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Interactive Dialogue with the Independent Expert on Human Rights and International Solidarity

Joint oral statement delivered by: Pax Christi International

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Mr President,

Pax Christi International and the co-signing organisations reaffirm that international solidarity is not only a founding principle of the United Nations, but also a moral imperative grounded in our shared humanity and collective responsibility.

Yet today, the international system is increasingly fragmented. Multilateral cooperation is challenged by zero-sum approaches, rising militarism, and a weakening commitment to collective solutions. Peace risks being reduced to a selective, corporate-driven, and transactional process, detached from international law and affected peoples

These failures come when solidarity is most needed, with devastating consequences. Millions are displaced by violence, hunger, and injustice, with children paying the highest price. Climate change, environmental destruction and neocolonial extractivism disproportionately affect vulnerable communities and Indigenous Peoples, whose rights and lands are too often violated without accountability.

At the same time, military expenditures rise - including nuclear rearmament - while investment in healthcare, social protection, peace education, and poverty eradication remains inadequate due, among others, unequal financial architecture. The rapid expansion of artificial intelligence also raises urgent ethical concerns, particularly as new technologies reinforce systems of domination and warfare. As Pope Leo XIV recently reminded us, technology must “serve humanity, not concentrate power”, and artificial intelligence must be “disarmed” from the logic of war. Genuine security cannot be built through deterrence and militarisation, but through justice, dialogue, and active nonviolence.

International solidarity demands shared responsibility for our common home and a more collaborative, inclusive, and preventive system. Solidarity is rooted in human dignity and the meaningful participation of Indigenous communities, faith-based actors, women peacebuilders, and young people. They demonstrate the transformative power of solidarity through reconciliation, resilience, and the stewardship of land and water.

In this time of deep global fragmentation, international solidarity requires a new framework for collective action, one that brings together States, international organisations, civil society, faith-based actors, young people, and affected communities to safeguard peace, sustainability, and human dignity.