



PERMANENT MISSION OF GREECE  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS



**Security Council meeting on the situation in Libya  
18 February 2026**

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

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Thank you, Mr. President.

And let me thank SRSG Tetteh for her briefing and continued efforts to support a Libyan-led political process. Your efforts, Ms. Tetteh, are much appreciated. I also thank Ahmed Albibas for his briefing. And I welcome the participation of the Permanent Representative of Libya to this meeting.

The overall situation in Libya security remains fragile and continues to be a source of concern, including due to its possible implications for the wider region. The unification of state institutions and the achievement of a comprehensive peace remains elusive.

In this context, I wish to underscore the following points:

First, we fully support UNSMIL's political roadmap; one which requires the commitment of all relevant Libyan, regional and international stakeholders in a genuinely Libyan-led and Libyan-owned political process. While navigating the political deadlock is challenging, the roadmap presented by SRSG Tetteh provides a credible pathway towards stability and prosperity in Libya. The UN-led mediation process remains the only viable path toward a lasting political solution based on Libya ownership and consensus.

We also welcome initiatives by Libyan institutions and international partners that encourage dialogue between the two sides, as complementary to ongoing UN efforts toward a comprehensive settlement. It is imperative that conditions for holding free, fair and credible presidential and parliamentary elections be met without further delay.

International and regional engagement is equally essential. In this regard, the revived Berlin Process remains an appropriate framework for mobilizing coordinated international backing. We welcomed its resumption, recalling that this Council, through Resolution 2796, encouraged its continued evolution and inclusivity.

Second, economic stability is inseparable from political stabilization.

Greece is fully supportive of Libya's economic viability and the prosperity of the Libyan people. Despite its significant potential, the economy remains in a fragile state as described by the SRSG.

In this regard, Security Council Resolution 2769 (2025), allowing, under specific conditions, the reinvestment of the Libyan Investment Authority's frozen assets, is an important step. We view these assets as a national resource that must be safeguarded and managed transparently for the sole benefit of the Libyan people and future generations. Responding to the legitimate Libyan inquiry, Greece, requested the issuance of an Implementation Assistance Notice to expedite and facilitate the implementation of this decision. We look forward to its speedy adoption by this Council.

In a similar vein, Greece fully supports Libya's rightful and legitimate request for a comprehensive audit of the frozen assets of the LIA. Enhanced transparency will strengthen public confidence, support institutional unification and contribute to long-term economic stabilization.

Which brings me to my third point.

Sustainable economic recovery cannot be achieved without security. As conditions in Libya remain volatile, the efforts of the Presidential Council, with the critical support of SRSG Tetteh and UNSMIL, to maintain the ceasefire in Tripoli, are welcome. The continued presence of foreign forces and mercenaries clearly undermines Libya's sovereignty and stability. We reiterate our call for their withdrawal.

Similarly, the flow of arms and heavy weaponry fuels tensions and obstructs the unification of institutions. The UN arms embargo therefore remains essential. For this reason, Greece will pursue the renewal of Operation IRINI's mandate for the maritime enforcement of the UN arms embargo, alongside France, as a co-penholder. We welcome the constructive cooperation between the Operation and Libyan authorities, as it is essential for the successful implementation of its mandate.

Insecurity generates instability that is exported beyond Libya's borders in the form of migration and refugee flows. Such challenges can only be tackled at their source through a comprehensive approach, including, security, development and awareness raising. Greece is acutely aware that far too many desperate people have lost their lives at sea, driven by an illusive hope for a better future. Criminal smuggling networks bear responsibility for these tragedies and must be dismantled.

In conclusion, Mr. President,

Libya is a key partner of Greece. We will continue to build our diplomatic and economic ties based on good neighbourly relations and International law. Our close cooperation will strengthen stability and prosperity in the Mediterranean. We fully support the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of our neighbour. And we remain confident in the country's future.

We stand firmly behind efforts, most notably the UN roadmap, to support Libya's path toward a peaceful, prosperous and secure future. Such efforts, finally, must be shielded from foreign interference and allowed to develop and prosper.

I thank you.