



**PERMANENT MISSION  
OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
NEW YORK**

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NEW YORK, 15 MAY 2013

GENERAL ASSEMBLY: RESOLUTION ON THE SITUATION IN THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC

**EXPLANATION OF VOTE BY STEFAN BARRIGA**

MINISTER, DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN TO THE UNITED NATIONS

We would like to thank the cosponsors for once again bringing the situation in the Syrian Arab Republic to the attention of the General Assembly. We believe this is an appropriate step to take, given the atrocious situation in the country and its destabilization effect for the region, and given the fact that the Security Council is clearly not living up to its responsibility in this regard. The resolution shows that the international community does not wish to remain silent in the face of the tragedy unfolding in Syria and its neighboring States. We appreciate the strong focus on the need for all parties to the conflict to respect international humanitarian law and human rights law, the need to facilitate humanitarian aid, and the need to work toward a political solution. We particularly look forward to the requested briefing by the independent international Commission of Inquiry to the General Assembly, which we hope will take place soon and lead to an appropriate response by the General Assembly. At the same time, we wish to put on record our discomfort with the manner in which the text of the resolution was arrived at. Greater transparency would be required for such a process within the General Assembly on a matter of such importance. We therefore hope that future consultations will be held in a more open and interactive manner. We are also of the view that with the adoption of the resolution, the General Assembly has just missed an opportunity to make an unequivocal statement regarding the need for accountability for atrocity crimes committed in Syria. We believe that our proposals on this matter, which were not taken on board by the cosponsors, would have considerably improved the text.