

Hello, my so close living yet so far away friend,

I'm Mery, a Soldier's sister. I hope you know what it means to be a soldier's sister, brother, or a relative. I don't want to sleep with the fear that I may wake up in the morning to bad news from the border. I don't want to hear the sound of shootings interrupting my conversation with my brother. This is the main reason I'm writing this letter to you. I'm writing it with great pleasure and excitement, as I know that there is someone in the neighboring country who listens to me and shares my thoughts. You may not agree with some thoughts here, but believe me, the most important thing is that you and I have united for the same reason: to reach a peaceful resolution of the conflict.

What is peace? The term "peace" can be explained in different ways, but I think all those thoughts lead to the same idea. We all know the history well: we've lost a lot and maybe gained certain things, but those gains have been at the cost of human lives. I believe there is no material thing, conflict, or interest that is worth more than a human life.

We're not to blame for the deeds of our ancestors, but as their younger generations we're responsible for those deeds. Maybe like us, they didn't want war, but there were circumstances or people who induced them to war.

We're responsible for what is in the future; we decide what's going to happen in the future. So, why not do acts of kindness? Why not be kind?

We've inherited the war from our ancestors, but I'm sure you wouldn't like to inherit the cruel war to our children. And if history proves that we can live in peace, why not do so? We've already taken the first, most important step towards peace: we're ready to listen to each other.

The second step is to leave the past in the past and live in the present, not looking back and not searching for the guilty. As mentioned above, we're not to blame for the mistakes of our ancestors, but if we repeat what they did in the past, we'll be equally guilty. We should look ahead, be positive, and develop projects that will lead us towards peace step by step.

The third most important step is erasing the borders. If there are no borders between the stars in the sky, why should people close borders here on the Earth between states? But before erasing the borders on the map, we should first erase those borders in our hearts and souls, so that love, kindness and peace are spread across the world. So, let's be doves who spread peace not only inside the borders, but also beyond them. Then, in the near future, when I'm in beautiful Azerbaijan or you are in beautiful Armenia, we'll talk long. We'll proudly remember our steps taken in the name of peace. We'll serve as an example for the new generation as well as for the generation at war, and will prove that peace should be achieved without a weapon.

With best, peaceful wishes,

Your friend Mery