

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

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**MESSAGE TO GLOBAL PARLIAMENT OF MAYORS
ON PEACE IN OUR CITIES AND PATHFINDERS FOR PEACEFUL,
JUST AND INCLUSIVE SOCIETIES INITIATIVE**

18 November 2020

It is a pleasure to greet so many mayors and local officials. You are key partners of the United Nations. Your role is especially important today, as the world strives to overcome the COVID-19 pandemic, address climate change and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

I welcome the efforts of the Global Parliament of Mayors and of local governments worldwide to step up the campaign against urban violence. Cities have demonstrated that it is possible to act effectively to prevent and address the root cause of violence and insecurity. We need to reduce inequalities, and make cities more sustainable, inclusive and just.

I invite every city to adopt and implement the United Nations System-Wide Guidelines on Safer Cities and Human Settlements.

We will also count on your support for a recovery from the pandemic that advances our climate goals, including to reach carbon neutrality by the year 2050.

Let us work together to make our cities safer and to erase the scourge of violence and conflict from our planet.