own.

Within this context, I would like to reiterate that we condemn the disproportionate use of force against Rohingya Muslims and causing death and displacement of thousands of people and reiterate our call on the UN and international community to act immediately. Unfortunately international community has remained unresponsive against this tragedy. The world sees no evil, hears no evil and speaks no evil against this tragedy. If it is not prevented, a humanitarian crisis shall be experienced in front of the eyes of the world. If violence is not avoided, it shall cause traumas and it shall radicalize. In order to find a stable solution for the problem, there is a need for the international community to take an action. So at the end of our forum, let's make a strong call to end the violence in Arakan, Syria and other regions.

Esteemed Guests,

Benjamin Franklin, founder of the USA, once said that 'There never was a good war, or a bad peace'. I agree with the first part of this famous statement; however I have concerns about the second part. I believe unjust and unstable peace would not be sustainable: therefore I believe there might not always be a good peace.

Is it enough or possible to describe peace as the absence of armed conflict and hot war? In today's world, this condition is named as 'negative peace'. However, negative peace is never sufficient for us and it should not be. We should focus our efforts on the concept called to be 'positive peace'. This concept involves various elements like consistent economy, inclusive growth, fair income distribution, social equality, education and health and easy access to basic services. We can render peace sustainable only through such an approach.

In our today's world order where not all people can benefit equally from advantages of globalization, the greatest weakness is constituted by inequalities. Indeed, this weakness lies in the origin of all these exams for global order, peace and security. We may come across with all these inequalities in all places of the world and in all fields of the socio-economic life. Today, even in developed countries, it is not possible to talk about an absolute equality. And unfortunately, it is not possible to say that right to life, fundamental right of a human, is not guaranteed for each person to the same degree. And there are also differences in our fundamental rights and needs like food, water, sheltering, health and education both among countries and within each of nation. All these negativities cause people to become vulnerable. Vulnerability of people triggers vulnerability of communities, communities' vulnerability triggers states' ad thus vulnerability of the whole nation is triggered.

Distinguished Guests,

In a world where income is not distributed fairly and economic growth is not inclusive, we cannot talk about social justice. And where there is no social justice, social exclusion and discrimination start taking place. We observe with concern that, such trends are gaining strength and in some countries this situation reaches a level where it threatens the social harmonization.

Hence, making an effort to eliminate inequalities is our global responsibility. A more equal and just world order shall bring along itself also the peace. And the way to this is through sustainable development. In this respect, we cannot neglect the natural connection between sustainable development and sustainable peace. So, entrepreneur and humanitarian foreign policy that Turkey has been performing is based on the connection between these two concepts.

Distinguished Participants,

For issues like prevention of crises and elimination of conflicts, primarily the UN and the other international organizations and forums have got great roles. UN Secretary General Guterres in his speech he made at 2016 oath taking ceremony stated that the greatest deficiency of international community is its insufficiency in prevention of crises and he made a call for concentrating on prevention of crises. Besides, Secretary General noted that in order to prevent the crises, it is required that underlying reasons should be eliminated and this issue should be prioritized in all UN endeavors.

As underlined by Guterres it is clear that as international community we are belated in prevention of many crises. UN organizations like Security Council not functioning properly is also a factor in this matter. Unfortunately, UN Security Council with its appearance of staying away from acting commonly harms the credibility of the UN and with the member states looking after their own interests above the international interests restricts joint international efforts against crises. Within this context, I would like to remind you our Esteemed President's rightful warning of "the world is greater than 5". To let welfare of the world to any of the 5 countries is thought provoking. It should be questioned to which extent it is fair that a country goes beyond will of about 200 countries. Before more innocent people lose their lives, structure of the UN should be reformed, more rapid and effective decision mechanisms should be established and they should be operated. If we want a world where a rightful is strong not the strong is rightful, international organizations must be reformed. Besides, in terms of common description of terrorism, UN not having reached a consensus, hinders taking rapid and precise decisions on international interventions.

Within this framework, against the ongoing crises, we need to concentrate on peace diplomacy. As I mentioned before, waiting for crises to be solved by themselves is not a realistic option.

Within this context, one of the beneficial methods in hand for peaceful resolution of conflicts is mediation. As Turkey, in 2010 at UN with Finland we started 'Mediation for Peace' initiative. With this initiative of ours, we aim to increase international awareness regarding mediation as one of the methods of resolution of conflicts through peace.

As international parliaments there are some concrete steps that we can also take. We have to make effort for extension of culture of peace. For example we can start this by taking steps which would promote peace training. Gandhi, Leader of Indian Independence Movement, once stated that 'If we are to teach real peace in this world, and if we are to carry on a real war against war, we shall have to begin with the children.' I cannot agree more on this statement. Indeed, if we can teach people to solve their problems through peaceful ways while they are children, we can guarantee more on sustainable peace. I believe that such an approach has become more necessary where violence, hatred and fears causing conflicts and terrorism increase more nowadays.

Unfortunately in our age, racism, xenophobia, Islamophobia, religious, ethnical and other discriminations alienate the people and make communities separated and vulnerable. We should stand against such dispositions together and we should aim constructing inclusive communities

grounded on respect and tolerance and rising on values. We should not give any opportunity for dispositions feeding extremist and radical ideologies. In this respect we should well educate our youngsters and make them aware and as politicians we should direct our community with right messages.

Esteemed participants,

Parliaments are the institutions in close touch with the people, where legitimacy of the implemented policies are tested, transparency is ensured and thus where democracies arise. Role of the parliaments is decisive in terms of the effectiveness and sustainability of policies; considered the role they play on the process of formation, implementation and oversight of those policies. Besides, parliaments are crucial for extension of policies on the ground and making the voices of disadvantaged groups heard. In this respect, in line with sustainable development objectives, parliaments are an effective instrument for eradication of source of violence and internalization of notion of peace by every individual.

However, unfortunately, our Parliament has been the target of violence and terrorism and last year on 15<sup>th</sup> of July, it was bombed as a result of coup attempt by Fethullahist terrorist group (FETÖ) nested in about 170 countries of the world. This illegal attempt was eliminated by our President's firm stance, determined attitude of our government and braveness of our people who are represented by our parliament. In the last two decades, FETÖ by engaging deception and disguising its real ambition, not only in Turkey but also in the entire world through establishing so-called charities, schools, companies, media organs, created a global network and it aims to create a political and economic zone of influence extending from Africa to central Asia and even to Far East. FETÖ not only for Turkey, it also poses a threat for national stability and security of other countries where it operates. To this end, both for security of allied Turkey and for your own national interests, it is significant that you give support to struggle against FETÖ. Similar sorrowful experiences are experienced in different countries as well. Based on our own experience, I would like to state that `Voice and free will of the parliaments therefore of the nation cannot be shouted out through violence. Here, although all of us have got different governance processes, our parliaments are inevitable parts of our countries' political processes and they are indicative for establishment of both national and international peace. I believe that through this forum, we will exchange good practices and strengthen our existing cooperation and therefore as the parliaments, we will increase our role in establishment of international peace.

While I conclude my remarks, I would like to reiterate that as Turkish Grand National Assembly, we are ready for any kind of cooperation for establishment of peace and resolution of global and regional conflicts both at bilateral level and at other assemblies and platforms and I convey you my deepest regards and best wishes.

Thank you.