



PERMANENT MISSION OF GREECE
TO THE UNITED NATIONS



11th REVIEW CONFERENCE OF THE NPT TREATY

New York, 27.04-22.05.2026

General Debate

Statement of Greece

delivered by Mr. Ioannis Stamatekos

Deputy Permanent Representative of Greece to the United Nations

- Check against delivery -

Mr. President,

I congratulate you for your appointment and I wish you success in your endeavours.

Greece fully aligns with the statement delivered by the European Union and would like to deliver additional remarks in our national capacity.

Mr. President, my country remains a strong supporter of the Non-Proliferation Treaty, considering it the cornerstone of the global disarmament and non-proliferation architecture.



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Unfortunately, this architecture is facing an alarming erosion, due to the obstructive posture of certain important States and an increasing trend of non-compliance with international obligations on disarmament, non-proliferation and exports control.

Furthermore, any withdrawal from international obligations and commitments weakens the integrity of the disarmament architecture especially when it is accompanied by an offensive nuclear rhetoric-

Against this backdrop, it is essential to preserve the integrity of the NPT and ensure the equal enhancement of its three pillars.

Mr. President,

Greece shares our common goal for a more secure world free from the threat of nuclear annihilation, but it believes that there are no quick solutions to achieve the goal of nuclear disarmament. Instead, a step-by-step approach, within an agreed framework, is the only realist way forward.

Allow me to add that the complex security environment in certain regions, including our continent, Europe, highlights the contribution of extended nuclear deterrence as a means to deter aggression.

Greece supports that these arrangements, such as NATO's extended nuclear deterrence, are in line with both the spirit and letter of NPT.

Moreover, an appropriate first step towards the elimination of nuclear weapons is the universalization of the Comprehensive Nuclear



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Test Ban Treaty (CTBT). Also, my country calls for the early commencement and conclusion of negotiations in the Conference of Disarmament, of a Fissile Material Cut-Off Treaty (FMCT), banning the production of fissile material for use in nuclear weapons and explosive devices.

Mr. President,

We are alarmed by the persistent proliferation crises.

The recent war in the Middle East did remind to the international community an inconvenient truth, that the issue of nuclear weapons remains a constant threat.

We call upon Iran to re-establish full cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency. As a non-permanent member of the UNSC, Greece strongly supports a jointly made and comprehensive post-JCPOA agreement for Iran and calls all countries involved to conclude and implement such an agreement at the earliest possible, having also in mind the current negotiation effort in Islamabad.

Furthermore, Greece condemns the DPRK's WMD and ballistic missile programmes which violate multiple UN Security Council Resolutions. The same time, we are ready to engage with all relevant partners and promote a diplomatic solution providing for the complete, verifiable, irreversible denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula.

Greece joins all those condemning Russia's unprovoked and unjustified war of aggression against Ukraine in the strongest possible



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terms. We recall that Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine and its subsequent illegal seizure of the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant is a grave violation of international law, including the principles of the UN Charter and of the IAEA Statute.

Nuclear Weapons Free Zones represent an important regional complement to the global nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime. Greece supports the establishment of such a Zone Free of nuclear weapons & other WMD in the Middle East.

Mr. President,

Greece highly values the International Atomic Energy Agency's technical expertise, independence and impartiality in fulfilling its mandate. Its effective work with the Comprehensive Safeguards Agreements and the Additional Protocol constitute the current verification standard under the NPT, ensuring the exclusively peaceful nature of nuclear activities.

Nuclear safety or security incidents recognize no boundaries and, if occurred, can have far-reaching implications on a regional or even global level. Countries that utilize nuclear energy, or aspire to do so in the future, should stick on the highest standards of transparency, with respect to the possible implications on the transboundary natural environment, especially in regions with dynamic seismic and earthquake activity. This year, the 40th anniversary of the Chernobyl disaster reminds us all the devastating consequences of nuclear accidents.



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However, more advanced and new concepts like the SMRs -which are minimal in scope- promise to mitigate the legitimate concerns connected to peaceful use of nuclear energy.

Allow me also to stress the importance of verification and mutual trust. The growth of civilian nuclear programmes and the increasing complexity of the Safeguards challenges may lead to increasing international tensions and a complete lack of trust. Nevertheless, without effective verification, the option to pursue a nuclear weapon «just in case» will always be a possible threat.

To conclude, rest assured that Greece stands ready to work constructively with all Member States in order to achieve a consensual outcome of this Conference.

I thank you.