



PERMANENT MISSION OF GREECE
TO THE UNITED NATIONS



Security Council Briefing on United Nations peacekeeping operations Friday 18 September 2026

Greece's Statement delivered
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Thank you Mr President,

At the outset, I would like to thank the Secretary General for his valuable briefing and I welcome the participation of the Foreign Minister of Panama to this meeting.

UN peace operations remain one of the most visible and effective tools to maintain international peace and security. We want to pay tribute to the courage and dedication of the Blue Helmets, the men and women who serve under the UN flag, often in extremely difficult conditions far from home. We honor the memory of those who have paid the ultimate price in the line of duty. Attacks against peacekeepers are unacceptable and constitute serious violations of Security Council Resolutions and international law. In this regard, we welcome the unanimous adoption of Resolution 2823.

Mr. President,

In today's increasingly complex environment, peace operations need to adapt. We should be open to different approaches when circumstances require them. The recently deployed Gang Suppression Force in Haiti is one example of a new hybrid model. Such arrangements may not work everywhere, but they broaden the options available to us. At the same time, the Council must retain its central role in mandating and overseeing peace operations.

I wish to highlight four points in this regard:

First, the Review gives us a useful roadmap for adapting peace operations to today's realities. We need mandates that are clear and achievable, rather than mandates that try to address everything. But adaptation should not come at the expense of the core tasks of peacekeeping, including monitoring ceasefires and protecting civilians. Missions also need clear political objectives and, from the outset, a realistic sense of how they will eventually transition or draw down.

Second, Technology can help. AI, in particular, can improve situational awareness, make operations more effective and help keep our personnel safe. UAVs are one example. But we should also be clear about the risks. The same technologies can be used to spread

disinformation, manipulate information and target or discredit peacekeepers. Their use must therefore remain consistent with international law, human rights and accountability.

Third, the Security Council must play its part. We should translate the relevant recommendations of the Review into our own practice. This means, among other things, listening more closely to host States, both when missions are established and when their mandates are reviewed. Above all, peace operations must remain politically driven. They cannot substitute for a viable political process.

Fourth, peacekeeping cannot succeed without strong partnerships. We need close cooperation among the UN, host countries, local communities, Troop- and Police-Contributing Countries and regional organizations, including the African Union. The next Peacekeeping Ministerial, to be hosted by Indonesia and the Netherlands in Jakarta, will be an important opportunity to strengthen these partnerships.

In conclusion, Mr. President,

The future of UN peace operations will depend not only on the tools we develop, but on whether we have the political will to use them. We need peace operations that can adapt, that enjoy political support, that have the resources to do their job, and that remain firmly grounded in the UN Charter and international law.

Greece will continue to work with the Secretary General, the Secretariat, and all Council members to strengthen UN peace operations and take forward the recommendations of the Review.

I thank you