



Message of the Universal Esperanto Association on the occasion of United Nations Day, 24 October 2022

Seventy-seven years ago, following the horrors of the Second World War, fifty-one nations ratified the Charter of the United Nations, thus creating the largest and most truly worldwide organization, the most ambitious diplomatic effort for international peace. The UN, now consisting of 193 Member States, has become the most important forum to address worldwide affairs.

UN is not a governing body, but a convener: it is the only place where the nations of the world can come together as a whole, discuss common problems, and find common solutions. Of course, everything depends on the nations themselves, on their wish to create a world that functions in accord with the values of the UN Charter: peace, justice and social progress.

The world (that is, all of us and the natural world in which we live) needs a renewed decision by governments to realise these goals. We must firmly and persistently make heard our desire to live in such a world -- where we all of us are free and equal in dignity and rights, and can all live in harmony with the natural environment.

As the President of the 77th session of the UN General Assembly, H.E. Csaba Kőrösi, has said, we need solutions attained through solidarity, sustainability and science. We need to build on those things that unite us, and build trust.

The Universal Esperanto Association, from its foundation in 1908, has worked and continues to work to show the importance of the linguistic side of efforts to achieve international understanding. For this reason, our organization has consultative status with the United Nations and UNESCO, is active as a board member of the Conference of Nongovernmental Organizations (CoNGO) and that organization's Committee on Language and Languages, and supports the work of the study group on languages and the UN.

Among the aims of our organization is action to overcome the language problem in international relations and to facilitate international communication. We support linguistic justice, so that everyone will be heard in decisions about the future of humankind.

On United Nations Day we salute that organization as essential to the future of our planet, we pledge our continued co-operation, and we call on the UN Member States to set aside their differences and work not for their own interests but for the interests of all.