ITALY_Mr. Giangiacomo CALOVINI (Young MP) 148^ IPU Assembly_General Debate Geneva, 26 March 2024.

Mr President, colleagues, colleagues,

I am here in Geneva for the first time, here with you, dear colleagues, here at the IPU and here on this stage.

It is an honour for me to be able to debate in an organisation whose slogan is: For Democracy-For everyone.

The truth, however, is quite different. Democracy is still a distant mirage and too many people in this world that we love representatives do not live by the basic rules of law.

I have listened to many speeches over the last few hours and they all seem to be going in the same direction, in search of balance, stability and conflict resolution.

However, we are living through a moment of extreme geopolitical tension, characterised by constant conflict and clashes. But time is passing and all of us who have the honour of representing millions of people need awareness and courage for a change of pace.

There are epochal challenges that can no longer be postponed and every opportunity can be crucial to improve things. We need to think about this before