



**PERMANENT MISSION OF GREECE
TO THE UNITED NATIONS**



**Security Council Briefing
on Threats to international peace and security (Ukraine)
30 May 2025**

Greece's Statement delivered
by Mr. Ioannis Stamatekos

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Dear colleagues,

Russia has requested this meeting to address alleged attempts by the European countries to undermine the peace process of what it calls "*Ukrainian crisis*".

Yet, our reading of the situation is quite different. I would like to emphasize a few key points:

First, let us be clear; the war that has been raging on for well more than three years in Ukraine is the product of Russia's invasion of the country, in violation of the most fundamental principles of the UN Charter and international law, the sovereignty, political independence and territorial integrity of Ukraine.

Against this violation, Ukraine has the legitimate, inherent right to defend its people and territories, as enshrined on article 51 of the UN Charter. This right includes procurement of the necessary means for self-defense, as long as it fully complies with the relevant international legal framework. It is clear that, should Russia decided to heed the calls of the overwhelming majority of the international community and withdraw its troops from Ukrainian territory, this war would stop immediately.

Second, as UN briefers in previous Security Council meetings have stressed, transfers of weapons to Ukraine from various governments have been widely documented through open sources. On the contrary, there were only reports of transfer of weapons to Russia, at least until last month, when Russia and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea admitted the extent of their military cooperation, which includes the deployment of thousands of DPRK's

soldiers on Russian territory. We underline that the presence of DPRK troops in the theater of war, in violation of multiple, unanimously adopted Security Council Resolutions, endangers international peace and security on a regional scale with potentially far-reaching consequences for global security, including its nuclear dimension.

Third, while the peace initiative of the United States is already in its fourth month, and Ukraine has accepted the US proposal for a 30-day unconditional ceasefire, deadly aerial attacks with record numbers of long-range missiles and drones against residential areas of Ukraine have continued unabated, with April bearing witness to the highest number of civilian casualties in recent months. It is evident that these actions are in violation of international humanitarian law and not conducive to good faith negotiations.

Finally, Greece reiterates that a full, immediate and unconditional ceasefire should be the first step towards the overarching goal, which is a just, comprehensive and lasting peace achieved through inclusive diplomacy, in line with the UN Charter and international law, that upholds Ukraine's sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity.

I thank you.