Madam President,

IFOR outlines the urgent need to take action to implement the Right to Life which is “the supreme right from which no derogation is permitted”\(^1\).

IFOR is heavily concerned about the situation at the Turkey-EU border. It’s unacceptable to play with human lives for political gains.

We are alarmed by the emergency measures announced by the Greek government to remove the right to claim protection\(^2\) and to push refugees back to Turkey. The use of disproportionate force and violence towards migrants\(^3\) has been registered repeatedly as well as the presence of extremist groups exercising violence against migrants, local NGOs and reporters\(^4\).

President Sassoli of the European Parliament called for “a common European migration policy to guarantee freedom and defend human rights” and referred to “the thousands of unaccompanied minors at Europe's borders”.\(^5\)

Europe should provide safety and protection in accordance with international law and Conventions. Those migrants at that border are waiting. And unfortunately, there are many more alike situations in other regions of the world.

IFOR is also concerned about nuclear weapons which represent an immediate threat to our planet and its inhabitants\(^6\) and are incompatible with the Right to life\(^7\).

IFOR urges all member States to ratify the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, adopted\(^8\) in 2017.

Thank you.

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1 Parag. 2 of General Comment n. 36 of the Human Rights Committee.
2 [https://www.msf.org/eu-must-address-migration-emergency-greek-islands](https://www.msf.org/eu-must-address-migration-emergency-greek-islands). Neither the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees nor EU refugee law provides any legal basis for the suspension of the reception of asylum applications.
3 [https://www.unhcr.org/](https://www.unhcr.org/)
4 [https://www.msf.org/eu-must-address-migration-emergency-greek-islands](https://www.msf.org/eu-must-address-migration-emergency-greek-islands)
6 Ahead of the NPT Review Conference, the Red Cross organized this past Monday a conference here in Geneva to discuss the humanitarian consequences and the growing risks of nuclear weapons. [https://www.icanw.org/hinw2020_experts_and_governments_meet_to_discuss_the_humanitarian_impact_of_nuclear_weapons?fbclid=IwAR00MtVqeh2TigVIRT96L4WM9b4XRa8hNm9V6SBd09p1Ny30Fz4-YyVXanaY](https://www.icanw.org/hinw2020_experts_and_governments_meet_to_discuss_the_humanitarian_impact_of_nuclear_weapons?fbclid=IwAR00MtVqeh2TigVIRT96L4WM9b4XRa8hNm9V6SBd09p1Ny30Fz4-YyVXanaY)
7 General comment n. 36\(^7\) on article 6, adopted by the UN Human Rights Committee in 2018, concludes that the threat or use of nuclear weapons is incompatible with the Right to Life and may amount to a crime under international law.
8 By a vote of 122 States in favour, with one vote against and one abstention.