

In times of armed conflicts' resurgence, for an unconditional respect of the human right to water at all times

As the world's population faces unprecedented challenges, particularly from the accelerating effects of climate change, we are deeply concerned by the resurgence of conflicts threatening the lives of millions of women, men and children.

In Ukraine, Nagorno-Karabakh, the Middle East and the Sahel, civilians in many regions of the world are paying a heavy and unjust toll, calling for urgent solutions to guarantee peace, dignity and security for all.

We express our deepest concern about the increasing use of water weaponisation, and recall that access to safe drinking water is recognized by the United Nations as " a human right that is essential for the full enjoyment of life and all human rights" (A/RES/64/292) - a right that is non-negotiable and must be guaranteed to everyone, everywhere and at all times, including during armed conflicts.

In war zones, growing tensions over water resources are driving already underprivileged populations into extreme poverty and jeopardizing this vital resource.

In these troubled times, we reaffirm our unwavering commitment to peace, solidarity and respect for the fundamental rights of all citizens, regardless of their origin, religion or nationality. We express our support for all initiatives aimed at promoting a culture of peace and dialogue in war-affected regions, to resolve conflicts and their impact on the use of water, following the example of the ISW-SWE Blue Book approach that we are promoting in nearly ten countries.

Driven by a profound conviction in the potential of water as a unique vector of peace, dialogue and solidarity, we will relentlessly pursue our mobilization to defend the universal right of access to water, without which no dignified life or lasting peace is possible.

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