



PERMANENT MISSION OF GREECE
TO THE UNITED NATIONS



**Security Council Briefing on the situation in the Middle East,
including the Palestinian Question
28 September 2026**

Greece's Statement delivered by
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Thank you, Madame President.

And let me start by thanking Acting Special Coordinator Alakbarov for his briefing, as well as Mr. Maoz Inon and Mr. Aziz Abu Sarah for their powerful remarks.

For yet another year, the high-level week of the General Assembly placed the Middle East Peace Question at the heart of international engagement.

In his address to the general Assembly last week, the Secretary-General called for the force of law to prevail over the law of force. Today, we wish to echo this powerful message; one which must guide our collective efforts towards a just, lasting and comprehensive peace in the Middle East, especially at a time of concerning recent developments in both Gaza and the West Bank.

Madame President,

Greece remains deeply concerned by the continued expansion of settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, as they constitute a major obstacle for the achievement of the Two-State Solution. The advancement of the E1 settlement plan risks further fragmenting the territorial contiguity of the West Bank. All settlement activities must cease.

We are equally concerned by the continued violence perpetrated by settlers against Palestinians, including against Christian communities. All perpetrators of violence must be held accountable. Measures that seek to alter the Status Quo of the Holy Sites in Jerusalem must also cease.

We also attach particular importance to the historic role of the Consulates General in Jerusalem, which have for generations formed an important part of the international presence in the city, and we underline the need to preserve their status and functions.

Madame President,

The situation in Gaza remains deeply troubling. A year since the adoption of Security Council resolution 2803 and the launch of the comprehensive plan to end the conflict, we have made important progress. But the most difficult part lies ahead: implementation. We must now proceed with the 15-point Roadmap developed by High Representative Mladenov, as it links security, governance, recovery and reconstruction.

The disarmament of Hamas and other non-State armed groups must remain a major priority. Hamas can have no role in the future governance or security of Gaza. A sustainable settlement requires one legitimate authority and one legitimate security structure, while effectively addressing Israel's legitimate security concerns. We should therefore continue working on effective security arrangements, including the International Stabilization Force, with a clear mandate and clearly defined responsibilities.

At the same time, humanitarian assistance and early recovery must advance in parallel. Housing, healthcare, water and sanitation, electricity, rubble removal and demining cannot wait. They need to be addressed swiftly. They are essential for restoring normal life, creating tangible hope for the Palestinian people and consolidating stability. Greece is ready to contribute through the EU's Team Gaza Initiative, the UN Horizon Fund and the World Bank.

Palestinian ownership is equally essential. Palestinians must be at the center of the administration and reconstruction of Gaza. We support the National Committee for the Administration of Gaza during the transitional period, while our ultimate objective must remain the reunification of Gaza and the West Bank under a reformed and empowered Palestinian Authority, which will be endowed with the necessary means to be functional. This is why we need to collectively sustain our political and financial support to the Palestinian Authority to move forward with the necessary reforms.

Madame President,

One year ago, the international community gathered here for the historic Conference on the Implementation of the Two-State Solution, co-hosted by France and Saudi Arabia. The adoption of the New York Declaration, endorsed by the General Assembly by an overwhelming majority, demonstrated the breadth of international support for this objective.

Last week, at the Global Alliance ministerial meeting for the implementation of the Two-State Solution, the international community once again underscored that there remains only one credible path towards lasting peace and security for Palestinians and Israelis: Two States, living side by side in peace and security, in accordance with international law and the relevant UN resolutions.

The task before us is to ensure that this political horizon does not disappear while we address the immediate challenges in Gaza. It is now time for broad international consensus to be translated into concrete action.

I thank you.