

Erdogan calls world for common effort against terrorism

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/ Apr 26, 2016



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Turkish president says the world failed on uniting against terrorism and overcome mentalities centered on prejudices, faith, origins, and cultures.

International community has failed to take a united resolute stance against terrorism, said Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan on Tuesday, adding it also failed to overcome mentalities centered on prejudices, faith, origins, and cultures.

"As the international community, we are still very far from reaching goals that constitute the foundational aim of the alliance," said Erdogan addressing the seventh UN Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC) Global Forum in the Azerbaijani capital of Baku.

"We also fail to show the common, resolved effort expected from us to fight radical movements and the terror fed by these movements," he said.

The UNAOC aims to promote harmony and improve understanding and cooperative relations among nations.

"No faith, religion, culture, or conscience approves of making an attempt on [someone's] life. Islam especially is a religion whose name means peace. Does a religion whose meaning is peace allow terrorism?" asked Erdogan.

"Terror has no place in our religion, and organizations such as DAESH which emerge in the name of Islam have nothing to do with Islam," Erdogan added.

The president said the world failed to take a united stance against the pain caused by "bomb after bomb that exploded in Syria, Iraq, Nigeria, France, Pakistan, Turkey, and Belgium".

"We failed to find a solution to political disputes, injustices, and inequalities which spawned an environment of violence," Erdogan said.

Erdogan said the world should work for peace with a joint fight against sectarianism, racism, and terrorism.

"We must view members of all races as human beings and love them. Here, this constitutes the basis of peace in the world," he said.

Turning to the Syrian war, which he said killed more than 500,000 people, Erdogan stressed that Syria is undergoing a state terror. "A terrorist that kills his countrymen with barrel bombs, shells, and tanks is in charge," Erdogan said, referring to Syrian leader Bashar al Assad.

"These people have been dying in Syria for six years. Just in the Aegean and Mediterranean Seas, the number of people we [Turkey] rescued reached 100,000," said Erdogan, adding that Turkey is hosting 3 million Syrian and Iraqi refugees and to date has spent \$10 billion helping them.

Erdogan reiterated that Turkey will not close its doors to refugees who have fled bombs, "because we cannot let those people die".

Source: TRTWorld, AA



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