



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

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NEW YORK, 8 APRIL 2024

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**AGENDA ITEM 63 – USE OF THE VETO**

DEBATE - VETO INITIATIVE – “THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST, INCLUDING THE PALESTINIAN QUESTION”

**STATEMENT BY MYRIAM OEHRI, DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE, CHARGÉE D’AFFAIRES, A.I.**

Mr. President,

Thank you for convening today’s meeting in accordance with General Assembly resolution 76/262, in relation to the double veto cast in the Security Council on the draft resolution presented by the United States on the situation in Gaza on 22 March. Every veto in the Council falls within the scope of 76/262 and is accordingly subject to discussion by the UN membership as a whole. We thank the Security Council for producing a Special Report in a timely and efficient manner and note today’s participation of both Member States who exercised the relevant vetoes – demonstrating, once again, the importance of the Veto Initiative. As for previous meetings under this agenda item, we request the President of the General Assembly to issue a summary of today’s debate.

Mr. President,

We note that the vetoed draft resolution discussed today enjoyed majority support from the Council. In this respect we express our concern not only for the casting of the veto but also for some of the comments accompanying its use. We are of the strong belief that any text must be evaluated on its merits and not based on its penholder. Any obstructive dynamic between the

Permanent Members has concerning ramifications for the Council's ability to fulfill its mandate and is to be avoided.

Mr. President,

At the same time, Liechtenstein is pleased that, between the vetoes we are discussing and today's meeting, the Security Council has been able to adopt a product addressing the ongoing protection of civilians crisis in Gaza by demanding an immediate ceasefire for the month of Ramadan. We congratulate in particular the E10 on their crucial role leading up to the successful adoption of Resolution 2728, with even broader support. The lack of implementation of said resolution remains of great concern, and we remind all Member States, including Council Members, that under Article 25 of the UN Charter such resolutions are legally binding. As Ramadan will end this week, and with recent attacks including against humanitarian personnel, further action by the Security Council to protect civilians is urgently needed.

Mr. President,

Finally, Liechtenstein wishes to reiterate its position on the situation as a whole, as expressed in previous meetings. The conflict in Gaza is fundamentally a protection of civilians crisis. The imperatives outlined in the past resolutions adopted by this Assembly are mutually reinforcing. An immediate, durable, and sustained humanitarian ceasefire is the most important step towards ensuring full, immediate, safe, unhindered and sustained humanitarian access as well as to enable the release of all hostages. We therefore reiterate our call for the full and effective implementation of these resolutions.

I thank you.