



PERMANENT MISSION OF GREECE
TO THE UNITED NATIONS



**Security Council Briefing on the situation in Afghanistan - UNAMA
23 June 2025**

Greece's Statement delivered
by HE Ambassador Evangelos Sekeris,
Permanent Representative of Greece to the United Nations, New York

Thank you Madame President,

I would like to thank Special Representative Roza Otunbayeva, ASG Joyce Msuya and the Executive Director for UN Women, Sima Bahus for their insightful briefings.

Madame President,

Greece is deeply concerned about the dire humanitarian and human rights situation in Afghanistan.

March marked the beginning of the fourth consecutive school year where girls beyond the sixth grade are denied access to education.

This decision by the Taliban is not only morally unacceptable, but it will also have long term repercussions for the country's economy and society, further marginalizing half of the country's population.

Allow me to make the following three points:

First, Greece strongly condemns the human rights violations and abuses against all Afghan citizens, particularly women and girls, who face the most severe restrictions of their fundamental freedoms, including freedom of movement and expression, access to healthcare, the labor market and humanitarian assistance.

The stricter implementation of the Law on Propagation of Virtue and Prevention of Vice and the Sharia law is of grave concern. We denounce all public executions, arbitrary detentions and the denial of lawyers' access to detainees. We also call for media freedom and urge the Taliban to end the oppression of journalists and civil society activists.

Second, we are particularly concerned by the continuing terrorist attacks in Afghanistan and the illicit flow of small arms and light weapons, which result in numerous civilian casualties. We remind the Taliban that countering terrorism is one of their obligations to the international community. We also call on the Taliban to prioritize clearing unexploded ordnance, which has the biggest toll on children's lives.

Third, Greece reaffirms its support to UNAMA and to its proposed roadmap to foster a more coherent, coordinated, and structured engagement between the international community and the Taliban. We believe that the inclusive participation of all segments of Afghan society in this process, including women, civil society representatives and the diaspora, could contribute significantly to its success.

At the same time, we reiterate that the normalization of Afghanistan's relations with the international community hinges on the fulfillment of international obligations by the Taliban, particularly the respect of human rights and women's rights and the establishment of an inclusive government, with the full, equal and meaningful

participation of women and minorities. We also support the UN-led Doha process and believe that the next round of talks could achieve tangible results, especially at the level of the Working Groups.

Madame President,

In closing, let me stress that Greece believes in stability, prosperity and sustainable peace in Afghanistan and reiterates its solidarity with the Afghan people, particularly women and vulnerable groups. The international community should continue to provide needs-based humanitarian assistance to help the country mitigate the multifaceted crises of poverty, food insecurity and child malnutrition, natural disasters, displacements and the reintegration of returnees.

At the same time, it is up to the Taliban to engage constructively with the international community “for an Afghanistan at peace with itself and its neighbors, fully integrated and meeting its international obligations”.

I thank you.