



President of the General Assembly 79th Session



“Unity in diversity for the advancement of peace, sustainable development, and human dignity for everyone, everywhere”

The priorities of the President of the General Assembly H.E Philemon Yang encompass the three pillars of the UN: Peace & Security, Human Rights, & Sustainable Development and are guided by his vision for the 79th session of the General Assembly.

Priority: Preserving human dignity in armed conflict



The issue explained:

From 2000 to today, the number of armed conflicts in the world has more than tripled, to over 120. 363 million people needed humanitarian assistance by the end of 2023 due to conflicts, climate emergencies and other drivers.

Serious violations of international humanitarian law (IHL) have become pervasive in many armed conflicts, wreaking havoc on civilians as well as humanitarian workers who provide lifesaving assistance. International humanitarian law is designed to regulate methods of warfare. It also seeks to balance humanitarian concerns with the reality of warfare by protecting those who are not participating in hostilities.

The primary responsibility for respect for international humanitarian law lies with the parties to armed conflict. It is imperative for the international community to reiterate its political commitment and support to uphold IHL, both in letter and in spirit.

Signature Event: A signature event on the protection of human dignity in armed conflict together with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) will serve to promote compliance with international humanitarian law and explore ways in which that compliance could be better achieved in practice.