



Message of the Universal Esperanto Association on the occasion of the United Nations Day, 24 October 2023

At a time when the international order is under serious threat and when the rule of law and the spirit of tolerance are severely challenged, the Universal Esperanto Association, which brings together speakers of Esperanto of all nationalities and cultures and a diversity of political persuasions, salutes the United Nations on United Nations Day 2023.

When the United Nations was created in 1945, its founders sought to rid the world of the scourge of war. While this objective has yet to be achieved and while intolerance, ethnic rivalry and economic exploitation continue to threaten the world's well-being and prevent multilateral co-operation in so many ways, the United Nations remains a beacon of hope.

It was hope that inspired Ludvik Zamenhof to create Esperanto in 1887 and to imagine a different world of ethnic and racial tolerance. Since that time, Esperanto has developed a worldwide speech community – a community that aspires to make the world a better place. We recognize that overcoming differences of language while recognizing cultural and linguistic diversity is only one element in the promotion of peace, but it is an important one. We pledge our support for all sincere efforts to advance peace, and most particularly the efforts of the United Nations, an organization that has done so much to prevent war in our time, to advance multilateral cooperation, and to remind us of our common responsibility as human beings for the future of our planet.

At a time when the world faces existential threats, the United Nations is more important than ever. We are glad to lend our support and urge everyone to do the same.