

# UNITED NATIONS

GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY



SECURITY  
COUNCIL



Distr.  
GENERAL

A/9255  
S/11045

25 October 1973

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

---

GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
Twenty-eighth session  
Agenda item 11  
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL  
Twenty-eighth year

Letter dated 24 October 1973 from the Permanent Representative of Romania  
to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to bring to your attention the Declaration of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Romania on the situation in the Middle East, issued on 24 October 1973.

I should be grateful if you would have this Declaration distributed as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ion DATCU  
Ambassador, Permanent Representative  
of the Socialist Republic of Romania  
to the United Nations

Declaration of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Romania  
on the situation in the Middle East

The Government of the Socialist Republic of Romania and the Romanian people followed with deep anxiety the evolution of the military hostilities in the Middle East, which caused important losses of human lives and considerable destruction of material assets to the belligerent States.

Romania considers that the resumption of the military operations further aggravated the conflict, complicating the situation in that area and at the same time creating serious dangers to peace all over the world. The recent hostilities demonstrated once more that the settlement of the conflict in the Middle East, as well as in any other part of the world, is possible only through political means, that the security of States cannot be achieved through territorial occupation, but through relations of good-neighbourliness, co-operation and friendship. More than once Romania stressed that the continuing occupation by Israel of the territories seized during the 1967 war constitutes a permanent source of conflict and tension in that area and that a lasting solution necessarily requires the withdrawal of all the Israeli troops from the Arab-occupied territories, the ensurance of the right to free and independent existence for all the States in the region, with the observance of their national security and territorial integrity, the settlement of the problem of the Palestinian population in accordance with its legitimate aspirations and interests.

In keeping with this position, a few days ago, Romania addressed a message to the Heads of State and Government aiming at initiating actions to put an end to the war, by the immediate cessation of the military hostilities and by proceeding with the implementation of Security Council resolution 242 (1967) of November 1967.

We consider that the recent resolution of the Security Council and the acceptance of the provision on the cease-fire by Egypt, Syria, Jordan and Israel is an important step towards the creation of conditions for the political settlement of the conflict and the restoration of peace in that part of the world. We express the hope that the States directly involved in the armed conflict will observe their commitment on cease-fire, thus avoiding new clashes and bloodshed. Taking into account the newly created situation and in order to ensure the genuine implementation of the decisions of the Security Council, to avoid any new military confrontation and to create the atmosphere for the proper conduct of negotiations, the Romanian Government deems it necessary to establish immediately an area separating the armies in the conflict. In our opinion, such an area could be of at least five kilometres wide. Since, as a result of the 1967 war, Israel is occupying certain portions of Arab territories, it could be envisaged that such an area might result through the withdrawal of Israeli troops by at least five kilometres. In the view of the Romanian Government, United Nations observers or peace-keeping forces, formed of

contingents supplied by States Members of the United Nations, could be sent to this area free from any military forces of the parties involved in the conflict.

The Romanian Government believes that measures should be taken without delay in order to start the negotiations provided by Security Council resolution 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973 and to convene a conference, under the United Nations aegis, with the participation of the countries involved in the conflict, of the interested parties, as well as of other countries - large, medium and small - wishing and able to make their contribution to the final settlement of the situation, to the establishment of a just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

The Romanian Government expresses its conviction that, under the present circumstances, all efforts should be directed towards the observance of the decision on cease-fire. Concurrently, conditions should be ensured for the cessation of the hostilities not to have a provisional character, but be followed by the achievement of an agreement providing for the withdrawal of the Israeli troops from the occupied territories, the establishment of an enduring and just peace, which should guarantee the sovereignty and the territorial integrity of all States in that area, Israel included, the settlement of the problem of the Palestinian population in accordance with its legitimate aspirations to a free and independent life.

We are confident that both the countries involved in the conflict and the other peace-loving countries will take the viewpoint of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Romania as an expression of the wish of the Romanian people to contribute to a durable solution of the Middle East issues, to securing a just peace in that area. In this spirit, we express the hope that all governments and peoples will resolutely work, using all adequate political and diplomatic means, towards the settlement of the conflict in the Middle East.

As far as the Romanian Government is concerned, it will do its utmost to contribute by all means at its disposal to the international effort aimed at building an enduring peace in that region of the world, in accordance with the interests and aspirations of all peoples for the restoration of a climate of co-operation and détente of international peace and security all over the world.

24 October 1973