

Tunisian Republic

Positions for the Security Council

I: Afghan Security Concerns

Tunisia notes with concern for human rights the transfer of power in Afghanistan to the Taliban and realizes the immense harm that can come to civilians when society is. Tunisia recognizes the danger to civil society, life and limb, and the health of a nation when violence and chaos are allowed to triumph over order and peace. We believe that during a transfer of power to the Taliban, it is paramount for its new leaders to focus on governing a united people, setting aside old vendettas. Violence, illegal detentions, and reprisals should not be tolerated. It is crucial that human rights be respected by the new government in order to be integrated into the international community. This delegation recognizes the harm that post-conflict areas can endure if critical services do not function. In this situation, the rights of social security are expressly provided by Article 22 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. We affirm the commitment of our nation to aiding a peaceful transition of power in Afghanistan and are proud to work with our partners in achieving this end. However, it is the position of Tunisia that in order to bring these desired circumstances about, we must engage in an international peacekeeping effort to prevent the destruction of human life and critical services during this exchange of power.

Tunisia has long been proud to participate with its international partners in peacekeeping and humanitarian efforts for the purpose of stabilizing societies in crisis and ensuring the operation of critical infrastructure. In 2019 Tunisia was praised by the Security Council for the service of its peacekeepers in five separate missions that year. Today hundreds of Tunisian peacekeepers are stationed around the world. We cooperated with Kenya, Niger, and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (A3 plus One) in prior meetings of the Security Council to speak with one voice in the Security Council on important issues, particularly the fast-developing situation in Afghanistan. In the 8834th meeting of the Security Council, we reaffirmed A3 plus One's collective rejection of any efforts to obtain power by forceful seizure. We also reiterated A3 plus One's support of the international community's efforts to create conditions on the ground conducive for democratic governing structures as well as the conditions for economic well-being as outlined in the UN Sustainable Development Goals. We have worked with all members of the Security Council to unanimously pass Resolution 2596, a six-month extension to the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) designed to continue the UN's vital work of maintaining the rights of all people. We were pleased to join the international community in imploring all parties to develop "strengthened efforts to provide humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan".

Tunisia recommends that the international community works together to create three main conditions on the ground in Afghanistan: sustenance, security, and a culture of mediation. First, Tunisia believes that crucial services such as water, sewage, power, and food distribution must remain operative and encourages the cooperation of all parties to ensure that those needs are met, especially in the critical city of Kabul. We support the UNAMA's work to maintain the conditions for daily sustenance. We call upon the international community to mobilize security and support personnel and money to encourage the protection of the rights of women, children,

and minorities in particular. We also call upon the new Afghan government to reaffirm the right of exit of its citizens to ensure their security. Third, we encourage all nations, especially those in the MENA region to be open to acting as mediators between conflicting parties on the ground, and use the tools of negotiation to begin to provide a stable foundation of compromise and trust between Afghans that is so critical in ensuring the success of their democratic governance.

II: Concerns regarding Palestinian Security

Tunisia notes with concern the conditions under which the people of Palestine currently live. We express worry that many of their human rights may have been violated under the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Our concerns specifically entail violations of Article 3 (security of person), Article 5 (inhumane treatment) Article 10 (right to trial by impartial tribunal), and Article 20 (right to peaceful assembly). We note with further dismay the offensive undertaken by Israel in May of 2021 and the damage it caused to civilian centers and human life. We believe in sovereignty and self-determination. However, we wish to see a free Palestinian people able to exercise all of their human rights. We recognize the importance of maintaining the rights of all people to live a full life free from oppression and violence. We believe that the process laid in in SRES 242 is insufficient to ensure those rights. Tunisia believes more nations in the region need to be involved in the meditation of the conflict, in contrast to the past attempts of large powers to act as mediators. We support a right of return and a two-state solution that ensures peace and prosperity for all.

Domestically, Tunisia has repeatedly reaffirmed our support for the people of Palestine and their rights and freedoms. Our people have launched spontaneous rallies and demonstrations showing their personal support for the people of Palestine. Our ministry of Education has launched a Palestine week initiative in our schools educating our youth about the rights necessary for a prosperous and free Palestine, and ways that they can use their voice to secure human rights for Palestinians. On the international stage, our president has reaffirmed support for the rights of Palestinians and our principled non-recognition of Israel. In the halls of the UN, we have repeatedly called for UN SRES 242's framework for peace to be reevaluated, as it does not place human rights at the center of its aims.

Tunisia proposes that the UN Security Council reevaluate SRES 242, in light of its inability to protect human rights for the Palestinian people. This requires a new framework to be decided on by the stakeholders involved, rather than a decision handed down from on high by major powers. We further recommend the Security Council work with the High Commissioner for Refugees to come up with, in consultation with all parties, a new comprehensive plan that ensures a safe right of return for refugees and a framework for ensuring that human rights are better monitored and enforced in occupied territories by either a permanent UN peacekeeping force or Palestinians and Israelis themselves monitored by the UN until such time as a final peace settlement can be agreed to. We recommend that nations that have normalized relations with Israel continue to apply pressure through sanctions or principled boycotts of their products until such time as measures are implemented by the Israeli government to respect human rights in occupied territories.