



PERMANENT MISSION OF GREECE
TO THE UNITED NATIONS



**Security Council Meeting on Threats to International Peace and Security
(Venezuela)
5 January 2026**

Greece's Statement delivered by
Mr. Ioannis Stamatekos
Deputy Permanent Representative of Greece to the United Nations, New York

Thank you, Mr. President.

At the outset, I would like to congratulate Somalia for assuming the Presidency of the Council for the month of January and I would like to welcome the newly-elected members joining the Council. I would also like to thank USG Di Carlo for her briefing on behalf of the Secretary General, as well as Mr. Sachs and Ms. De Freitas for their remarks.

Mr. President,

Greece is closely monitoring developments in Venezuela.

We urge all actors to exercise maximum restraint and to refrain from actions that would deepen the crisis and undermine prospects for peace and stability.

Greece reiterates that the Charter of the United Nations and international law, including human rights law, must always be respected. We also recall the obligation of all parties to protect civilians, especially in times of heightened tensions.

Greece shares the priority of combating transnational organized crime and drug trafficking which pose a significant security threat worldwide. We reiterate that these challenges should be addressed through sustained cooperation in full respect of international law.

Mr. President,

Greece firmly believes that dialogue and diplomacy are the only viable tools for a peaceful transition and a sustainable resolution of the crisis. We join the Secretary-General in encouraging all actors in Venezuela to engage in inclusive and meaningful dialogue, in full respect of human rights, democratic principles, and the rule of law.

We have long been clear that Nicolas Maduro's, an illegitimate President's, claim to power, lacks legitimacy. Greece has not recognized the results of the rigged elections of 28 July 2024 and has always supported initiatives aimed at achieving a democratic solution for Venezuela.

We stand firmly with the people of Venezuela in their pursuit of a democratic future and we express the hope that the recent events will lead to this effect. The voices of all Venezuelans need to be heard, and they deserve governance that reflects their will through peaceful and inclusive processes. In this spirit, we will continue to support efforts aimed at achieving a peaceful, negotiated transition that ensures the will of all Venezuelans is fully respected.

Greece stands ready to support all regional and international efforts aimed at the peaceful resolution of the crisis, in line with the Charter of the United Nations and international law.

I thank you.