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## Letter of encouragement addressed to participants in the United4Gaza Initiative, on the occasion of the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the United Nations

24 October 2025

Dear friends and colleagues,

Eighty years ago today, the United Nations was born.

It was not simply an institution — it was a promise. A promise made by nations scarred by war, determined to protect future generations from the same horrors. Our founders imagined a world bound together by shared humanity, guided by the principles of peace, justice, and respect for human rights.

The Charter they wrote was not a description of the world as it was, but a vision of the world as it could be.

Fulfilling that vision was never meant to be easy. Each generation has faced its own trials — and ours is no exception. Today, the foundations of multilateralism are being tested. Conflicts, displacement, and deep divisions remind us how fragile peace can be, and how easily human dignity can be disregarded.

In moments like these, it is natural to feel sorrow, anger, and doubt. Yet these very emotions remind us that we still care — that we still believe in something better.

The path forward is not to lose faith, but to renew it. When our shared values are shaken, we must stand taller. When injustice prevails, we must raise our voices louder.

Your work and your commitment through *United4Gaza* embody this spirit — the courage to turn pain into purpose, and despair into determination. Each action you take, each truth you defend, keeps alive the hope that inspired the founders of the United Nations eight decades ago.

Together, we can still shape the world they dreamed of — one where peace is real, justice is universal, and every human being is seen and valued.

With deep respect and solidarity,

