



Adoption of United Nations Security Council Resolution 2790 (2025) on UNIFIL 28 August 2025

Greece's Explanation of Vote delivered by H.E. Ambassador Aglaia Balta Permanent Representative of Greece to the United Nations, New York

Thank you Mr. President,

At the outset, I would like to thank the penholder, France, for its tireless efforts in successfully steering the discussions.

Greece has voted in favour of the renewal of UNIFIL's mandate. We consider the Mission a reliable and critical partner of the Lebanese government, a pillar of stability for Lebanon, and a key enabler of regional peace and security.

UNIFIL's support to the deployment of the Lebanese Armed Forces (LAF), its assistance in the detection and disposal of unauthorized weapons, its perseverance in upholding the cessation of hostilities and monitoring the implementation of Resolution 1701 (2006), as well as its assistance in the safe return of the displaced population, are all vital to promoting stability in Lebanon and the wider region.

In parallel, the Lebanese government has shown determination to stay the course despite daunting challenges. The recent decision of the Ministerial Cabinet to approve a roadmap for the disarmament of Hezbollah constitutes a courageous and welcome move. In the same vein, reports indicate that the LAF has assumed control of 90% of the positions previously maintained by Hezbollah south of the Litani River.

It is now time to seize the momentum.

Strengthening cooperation between UNIFIL and the LAF in the months ahead will be crucial to enhancing the operational capacity of the LAF, consolidating the State's monopoly on arms, and extending its authority over the entire territory of Lebanon. Full respect by all parties for the ceasefire and Resolution 1701 remains indispensable.

At the same time, the safety, security, and freedom of movement of UN personnel must be guaranteed, along with the inviolability of UNIFIL's premises. Meanwhile, the international community should intensify support for Lebanon, particularly in the timely implementation of much-needed reforms. In this vein, the Council has a responsibility to address the repercussions that will emanate from ending the mandate and to ensure that it will not create a security vacuum.

Greece has already committed to increasing its support to the Lebanese Armed Forces, while already contributing to the Mission with a frigate and staff at the Naqura Headquarters.

In conclusion Mr. President,

While, in principle we believe that the ending of the mandate should have been condition-based and the text is not ideal, we stress that UNIFIL's transition needs to be safe and orderly in close coordination with the host country.

We sincerely hope that the Lebanese government will, in the coming months, assume full sovereignty over its territory and that both parties will advance towards a comprehensive political settlement. Greece, as Lebanon's neighbor and long-standing friend, stands ready to assist towards this goal.

I thank you.