

The 60th plenary meeting of the General Assembly during its 79th session under agenda item 63 entitled “Use of the veto”: Special report of the Security Council (A/79/804)

Thursday, 6 March 2025

Summary by the Office of the President of the General Assembly

On 27 February 2025, pursuant to resolution [A/RES/76/262](#) of 26 April 2022, the President of the Security Council submitted to the President of the General Assembly a special report of the Security Council on the use of the veto at the 9866th meeting of the Security Council, held on 24 February 2025, under the item “Maintenance of peace and security of Ukraine” ([A/79/804](#)).

According to the special report, the Security Council held the meeting to take action on a draft resolution contained in document [S/2025/112](#), proposed by United States of America. Before the adoption of the draft resolution, the Security Council considered two separate amendments proposed by Denmark, France, Greece, Slovenia and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The result of the voting on the proposed amendment contained in document [S/2025/115](#) was nine votes in favour, one vote against, and five abstentions. The result of the voting on the second proposed amendment contained in document [S/2025/116](#) was eleven votes in favour, one vote against, and three abstentions. In accordance with Article 27, paragraph 3 of the Charter of the United Nations, neither of the proposed amendments contained in documents [S/2025/115](#) and [S/2025/116](#) were adopted due to the negative votes cast by the Russian Federation, a permanent member of the Security Council. The draft resolution contained in document [S/2025/112](#) was then adopted as resolution [2774 \(2025\)](#).

On 6 March 2025, following the vetoes cast during the 9866th meeting of the Security Council and in accordance with resolution [A/RES/76/262](#), the General Assembly held a plenary debate

under agenda item 63 entitled “Use of the veto”. Opening remarks delivered by the President of the General Assembly, are available [here](#).

Representatives of 35 delegations took the floor, including six speaking on behalf of groups of Member States. The veto casting Member State also participated in the debate. The following is a brief summary of statements delivered during the debate:

- A significant number of delegations regretted the vetoes cast by the Russian Federation, a permanent member of the Security Council. Several Member States recalled that the Security Council acts on behalf of the entire membership of the United Nations, and it was thus regrettable that it was unable to adopt amendments that had been adopted by a majority vote in the General Assembly at the meeting of the Eleventh Emergency Special Session which was held on the morning of 24 February 2025.
- Many delegations highlighted that the vetoed amendments were in line with the Charter of the United Nations. In this regard, a large number of delegations emphasized the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Ukraine.
- Some delegations highlighted that the adoption of Security Council resolution [2774 \(2025\)](#) was a step in the right direction in the “pathway to peace” and the first time the Security Council had adopted a resolution under the agenda item “Maintenance of peace and security of Ukraine” since 2022.
- Several delegations called for the urgent cessation of hostilities and an end to the immense suffering of civilians. Many Member States referenced the importance of a just, comprehensive and lasting peace based on the Charter of the United Nations, with some mentioning the need to address the root causes of the conflict ensuring an inclusive and transparent dialogue.

- Some delegations referenced the far-reaching impact of the conflict, including in the Global South.
- Many delegations referenced Article 27 (3) of the Charter of the United Nations, which establishes that a party to a dispute shall abstain from voting on decisions of the Security Council “under Chapter VI, and under paragraph 3 of Article 52”. Some delegations emphasized that resolution [2774 \(2025\)](#) identified the Russian Federation as a party to the conflict and argued that it should have therefore abstained from voting. Other delegations called for further clarity on the application of Article 27 (3).
- Some delegations reaffirmed that the veto is not a privilege but a responsibility. In this connection, support for initiatives restricting or limiting the use of the veto, such as the so-called “French Mexican initiative”, was expressed by several delegations.
- Several Member States welcomed the holding of the plenary meeting and praised the veto initiative more broadly for its contribution to transparency and accountability of the Security Council.
- Some delegations also highlighted that the increased use of the veto highlighted the urgent need for a wider reform of the Security Council as well as the important role of the General Assembly with regard to maintaining peace and security.

In addition to the present summary, a verbatim record of the debate will be issued as [A/79/PV.60](#).