



PERMANENT MISSION OF GREECE  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS



**Security Council Briefing on  
the situation in the Middle East (Syria – Chemical Weapons)  
12 September 2025**

Greece's Statement delivered  
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Thank you, Mr. President,

I would also like to thank the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, Mrs. Nakamitsu for her briefing. I also welcome the participation of the new Permanent Representative of Syria to this meeting.

Greece remains concerned by the volatile security situation and the fragile political transition in Syria, a country with which we share longstanding historical and cultural ties.

We fully support Syria's efforts to achieve progress and prosperity, to preserve its rich ethnic and religious diversity and to close all outstanding issues related to its protracted civil war, including the chemical weapons file.

Mr. President,

I wish to reiterate Greece's full adherence to the principles and objectives of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction.

We condemn in the strongest possible terms any use of chemical weapons, by any State or non - State actors, anywhere, under any circumstances, and we stress the need to hold all those who use such weapons accountable.

I wish to highlight three points.

First, we welcome the latest monthly reports of the Director General of OPCW on the progress in the elimination of the Syrian Chemical Weapons Programme.

The reports indicate, that despite 26 declared chemical weapons-related sites, information made available to the Secretariat of OPCW suggests that there may be more than 100 additional locations that may have been involved in chemical weapons-related activities.

Greece fully supports the Secretariat's efforts to verify the accuracy of this information, including through visits to all these locations.

Moreover, the reports confirm a persistent lack of progress on 19 of the 26 outstanding issues that have been reported by the Secretariat since 2014. These issues constitute a source of great concern, as they relate to large quantities of potentially undeclared or unverified chemical warfare agents and chemical munitions and must be addressed.

Second, Greece values the fact that OPCW is carrying out its mandate impartially, professionally and in adherence to the highest international standards.

Furthermore, we acknowledge the first steps made by the interim Syrian Authorities to improve their cooperation with the newly established "Office of Special Missions" of OPCW and we encourage the two parties to continue their close cooperation.

Third, we call upon the interim Syrian Authorities to take any possible measure in order to prevent any non-state actors from gaining access to chemical weapons.

This development would have an impact on regional and global peace and security.

Mr. President,

In conclusion, Greece reiterates its full support to the sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of Syria, which must be fully respected by all.

We also reaffirm the importance of upholding all relevant international agreements and Security Council Resolutions, in particular Resolution 2118 (2013) and of preserving the international norm against any use of chemical weapons.

I thank you