

**42nd regular session of the Human Rights Council**  
**“Building peace and reconciliation through the creation of a Ministry of  
Peace”**

Parallel event, 20 September 2019, Palais des Nations, Geneva

**INTRODUCTORY REMARKS OF H.E. AMBASSADOR MARCELLO BECCARI**

(PM of San Marino to UNOG)

Excellencies,  
Ladies and  
Gentlemen,

I am particularly delighted of having ideated and co-organized, together with the Associazione Papa Giovanni XXIII, the present Side-Event in full conviction that the construction and realization of Peace could also be sustained through the establishment by Governments of a Ministry of Peace.

The Republic of San Marino, uninterruptedly independent and sovereign for over one thousand and seven hundred years (which renders it the one of the oldest states worldwide or, as Abraham Lincoln defined it, one of the states most honored by history), was born out of an act of freedom, out of an act of faith, with the awareness that if on the one side it cannot and shall not harm others, on the other side it can, or rather shall, uphold the full respect of the dignity of every individual, among which lies the right of everyone to live in peace.

In nowadays world, inexorably globalized and interconnected, it is a fortiori sensed the need of having a society that foreshadows a new citizenry, the planetary one, for which history shall not be the history of the winners over the defeated but shall rather be the crossroad of a thousand histories, thousand memories, thousand paths, thousands civilizations and thousand cultures, directed towards the point of unity of the human family in which at last can be harmonized equality and diversity, uniqueness and universality.

A planetary citizenry does not mean destroying the old identity but rather rendering it more motivated, more complete, by enriching it with the colors of the future.

Among the paramount roles that the UN endorses, there is the ineludible instrument of condemnation vi-à-vis human rights violations, but there is as well the instrument of dialogue, which allows the attainment within the human family of the highest aspiration of mankind : the one of living in peace.

I wish to warmly thank all the speakers present today, and in particularly Guerrino Zanotti, Minister for the Internal Affairs and Peace of San Marino. San Marino is one of the few countries that has endowed itself with a Ministry of Peace.

I leave the floor to the Dott. Maria Mercedes Rossi, in charge of the Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII at the UN, precious and inspiring figure for the realization of this Side Event.

Thank you.