



PERMANENT MISSION OF GREECE
TO THE UNITED NATIONS



**Security Council Meeting on
Maintenance of International Peace and Security (UNSC Res. 2722 renewal)
14 July 2026**

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

Mr. President,

Greece welcomes the adoption of this resolution, and we extend our sincere appreciation to the United States, as co-penholder, and to all Members of this Council for their constructive engagement. We also thank regional actors for their continuous support and enduring commitment to safeguarding freedom of navigation in the Red Sea.

One of the world's most vital maritime corridors for international shipping, global supply chains and international trade, the Red Sea, remains a critical source of livelihood, also for the coastal communities and the countries in the region.

Since November 2023, when the first attack was launched against the vehicle carrier *Galaxy Leader*, Houthis have demonstrated both the capability and the intent to carry out unlawful attacks against commercial vessels, all in violation of international law. Stability and trust have yet to be restored in the region.

Mr. President,

The threat posed by Houthi attacks against international shipping and freedom of navigation remains acute. Furthermore, the latest Houthi attacks against the territory of Saudi Arabia, which we strongly condemn, undermine stability and security in the wider region.

Greece has repeatedly called out actions, which endanger the open, free and safe passage in this strategically important maritime route and risk the proliferation of the conflict

Maritime security in the Red Sea region needs to be fully restored and safeguarded. The current monthly reporting requirement, which has been extended for a further six-month period, provides a solid basis for the verification and monitoring of attacks by the Houthis, and could be even enhanced to further improve maritime situational awareness on the ground.

Greece steadfastly supports the efforts by the international community to safeguard freedom of navigation and maritime security in the Red Sea region, through its leading role and operational contribution to the European Naval Operation ASPIDES.

Under its defensive mandate, and in full respect of international law, including relevant SC resolutions, EU Operation ASPIDES provides vessel protection and escort, enhances maritime situational awareness, and supports capacity-building efforts with regional partners.

Protecting freedom of navigation and maritime security is essential to preserving international peace and stability, and remains a collective endeavor and a shared responsibility of all.

I thank you.