



PERMANENT MISSION OF GREECE
TO THE UNITED NATIONS



**Security Council Arrria-Formula Meeting on
Transitional justice and missing persons in Syria
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Greece's Statement delivered
by H.E. Ambassador Aglaia Balta
Permanent Representative of Greece to the United Nations, New York

Thank you Chair,

I wish to thank High Commissioner Türk and ASG Quintana for their briefings, as well as the representatives of the Syrian National Commissions for their presence and remarks here today.

Following decades of suffering the Syrian people are ready to open a new chapter, one defined by truth, justice and reconciliation. In this vein, addressing the issue of missing persons is a critical priority. For thousands of Syrian families, clarifying the fate and whereabouts of their loved ones is both a humanitarian imperative and an essential step towards truth, justice and reconciliation. The meaningful participation of victims, survivors, families of the missing and Syrian Civil Society is crucial in this effort.

Let me thus acknowledge the indispensable contribution of women-led organizations in preserving memory, documenting violations and supporting accountability efforts.

Greece welcomes the establishment of the Syrian National Commission for Transitional Justice and the National Commission for the Missing, as well as their representatives in today's meeting. Your presence here today speaks powerfully of the course Syria has chosen.

We commend the continued engagement and cooperation with the International, Impartial and Independent Mechanism (IIIM), the UN Commission of Inquiry, and the Independent Institution on Missing Persons (IIMP). Their expertise can provide invaluable support in strengthening national capacities, preserving evidence and ensuring that transitional justice efforts are conducted in accordance with international standards.

In this context, international law remains indispensable for building a peaceful, stable and inclusive future and addressing past grave human rights violations. We welcome the efforts undertaken by the Syrian authorities in this regard. Transitional justice constitutes an integral part of Syria's political transition — one which has to be fully and credibly inclusive, if it is to be durable and sustainable.

Delivering on transitional justice involves addressing the violations of the past, restoring trust in institutions, strengthening the rule of law and establishing the foundations for national reconciliation. A credible process must address atrocity crimes committed and must be fully responsive to the experiences of victims and survivors.

In conclusion, colleagues,

Greece stands with the Syrian people as they chart this path towards recovery.

We encourage the efforts of the Syrian authorities and the United Nations alike and call on the international community to remain fully engaged, so that Syria's transition delivers the peace, accountability and dignity its people deserve.

I thank you.