

Statement delivered by Ambassador Rafael Ramírez, Permanent Representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the United Nations in the Special Solemn Meeting of the General Assembly about Seventieth Anniversary of the End of the Second World War and Commemoration of All Victims

English versión:

Mr. President,

We would like to thank the President of the General Assembly, Mr. Sam Kutesa, for convening this Solemn Meeting to commemorate the seventieth anniversary of the end of Second World War, and to pay homage to all the victims of this sad episode of human history.

Seventy years have passed since its end; thus we must honor and remember those millions of human beings that died or disappeared, and those injured, displaced and tortured by this heinous war, the worst world conflagration, in which the human beings fought for its survival and for the right to life for future generations, against Nazism and Fascism. We make vows for this to be the last world war, and for not experiencing any other conflict of that kind among men.

The United Nations was born at the end of Second World War, with the purpose, as established in its Charter, of “preventing future generations from the scourge of war”, by adopting effective measures to promote peace and security, social development, and human rights in a comprehensive and inclusive manner. From this moment on, the war was outlawed as a means of imposition or solving of conflicts. Only by fulfilling the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations, we will be able to ensure peace and security in the planet.

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela is a land of peace. Two hundred years ago our liberators raised their swords to defend the rights of our peoples and to achieve independence in six South American nations. We have never attacked any other country. We practice tolerance, dialogue, and inclusion in our commitment for peace, justice, and understanding between nations.

However, seventy years after the end of Second World War, we still witness, with deep concern and sorrow, how intolerant and aggressive ideologies are being replicated in vast regions of the planet; how the fascism, extremism, and hatred for religious, ethnic, political, national or historic reasons are surfacing one more time. These ideologies pretend to ignite and justify wars in order to support and impose a global and hegemonic economic system that is nothing but unfair, predatory, and unsustainable.

We sadly regret that in the past seventy years there have happened, and there still happen, bloody and infamous wars that always carry a profound burden of tragedy for humanity. Those millions of men and women that have suffered the horrors of war portray a challenge to human consciousness.

It is then when we wonder, what kind of ideology or reasons, what kind of geopolitical and economic interests may lead or justify the existence of enormous military facilities, of so many weapons, of all technology, resources, and means always ready to erase the humankind from Earth.

We paid tribute, a couple of days ago, to the victims of the atomic bombs of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, in the framework of the Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. These bombs killed thousands of people in a couple of seconds, left more than 250 thousand victims within a couple of days, and caused some terrible consequences that were felt throughout the years. From this stage, we advocate, once again, for disarmament, and reject the nuclear proliferation that in such ill-fated occasion made the world know the horror of nuclear war.

We have the political and moral obligation to prevent the revival of hatred provoked by the ideology of death, fascism, violence, military and totalitarian logic into new and more sophisticated ways, which result more dangerous and overwhelmingly effective in its dissemination and criminal actions.

The devastating wars in important regions of the planet, the interventionism, the promotion and financing of extremism and terrorism as a mean to destabilize countries and incite chaos for economic and geopolitical reasons are clear evidence that much remains to be done internationally to overcome such issues and achieve lasting peace.

The elements established in resolution 69/267, from which this session is developed, are timelier than ever before. In this resolution the member States are encouraged to refrain “in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State, or in any other manner inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations, and to settle all disputes by peaceful means”

This represents a clear and vivid reminder of an unalienable legal obligation: political independence, territorial integrity, self-determination of the peoples, and non-interference in the internal affairs are fundamental elements to maintain international peace and security. The promotion of inclusive development in the framework of cooperation, working within fair economic systems that promote social inclusion at every level of society, as well as providing priority attention to those in need constitute, as well, fundamental elements for peace and security.

Finally, the Latin American and Caribbean region was declared a “Zone of Peace” in 2014; free from nuclear weapons since 1967. In the region there are no

warmongering programs; we promote dialogue, solidarity and union between brother peoples, while trying to strengthen our regional mechanisms in order to promote development under principles of complementarity and sovereign equality. Today the appeal is to continue the efforts towards promoting social development and fighting against poverty, as political banners that join us together, and that make the Second World War nothing else but a bad memory that will never be repeated by humanity.

Thank you very much.