



PERMANENT MISSION OF GREECE
TO THE UNITED NATIONS



United Nations Disarmament Commission

General Debate

Statement of Greece

New York, 8 April 2025

Statement of the Deputy Permanent Representative of Greece,

Mr. Ioannis Stamatekos

Mr. Chair,

I congratulate you on your appointment as Chair of the UN Disarmament Commission (UNDC) during its 2025 session.

This is an important session of this Commission, a true opportunity for a general debate on current challenges and with the UNDC's two additional Working Groups, crucial recommendations can be produced for us all.

Greece fully aligns itself with the statement delivered by the European Union. At this point, allow me to add some remarks in my national capacity.

Global peace and security continue to be threatened by instability in the Middle East, the ongoing war in Ukraine, and humanitarian crises in several regions, especially in Africa. These challenges undermine global stability and the UN Charter.

To begin with, let me address some of the most challenging issues to be discussed within Working group I.

The international non-proliferation and disarmament architecture has long been in need of revitalization and strengthening.

As a central pillar of this architecture, the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) is currently facing complex challenges. Greece is ready to engage constructively at the upcoming 3rd Preparatory Committee session of the 11th Review Conference of the NPT.

Nuclear disarmament verification remains essential to ensuring that nuclear energy is not diverted for military purposes. We also call for the entry into force of the CTBT, and we support the start of negotiations on a treaty banning fissile material for nuclear weapons.

In addition, a number of crucial bilateral and more specialized arrangements that have served as an indispensable part of the global Disarmament and Non-Proliferation regime and are facing serious challenges.

We emphasize the importance of renewing the New START Treaty and ensuring the full implementation of JCPoA-related monitoring. We also urge the DPRK to comply with UN Security Council resolutions and dismantle its WMD and missile programs in a complete, verifiable, and irreversible manner.

As regards Working Group II, we call upon building on the significant work achieved last year on common understandings related to emerging technologies in the context of international security.

Greece believes that the UN Disarmament Commission serves as a valuable forum for discussions and building common understandings related to emerging technologies in the context of international security, including, but not limited to, the military use of artificial intelligence, the prevention of an arms race in outer space and the malicious use of these technologies in cyberspace.

The incorporation and use of emerging and disruptive technologies, such as artificial intelligence, into weapon systems, poses serious political, legal, moral, and ethical concerns.

Therefore, we assert that the military use of AI must fully comply with applicable international law, in particular with International Humanitarian Law and its core principles, such as the principles of distinction and proportionality, as well as with Human Rights Law.

Greece supports the two-tiered approach expressed by many countries during the deliberations of the GGE on LAWS in Geneva. My country shares the view that the CCW remains the appropriate forum to continue discussing the prohibitions and restrictions of use of Conventional Weapons, including LAWS, as its inclusive nature ensures the necessary balance between humanitarian concerns and military necessity.



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To conclude, I would like to reiterate Greece's resolute support for the work of the Commission, hoping that this year's session will contribute to the revitalization of the UN disarmament and non-proliferation discussions.

I thank you