2023 International Essay Contest for Young People 【Children's Category – Honorable Mention】

## The stars above our heads

(Original)

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If there is something that makes me feel at peace, it is definitely spending nights watching the stars in the sky from my bedroom window and taking pictures. Something like that might seem futile, but for me, a world of peace is like seeing your reflection in a mirror, walking around aimlessly, and even looking at the stars in the night sky and realizing that each one of them illuminates the sky with the moon. Let me explain:

First, the world is not perfect and never will be, but we can still make it a better place. In a future of peace, we will not have to be afraid of wars, going out alone at night or being neglected or violated for being who we are. A future where people don't live in fear, but in happiness.

To me, peace is being well with yourself and others. I feel that way every time I help someone struggling with a subject at school, greet someone on the street, or calm someone down in a difficult situation. I remember once when a friend was going through a bad situation at home and at school, our whole group of friends helped her, supported her, and made her feel better. To me, that is peace.

So, for a peaceful world, we must stop and think about ourselves and the little things in life. Start appreciating details that go unnoticed in everyday life but are beautiful. Like seeing your reflection in the mirror, for example. Looking at yourself and knowing who you are, how you will make peace today, and understanding that each one is unique. In a peaceful future, there is freedom to improve and to learn from mistakes.

It is, moreover, the peace of going out without a destination, enjoying the path, feeling the wind, and listening to the birds singing. Being free and free to be. A free future, with

respect for the diversity of ways of thinking and acting, with dialogue, a world where people can express who they are without fear, in harmony.

Also, looking at the stars in the night sky is like looking at ourselves as humanity. Each dot, different from the other, hides an immense light and, together with the moon, they form an exuberant starry sky, worthy of being photographed. Despite this, some lenses never manage to capture the beauty of the sky and reality. Therefore, sometimes we must leave the lens through which we observe the world or look at it through new lenses, so that we can see the charm present in it, admiring the differences.

Finally, for us to build a peaceful Earth, I think that the transmission of knowledge and the decline of ignorance are crucial, since with knowledge we can understand and respect differences. Young people will have the duty to pass on their knowledge so that prejudice is not admitted and does not surface in our generation. We must speak up, tell our ideas to the world and try to make improve it by accepting and raising awareness to different ways of thinking.

In addition, we young people can produce social projects that aim to help our community, with donation programs, social integration, and education for people in need. We can even do small actions on a daily basis, bringing happiness and support to the people around us, doing good deeds and being upright citizens.

We could still set up "Associations of the Future", where young people would discuss ideas of empathy, equality and justice for the future of our world, with ourselves making a difference. Or even, through art, in which we can express ourselves, be free and transmit ideals of peace.

In conclusion, in a future of peace, life will not be perfect, but certainly better and more equal, however, much still needs to be done to reach such an ideal. Personally, I believe that good will always prevail over evil and that is what we must fight for.