



PERMANENT MISSION OF GREECE
TO THE UNITED NATIONS



**Security Council Briefing on
the Maintenance of Peace and Security of Ukraine
9 October 2026**

Greece's Statement delivered
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I would like to begin by thanking Assistant Secretary-General Khaled Khiari as well as Director Connell for their sobering remarks today.

We are witnessing a severe intensification of Russian strikes against urban areas across Ukraine, culminating in the horrific attacks of this week, killing at least 85 and injuring more than 346 Ukrainians, among them many children.

We join the Secretary General in strong condemnation of these ongoing attacks, express our condolences to Ukraine and to the families of the victims and call on Russia to comply with its obligations under international humanitarian and human rights law.

Russia is already weaponizing another winter, ramping up its long-range strikes against energy and critical infrastructure across the country and violating core principles of international humanitarian law. Our thoughts are also with the Ukrainian people in the temporarily occupied territories, including the people of Oleshky, suffering through the consequences of a deadly blockade.

We reiterate that Greece condemns any attacks against civilians and civilian infrastructure, including humanitarian actors, warehouses and supplies of critical importance, wherever they may occur. International Humanitarian Law is a mandatory legal obligation, not a choice. We deplore any lives lost and call for full accountability and justice.

Russia's systematic campaign against urban areas has been announced publicly – and cynically, and new warnings have been issued to foreign residents, including the diplomatic community in the country, to abandon it. These announcements are unacceptable. Greece will remain present in Ukraine. We call on Russia to abstain from such warnings or threats against diplomatic institutions, in full respect of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations.

Dear colleagues,

Russia continues to target vessels and seaport infrastructure in the Black Sea and the Danube, threatening maritime security, energy supplies and exacerbating food insecurity, especially in most vulnerable countries, which rely on Ukrainian grain.

Food security is a global public good. Greece is among the 53 signatories to a letter requesting FAO, WFP and IFAD to support efforts to restore freedom of navigation in the Black Sea, including through a moratorium on attacks in vessels and port infrastructure, and develop an action plan, to address the food security consequences of the current escalation.

We reiterate that freedom of navigation must be fully and unconditionally protected in accordance with international law, as reflected in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. Vessels conducting lawful transportation of products should not be considered potential targets.

Dear colleagues,

Against this, we join the overwhelming majority of the UN membership and this Council in calling for an immediate and comprehensive ceasefire, as a first step towards meaningful negotiations, aimed at achieving a just and lasting peace, in accordance with international law, the UN Charter and GA Resolutions. To that end, we call upon Russia to end hostilities and return to the negotiating table in good faith.

We believe in peace, and have supported all efforts to that end. While our preference remains firmly in favor of a ceasefire, we support any proposal for a moratorium on strikes against energy infrastructure as a confidence building measure.

Nevertheless, peace is much more than the absence of conflict. Greece rejects any change of borders as a result of the use of force. We will support a peace that will be firmly based in full respect of Ukraine's sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity, and founded on enforceable security guarantees, which will deter any recurrence of armed aggression in the future.

I thank you.