



Argentina

60ª ASAMBLEA GENERAL DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS

40ª Reunión Plenaria

Intervención de la Delegación Argentina ante las Naciones Unidas

Tema 72: “Recordación del Holocausto”

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60th UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

40th Plenary meeting

Statement by the Delegation of Argentina to the United Nations

Item 72: “Holocaust remembrance”

New York, 31 October 2005

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Misión Permanente de la República Argentina ante las Naciones Unidas
One United Nations Plaza Piso 25
Nueva York, NY 10017

Mr. President,

The Argentine Republic, whose best tradition has been to welcome communities from all over the world into her territory for a peaceful and fruitful coexistence and who has suffered acts of cruelty against human dignity through her own flesh, co-sponsors draft resolution A/60/L.12 and adheres to this reminder with special emotion and commitment to participate in this collective act of the international community so that humankind may never again assist to genocide that we remember today.

Remembrance is indispensable in a world which is overwhelmed by the need to resolve new problems, where young people may think that the Holocaust was an historical event which occurred under specific political circumstances that do not exist any more. Faced by this possible skeptical reaction it is necessary to remind that no country can consider itself immune from a future wave of violence, fueled by intolerance be it for economic, fanatic religious or political reasons or for racial conflicts.

From this point of view we support the declaration of January 27 as the International Day for the Commemoration of the Holocaust victims as well as other measures established in Draft L12 in order to keep the memory of this shameful episode in the history of humankind alive.

The Holocaust revealed to us great truths that must not be forgotten. The sacrifice of the Jewish people is a dramatic example of the damage that we, human beings can mutually cause to one another. It transcends all cultural, political or religious boundaries to give a terrible and profound lesson. Racist antisemitism, in spite of so many decisive combats that have been fought against it, periodically reemerges, in the infamous attacks against synagogues, profanization of cemeteries or the cynical speculations of supposed historians who make the events relative, or deny them.

These irrationalities which derive from fanatic ideology, from ignorance, denial and distrust of the other, are part of the darkest aspects of the human condition. In different conditions and places they move to other communities and groups who suffer their share of shame, like the ones that this organization has been able to prove in the gravest episodes that have occurred in different regions not so long ago. Therefore, the main teaching, to our understanding, has been the obligation to affirm equality and essential fraternity of all men and women, no matter what national, cultural or religious idiosyncrasy they have.

Mr. President,

This Organization has been created to prevent war and to resolve conflicts and therefore it is auspicious that the United Nations should establish this annual day of reflection from now on, when we celebrate the 60th anniversary of the destruction of the Nazi regime.

It has been precisely in this framework in which through a great effort of several decades an edifice could be created whose base is the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and upon which new declarations and treaties that try to reinforce conditions to achieve the universal respect for human dignity are built. The International Criminal Court started to function not long ago which is a qualitative jump to dissuade potential criminals and punish those who pretend to escape their grave responsibilities unpunished.

Mr. President,

We are in a crucial moment when all of us are called to a greater effort of generosity to face new challenges and threats that secure us a future of peace based upon the respect of the rights of men and peoples. My country believes that this task must be secured in the collective framework of the United Nations.

If we want to avoid that the cycle of history should repeat itself and avoid another Holocaust and genocides of the past century, we must maintain the memory of what happened live and at the same time give the United Nations agile and powerful tools to protect human rights in an effective way under any circumstance and at any time.

We are convinced that this day will motivate serene reflection for us to address the future together, conscious of our historic responsibilities in the design of a more just and more peaceful world which will save the suffering humanity and impede the recurrence of collective tragedies that we evoke today.