

KAZAKHSTAN

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STATEMENT
by the delegation of the Republic of Kazakhstan
at the General Debate of the First Committee of the
80th session of the United Nations General Assembly
(October 9, 2025, New York)

Mr. Chair,
Madame High Representative,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

At the outset, allow me to warmly congratulate H.E. Mr. Maurizio Massari, Permanent Representative of Italy, on his election as Chair of the First Committee, and the Members of the Bureau on their assumption of responsibilities. Kazakhstan assures you of our full cooperation and support. We also extend appreciation to High Representative Izumi Nakamitsu and the Secretariat for their tireless work in advancing disarmament and for their steadfast assistance to Member States.

This year carries the weight of history marking both the **80th anniversary of the United Nations and 80 years since the first nuclear detonations**. Yet, eight decades later the founding purpose of this Organization – *to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war* – remains to be fulfilled.

For Kazakhstan, disarmament is not an abstract notion. Over 450 explosions at the Semipalatinsk nuclear test site scarred our land and left our people suffering that endures across generations till today. This tragedy taught us hard way that real security cannot rest on weapons of mass destruction. Only cooperation and international law, the moral conscience of humanity should be the guiding principles in our efforts.

That is why Kazakhstan has proudly taken on responsibilities within the United Nations disarmament machinery. We chaired the **Disarmament Commission**, acted as one of the presidents the **Conference on Disarmament**, and led the **Second Preparatory Committee for the 2026 NPT Review Conference**, seeking balance in a polarized environment. And in March 2025 Kazakhstan successfully presided over the **Third Meeting of States Parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons**.

Together with Kiribati, we are advancing the establishment of an **International Trust Fund for victim assistance and environmental remediation**. This is not only institutional progress – but an attempt to launch a new vehicle for providing long-awaited relief for those who still carry the wounds of nuclear testing.

Kazakhstan remains a staunch supporter of the **Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT)**. Moratoria, however welcome, cannot replace a legally binding prohibition. We urge all remaining Annex II States to ratify the Treaty without delay.

Nuclear-weapon-free zones (NWFZs) remain a critical component of the non-proliferation regime. To further strengthen these unique arrangements Kazakhstan convened successive meetings of all existing zones in Astana, most recently in August 2024, to reinforce inter-zonal collaboration.

On the occasion of the International Day against Nuclear Tests on **29 August this year**, Kazakhstan hosted in Astana a dedicated meeting on reinforcing **negative security assurances** in the context of nuclear-weapon-free zones.

Excellencies,

Beyond the nuclear domain, new and emerging threats demand urgent attention. **Biological risks – natural, accidental, or deliberate – are existential. Kazakhstan has been championing the establishment of an International Agency for Biological Security, now reflected in Action 26 of the Pact for the Future, to ensure that biotechnology serves humanity safely and responsibly.**

We must also confront the dangers posed by **artificial intelligence and disruptive technologies**. AI must never be integrated into nuclear command and control. The risks of miscalculation or blunder leading to catastrophic escalation are unacceptable. Kazakhstan welcomes the initiative in this Committee to address meaningful human control in nuclear command systems. We will contribute constructively to this vital discussion. However, AI verification system could be helpful in general.

The prevention of an **arms race in outer space** is likewise urgent. Outer space must remain a peaceful domain for all humankind.

The **illicit trade in conventional arms, particularly small arms and light weapons**, continues to fuel conflict, terrorism, and organized crime. Kazakhstan calls for universal implementation of the **Arms Trade Treaty** and stronger transparency in national armaments.

Excellencies,

Kazakhstan will continue to act as a **bridge-builder**. In August of this year, Almaty became host to the **United Nations Regional Centre for the Sustainable Development Goals for Central Asia and Afghanistan**. The Centre opens a new chapter in regional cooperation and provides a unique platform to advance the interconnections between peace, security, and sustainable development. We are equally interested in building up **UN disarmament expertise and presence** at the Almaty Regional Centre.

As proposed by Kazakhstan at the highest level during the opening of 80th session of UNGA, we stand ready to host a **new dialogue on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation** to reinforce the NPT and CTBT. We also reiterate our call to advance **the initiative on the International Biological Security Agency**, as a universal platform to govern biological risks and strengthen global preparedness.

Mr. Chair,

Kazakhstan's message is clear: **lasting security can be obtained only through cooperation**, trust, dialogue, and respect for our common humanity.

Let us prove that the Charter's promise – *to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war* – remains not only relevant, but implementable.

Kazakhstan stands firm in this cause – guided by principle and conscience, and determined to contribute to a safer, more secure, and more just world.

Thank you.