

## **International Year of Peace and Dialogue 2025: A Vision for Global Harmony Inspired by Turkmenistan**

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In a world increasingly divided by conflicts and crises, the proclamation of 2025 as the **International Year of Peace and Dialogue** stands as a beacon of hope. Championed by Turkmenistan, this initiative emphasizes the transformative power of neutrality and dialogue in addressing contemporary global challenges. By uniting nations under a shared commitment to peace, Turkmenistan underscores its role as a responsible and proactive member of the international community.

Turkmenistan's journey as a neutral nation began in 1995, when the United Nations formally recognized its permanent neutrality. Over the past three decades, this principle has shaped its foreign policy and inspired initiatives aimed at fostering global peace.

Notably, in 2021, the International Year of Peace and Trust, also proposed by Turkmenistan, set a global precedent for dialogue and mutual understanding. The 30th anniversary of Turkmenistan's neutrality in 2025 now coincides with the International Year of Peace and Dialogue, reinforcing the nation's unwavering commitment to harmony and cooperation.

The United Nations General Assembly's resolution declaring 2025 as the International Year of Peace and Dialogue is a landmark in global diplomacy. Spearheaded by Turkmenistan and co-sponsored by 86 countries, the resolution received unanimous support from member states. This overwhelming endorsement reflects the universal appeal of its mission: to promote peace and trust through constructive political dialogue and proactive diplomacy.

The initiative recognizes that peace extends beyond the absence of conflict; it is a dynamic, inclusive process requiring collective effort. Its key objectives include:

- **Promoting Preventive Diplomacy:** Encouraging nations to adopt dialogue-based mechanisms for conflict prevention and resolution.
- **Strengthening Trust:** Building confidence among states through mutual respect and shared commitments.
- **Fostering Sustainable Development:** Emphasizing that peace is a prerequisite for achieving economic, social, and environmental sustainability.

By integrating these goals, the initiative addresses immediate challenges while laying the foundation for long-term global stability.

To mark the International Year of Peace and Dialogue and the 30th anniversary of its neutrality, Turkmenistan has established a State Organizing Committee. This body will oversee high-profile events designed to promote the initiative's objectives, including international forums and conferences, cultural and educational events, as well as collaborations with international organizations.

These activities will not only celebrate Turkmenistan's achievements but also inspire nations to embrace dialogue and cooperation.

Turkmenistan's commitment to neutrality has positioned it as a key player in regional peacebuilding. Its collaboration with the **UN Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia**, established in Ashgabat in 2007, exemplifies this proactive approach.

The centre has facilitated important achievements, including the designation of **Central Asia as a Zone of Peace, Trust, and Cooperation** in 2024. This milestone, achieved through a UN General Assembly resolution, underscores Turkmenistan's influence in shaping regional peace dynamics.

Turkmenistan's neutrality has yielded transformative outcomes, including serving as a model for peaceful coexistence through the recognition of its neutrality, promoting Central Asia as a peaceful zone by establishing a new geopolitical framework, and contributing to global security through its advocacy for disarmament and non-proliferation.

These achievements demonstrate the practical benefits of neutrality and the potential for applying its principles to address contemporary security challenges.

One of Turkmenistan's significant contributions to international diplomacy is its proposal for the **UN Global Security Strategy**, introduced during the 78th session of the UN General Assembly. This strategy highlights the interconnected nature of modern security, encompassing political, economic, environmental, and humanitarian dimensions. Its key components include:

- Preventive Diplomacy: Addressing conflicts before they escalate.
- Economic and Energy Cooperation: Promoting equitable resource distribution and sustainable energy policies.
- Environmental Protection: Tackling climate change to ensure stability.
- Humanitarian Support: Strengthening cooperation to address crises.

This vision aligns with the UN's agenda for sustainable development and conflict resolution, reinforcing Turkmenistan's role as a trusted partner in international diplomacy.

The ambitious vision of the International Year of Peace and Dialogue must contend with geopolitical tensions, economic disparities, and cultural differences. Building trust among nations with divergent priorities remains a significant challenge. However, multilateral dialogue offers a solution, providing platforms for constructive engagement.

The initiative's success depends on the active involvement of governments, civil society, and international organizations. Turkmenistan's partnerships with global and regional entities serve as a model for ensuring collective action and sustained momentum.

The International Year of Peace and Dialogue 2025, initiated by Turkmenistan, represents an important step toward fostering a more peaceful and cooperative world. By championing the principles of neutrality and dialogue, Turkmenistan reaffirms its commitment to addressing global challenges through collaboration and mutual understanding.

As nations unite under this shared vision, the initiative offers a unique opportunity to redefine global priorities and strengthen the foundations of peace. It stands as a powerful example of how diplomacy and dialogue can pave the way for a brighter future for all.