



PERMANENT MISSION OF GREECE
TO THE UNITED NATIONS



**Security Council briefing on
the Maintenance of International Peace and Security in Ukraine
23 September 2025**

Greece's Statement delivered
by HE Ms. Alexandra Papadopoulou
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Thank you Mr. President for giving me the floor and I would like to thank the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations for convening this meeting.

At a time when the United Nations and its membership should celebrate the 80th anniversary of this Organization's founding, the world faces multiple and severe crises, while many countries suffer from the scourge of war.

Greece firmly believes that all crises could – and should! - be averted through dialogue and diplomacy. Unfortunately, Russia's unprovoked war of aggression against Ukraine defied all diplomatic efforts and resulted in unprecedented loss of human life.

For almost four years, Europe has experienced the most disastrous war in its territory since World War II.

Greece has consistently backed all efforts to put an end to the war in Ukraine. We supported, along with the vast majority of the UN membership, relevant General Assembly Resolutions. We assisted this fellow European country in its time of dire need. Above all, we joined our voice with other countries on the need for peace.

Greece has welcomed the US- led initiatives and the decisive efforts to stop the bloodshed in Ukraine, firmly believing that the time for peace is long overdue.

Three direct rounds of negotiations between Ukraine and Russia have produced some results, with regard to the exchange of prisoners and civilian detainees. Greece welcomes these agreements and their implementation and further calls on Russia to engage in goodwill in further negotiations.

We regret that Russia has not yet agreed to a leaders' meeting and that it has shifted away from the path to peace, proceeding to reckless acts that affect EU and NATO borders.

As a staunch proponent of international law and the UN Charter, Greece unequivocally condemns any violation of internationally recognized territory, by land, air or sea.

Any change of borders as a result of the use of force is unacceptable and sets a dangerous precedent that could incite armed aggression and imitators elsewhere.

We desire peace. As Thucydides has taught us, war is a choice, not an inevitability.

We call on Russia to choose peace and cease hostilities. Our primary goal now should be a permanent, comprehensive, just and lasting peace settlement that will be fully in line with International Law, the UN Charter, the General Assembly Resolutions and the Helsinki Final Act. As a non- permanent member of this Council, Greece stands ready to work in this direction.

Lastly,

Greece firmly believes that a peaceful resolution for Ukraine without Ukraine is not possible. We likewise view Europe and its nations as an integral part of any solution to end the war. Together with our European partners, we will continue to prioritize Ukrainian, in other words European, security. To that end, we stress that any future peace agreement should be founded on credible and robust security guarantees, to preclude the recurrence of war and ensure an independent, democratic, and sovereign future for Ukraine.

Thank you.