

United nations General Assembly  
78<sup>th</sup> session Third Committee  
Interactive Dialogue with the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Volker  
Türk  
10 October 2023

Thank you, Mr Chair,

Mr High Commissioner,

I would like to welcome all efforts you and your office are making to mark this year anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, to foster the principle of universalism and to advance the respect for human rights.

Eleanor Roosevelt as the First Chairperson of the UN Human Rights Commission and the leader of drafting the Declaration, said and I quote: "The world of the future is in our making. Tomorrow is now,,,"

It will be quite interesting to find out what she would have said today taking into account many challenges in the field of human rights, we are facing today, from sexual violence through torture and slavery to arbitrary detention and discrimination among others. Many of those challenges are undoubtedly related to the Russian aggression against Ukraine in flagrant violation of international law. The consequences of the full-scale invasion are far reaching also geographically. In this regard, we appreciate your regular update on Ukraine.

Mr High Commissioner,

My question is very simple. Should you choose only one clear and eloquent message to the international community on the occasion of this year's declaration anniversary, what this message would be?

Thank you, you can count on our support.