PERMANENT MISSION OF GREECE
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

DIALOGUE DIPLOMACY DEMOCRACY
GREECE
UNITED NATIONS
SECURITY COUNCIL
2025-2026

Security Council High-Level Open Debate on
Maintenance of International Peace and Security:
"Conflict Resolution in an Era of Rapid Technological Change"
24 November 2026

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

Thank you, Mr. President.

Greece is pleased to see you in the chair and we are grateful to Latvia for placing this timely issue on the Council's agenda. Allow me also to thank the Secretary General and our briefers for their insightful presentations.

Mr. President,

Today's debate builds on the Council's increasingly active engagement on emerging technologies over the past 3 months. We are coming to terms with an undeniable truth: New technologies are shaping international security with a speed, scale and depth unmatched in human history. They create vulnerabilities, but they also offer unprecedented opportunities.

Greece firmly believes that International Law, including International human rights law and international humanitarian law must always apply to the development and use of every technology, in peace and in war. Innovation does not absolve parties to conflict from their legal and moral obligations. We need greater transparency, confidence-building and regulation, without stifling innovation.

I wish to present three sets of reflections on the Council's overall approach to technology, on its contribution to conflict resolution and on the modernization of UN peace operations.

First, the Security Council should make full use of AI and other tools in discharging its responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security. To do so, it needs a more systematic way of following the rapid pace of change.

In this context, I am pleased to report that our two countries have launched and now co-chairing a new Informal Expert Group on Technology and Peace and Security. We thank Latvia for our excellent cooperation and other Council members who have joined the Group, and we invite all current and future Council members to take part.

Mr. President,

Second, on conflict resolution. Every stage of the conflict cycle is being profoundly transformed. From early warning to prevention, mediation, peacekeeping, and post-conflict recovery. The UN should scale up predictive technologies to detect early signals of conflict. The Secretariat could also make wider use of digital mediation.

Moreover, the protection of civilians must be built into the design, development, and deployment of emerging technologies. Protecting children, in particular, remains a priority for my country. We are proud that Security Council Resolution 2832 was adopted unanimously during our Presidency. This Resolution addresses the impact of digital technologies on violations and abuses against children in armed conflict, and the role that technology can play in preventing them.

Maritime security is another domain being transformed by innovation. We must ensure that new tools strengthen rather than undermine the safety and resilience of maritime transport, and the safety of seafarers.

Mr. President,

Third, as the Secretary General recommended in his recent Review of the future of all forms of UN peace operations, we must prepare for a highly dynamic future, through resilient, technology-enabled Missions. Innovation is essential to make peace operations more agile and effective. Missions must have the capabilities they need to anticipate threats, protect civilians and personnel, monitor ceasefires and security arrangements, and sustain their operational reach and resilience.

Clear political, security and operational parameters must of course be agreed before such technological capabilities are deployed. Above all, the host country consent should guide every major decision, including on the use of technology.

In concluding, I would like to convey the following message.

The question before us is no longer whether the technological change will transform our societies. It already is. The question is whether it will do so on human terms. As Prime Minister Mitsotakis has said, humanity no more holds a monopoly on intelligence. That us why humanity must keep its monopoly, on judgment, on responsibility and on the final decision.

For Greece the human being must remain at the center of this technological change, as its purpose, its measure and its ultimate authority. This means innovation that serves peace, human dignity and the highest aspirations of humanity.

I thank you.