



PERMANENT MISSION OF GREECE  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS



**Security Council Briefing  
on the situation in the Central African Republic - MINUSCA  
25 February 2026**

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

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Thank you, Mr. President.

At the outset I would like to thank SRSG Rugwabiza for her comprehensive briefing and for leading the vigorous efforts of MINUSCA toward achieving peace and security. I also thank Ambassador Hilale in his capacity as Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission for his briefing and welcome the participation of the Permanent Representative of the Central African Republic in this meeting.

Mr. President,

It is genuinely encouraging to hear SRSG Rugwabiza describe the calm and orderly manner in which the triple, presidential, legislative and local elections were conducted, with an overall turnout of nearly 65 per cent. We are heartened by this noteworthy exercise of democratic choice.

National and international electoral observation missions reported the same peaceful atmosphere, underscoring that logistical challenges and isolated security or irregularity concerns, did not undermine the overall conduct of the polls. We express our confidence that the same commitment to peaceful participation will be upheld in the second round of the legislative elections and on any subsequent run-offs.

It must be highlighted that MINUSCA played an indispensable role throughout the electoral process, providing essential logistical support, security coordination and civic outreach, particularly in remote and hard-to-reach areas of the country. The sustained engagement and cooperation with the country's authorities helped create the conditions for a credible election process.

We also note with optimism the encouraging results from the local elections, especially the municipal elections, the first ever held since 1988, where 809 women, a 48.4 percent of the total, were provisionally elected. This emerging network of female grassroots representatives in towns and villages offers a promising foundation for the strengthening of civil society, inclusive governance and community-level peacebuilding, which will be essential to embedding sustainable peace and fostering development across the country.

Mr. President,

The resumption of the Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR) process, a pillar of the Political Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation, is another encouraging development.

Emphasis should be maintained by all stakeholders on strengthening economic incentives and livelihood opportunities for former armed individuals to reintegrate into civilian life and contribute to social development.

On the broader security situation, it is important to underscore the positive gains in the north-east region bordering Sudan, achieved through MINUSCA's cross-border and inter-communal dialogue and stabilization initiatives. We have highlighted this effort in our October statement and are particularly glad to witness, four months later, a tangible achievement of UN peacekeeping, delivering crucial local mediation results and restoring state authority on the ground.

At the same time, we remain attentive to issues affecting children. Despite a reported reduction in overall human rights violations and abuses, and a consequent decrease in the total number of victims, we note with concern that grave violations against children, including recruitment and use, abduction, and rape and other forms of sexual violence, have slightly increased.

To this effect, we urge the Government of CAR to continue working on the reintegration process of children, and to operationalize the Handover Protocol on the Protection and Transfer of Children Associated with Armed Forces and Groups to Civilian Authorities.

Mr. President,

In closing, Greece reiterates its steadfast support to MINUSCA's mandate.

We stand ready to help ensure that the Mission's current capacity is sustained in the months ahead, to effectively assist the Central African Republic in consolidating the gains achieved, particularly as the country navigates the delicate post-electoral period and remaining run-offs, and moves toward deeper social cohesion and long-term stability.

I thank you.