

Right of Reply
by Ms. Rachada Suthepakul, Minister Counsellor,
Permanent Mission of Thailand to the United Nations
for the General Debate under Agenda item 72
Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief
assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance
on 10 December 2025 at 17.50 hrs. GA Hall, UNHQ

Madam President,

1. I apologise for taking the floor, but we must provide information to set the record straight in response to our neighbour's remark, which deliberately undermines my country's credibility within the international community.

2. I thank Madam President and colleagues for your kind understanding.

3. The most recent confrontation started with our neighbour opened fire into Thai territory. We have endured over the past five months series of continued armed provocation, groundless accusations and distortion of facts.

4. 7 incidents of Thai soldiers stepping on anti-personnel landmines, while on routine patrol in the Thai territory, result in permanent disabilities. The ASEAN Observation Team (AOT), established based on the Joint Declaration signed in Kuala Lumpur in October 2025, has verified that **the anti-personnel landmines were freshly planted**. The AOT report and video footages were presented to the 22nd Meeting of States Parties to the Ottawa Convention on 5 December 2025 in Geneva. This exposes our neighbour's false claim that they are remnants of the Civil War.

5. This is a clear **violation of Thailand's sovereignty and territorial integrity**.

6. Our neighbour's repeated tactics of violating our territorial integrity, denying its own actions, while playing victim, time and again, creates a mirage of peace and restraint. While in truth, they are inciting public sentiment and encroaching our territory.

7. Our people have faced repeated threats and indiscriminate attacks. More than 400,000 civilians, including women and children, have to evacuate for their safety.

Madam President,

8. Our neighbour's lack of good faith tramples the ceasefire agreement and the Joint Declaration.

9. Thailand has no choice and is compelled to exercise its inherent right of self-defence pursuant to Article 51 of the UN Charter to defend our sovereignty and territorial integrity, and to protect the safety of our people. The self-defence measures are undertaken in **strict compliance with international law and the principles of necessity and proportionality**.

10. Thailand's operations are aimed exclusively at military targets. Militarising heritage sites is a violation of international convention.

11. Thailand is a country that believes in diplomacy and respect of international law. We reiterate our commitment to a peaceful, sustainable resolution that saves lives, ends suffering, and alleviates humanitarian consequences for our affected peoples and local communities along the border.

12. I thank you.