



PERMANENT MISSION OF GREECE  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS



**First Committee of 80th Session of UN General Assembly  
General Debate**

**Statement of Greece**

**Delivered by Mr. Ioannis Stamatekos  
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- Check against delivery –

Mr. Chair,

Allow me to congratulate you and the Bureau on your election. You can count on Greece's full support in steering the work of the First Committee during this landmark 80th session. We also express our appreciation to Ambassador Maritza Chan-Valverde of Costa Rica for her skillful leadership of last year's session.

Greece aligns fully with the statement delivered by the European Union and wishes to add the following remarks in its national capacity.

As the United Nations celebrates its 80th Anniversary, the international legal order based on international law and the UN Charter is under severe strain.

For nearly four years, Europe has endured its most devastating conflict since World War II. Greece continues to condemn Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine and supports all efforts to bring it to a just and lasting end. We welcome the recent US-led peace initiative and urge Russia to engage in good faith negotiations.

We also welcome the historic agreement reached between Israel and Hamas on the first phase of the Gaza peace plan, leading to a ceasefire, increased humanitarian assistance, and the release of hostages.

Greece remains deeply concerned by ongoing humanitarian crises and grave human-rights violations in Sudan, the Sahel, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Yemen, and elsewhere.

Mr. Chair,

The international community must uphold and strengthen the global disarmament and non-proliferation architecture, which faces both traditional and emerging challenges. Persistent obstruction by certain States continues to paralyze key mechanisms of the disarmament machinery.

As a non-permanent member of the Security Council, Greece is firmly committed to safeguarding and advancing this architecture.

We reaffirm our unwavering support for the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)—the cornerstone of global disarmament and non-proliferation. The preservation and universalization of the NPT, a balanced approach to its three pillars, and genuine dialogue between nuclear and non-nuclear States should guide our work towards the 11th Review Conference.

We commend the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) for its impartial efforts to ensure compliance with safeguards agreements and the Additional Protocol, and we support universal adherence to both.

A key step toward nuclear disarmament would be the entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT). Greece calls on all States that have not yet done so to ratify it and maintain a moratorium on nuclear test explosions.

We also urge the early commencement of negotiations on a Fissile Material Cut-Off Treaty (FMCT) and dialogue on a successor to New START.

Greece continues to support the effective implementation of Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004). As Vice-Chair of the 1540 Committee, we focus on preventing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their delivery means to non-state actors, including terrorists.

We remain concerned about Iran's nuclear programme and call on Iran to fulfill its legal obligations under the NPT and cooperate fully with the IAEA.

As Chair of the Sanctions Committee established under Resolution 1718 (2006), Greece is committed to upholding the sanctions regime on the DPRK as an essential tool to constrain its WMD and ballistic missile programmes. We are ready to work with all partners toward the complete, verifiable, and irreversible denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula.

It is imperative to strengthen multilateral instruments prohibiting chemical and biological weapons. Greece supports the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) in carrying out its mandate impartially and professionally and encourages full cooperation to resolve all outstanding issues related to Syria's chemical weapons file.

Greece remains a strong supporter of key conventional arms control instruments, including the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW), the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention, the Arms Trade Treaty, and the UN Programme of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons.

We also welcome the establishment of the Global Framework on Through-Life Conventional Ammunition Management, aimed at preventing diversion and unintended explosions.

Mr. Chair,

The digital transformation has brought immense opportunities for growth, inclusion, and sustainable development—but also unprecedented security risks. Malicious behavior in cyberspace has intensified, including attacks targeting critical infrastructure and becoming part of armed conflict operations.

We must respond collectively by implementing the UN framework for responsible State behavior in cyberspace. Greece welcomes the consensus final report of the Open-Ended Working Group (2021–2025) and the establishment of the Global Mechanism on developments in the field of ICTs.

We remain committed to an open, secure, and peaceful cyberspace governed by international law and look forward to advancing responsible State behavior under the new Global Mechanism.

The peaceful use of emerging technologies—especially Artificial Intelligence—offers great promise but also serious risks of miscalculation and misuse. Greece advocates for a human-centric AI agenda based on transparency, ethics, and accountability.

In April, Greece convened a Security Council Arria-Formula Meeting on harnessing safe, inclusive, and trustworthy AI for international peace and security. We welcome the Secretary-General's report on AI in the military domain and support the forthcoming First Committee resolution on this issue.



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We also stress the urgency of progress on Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems (LAWS) within the CCW framework and the Group of Governmental Experts, and reiterate that the peaceful uses of Outer Space must prevail over any militarization.

In the spirit of the UN80 Initiative, revitalizing the disarmament machinery is more urgent than ever. Greece supports practical proposals to improve the efficiency of the First Committee, including rationalizing debate time and modernizing its structure.

We believe the time has come to adjust the current cluster system—reflecting decades-old realities—by dedicating a standalone cluster to emerging technologies.

Mr. Chair,

Greece remains resolute in its commitment to uphold and strengthen the global disarmament and non-proliferation regime. Only by reinforcing trust in international law and revitalizing multilateralism can we move closer to our shared vision of general and complete disarmament.

Thank you.