



PERMANENT MISSION OF GREECE
TO THE UNITED NATIONS



**Security Council Arria-Formula Meeting on Bridging the Implementation Gap:
Security Council Resolutions and the Maintenance of International Peace and
Security.
Tuesday 23 June 2026**

Greece's Statement delivered
by Deputy Permanent Representative Mr. Ioannis Stamatekos

Thank you Chair,

Co-chairs, Excellencies,

I would like to thank China and Pakistan for convening this Arria-Formula meeting on an issue that lies at the heart of the effectiveness and credibility of the Security Council. I also thank the briefers for their insightful remarks.

I would like to highlight the following two points:

First, we recall that the members of the Organization conferred on the Security Council the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security. They also agreed that, in order to ensure prompt and effective action by the United Nations, the Security Council, carrying out its duties under this responsibility, acts on their behalf.

Importantly, in the application of Security Council Resolutions the members of the Organization have 'agreed' -to use the exact wording of Article 25 of the Charter- 'to accept and carry out the decisions of the Security Council in accordance with the present Charter'.

Greece underlines in this regard that the Security Council in discharging its responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security shall act and take its decisions, in accordance with the principles and purposes of the United Nations and in conformity with the principles of justice and international law. Such decisions also include those building upon previous Security Council resolutions and established practice, which must likewise be applied by member states.

Therefore, respect for the rule of law is of paramount importance not only regarding the exercise of the functions of the Council, but also as regards the application of its resolutions by the member states.

The Cyprus issue is a good example; respect for and adherence to Security Council Resolutions 541 and 550 must serve as the guiding compass for member-states in addressing this issue. The Security Council, with its resolutions 541 and 550, called upon all states to respect the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus and not to recognize the secessionist, illegal entity or assist it in any way.

Greece firmly believes that the maintenance of international peace and security can be achieved only through the establishment and consolidation of the rule of law. We attach great importance to the primacy of and respect for the UN Charter and international law.

Second, related to the rule of law are issues concerning sanctions. Security Council resolutions providing restrictive measures under Chapter VII establish sanctions committees in order to monitor the implementation of the measures imposed and to examine and take appropriate action on information regarding alleged violations or non-compliance with the measures contained in the resolutions. Security Council sanctions aim to ensure compliance with international law and remain an essential tool for the maintenance and restoration of international peace and security. To be effective and to avoid unintended consequences, they must be carefully targeted in support of clear objectives.

Member States must comply with sanction regimes established by the Council as a fundamental requirement of the international rule of law and must neither evade nor facilitate the circumvention of such measures.

Embedding due process requirements is necessary for enhancing compliance and ensuring the effectiveness of the sanctions regimes provided in the Security Council resolutions. The Office of the Ombudsperson established in the context of the 1267 ISIL (Da'esh) and Al-Qaida Sanctions Committee, together with the Focal Point for delisting established pursuant to Security Council resolution 2744 (2024), are two mechanisms that play a central role in ensuring due process, fairness and transparency in the application of sanctions. Their effective functioning is essential for upholding due process and strengthening the credibility and legitimacy of the sanctions regimes.

To conclude, Mr. Chair, Greece underscores that the full and effective application of Security Council resolutions is indispensable to the maintenance of international peace and security in accordance with the UN Charter and in conformity with international law.

I thank you