



**05.02.2016 - History was made in London yesterday at the #SupportSyrians conference when donors pledged over \$10 billion in a single day. Never has this much money been raised for a crisis on a single day.**

Being the first international pledge of this size, the conference lit a light of hope for millions of people suffering as a result of the Syrian conflict.

The conference was described as a “truly historic” and delivered on meeting key objectives such as committing global leaders to commit to providing access to education for all refugee and host community children by the end of 2016-17 as well as allowing refugees access to neighbouring countries’ labour markets.

The morning session of the conference began with a panel on education in which Justine Greening of the United Kingdom delivered a speech on the [#NoLostGeneration](#) campaign

aiming to provide education for the millions of children.

“It is schools and education that will rebuild Syria” education activist Malala Yousafzai affirmed.



Anthony Lake of UNICEF also delivered some poignant comments: “We must fill their minds with learning and their hearts with healing”.

A young Syrian woman delivered an impassioned speech outlining the need to “uphold international humanitarian law, to end the conflict and hold those responsible accountable.”

“We mainly need schooling, even before that they ask for food,” she said. She asserted the need to involve women and civil society groups, and emphasized the need to continue involving Syrian teachers in the humanitarian efforts. “Speak to us please, don’t speak about us,” she added, highlighting the fact that she was one of only three Syrians at the conference.

In his closing remarks, UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon thanked the governments of Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey for choosing “solidarity over fear”.

“There is no military solution” he said, “only political dialogue, inclusive political dialogue, will rescue the Syrian people from their intolerable suffering.”

Prime Minister David Cameron encouraged global leaders to contribute the maximum amount of donations they possibly could: “We are all leaders with difficult budgets to manage. But I hope we will think of our children and grandchildren when they ask: What did you do?”

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- [Conference Website](#)

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