



**PERMANENT MISSION OF THAILAND
TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

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Statement

by

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**Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Thailand
to the United Nations**

**at the United Nations Security Council High-level Open Debate
On Reaffirming International Rule of Law:
Pathways to Reinvigorating Peace, Justice and Multilateralism**

26 January 2026, New York

As delivered

Mr. President,

1. Thailand congratulates Somalia on assuming the Presidency of the UN Security Council for this month, and commends your leadership in convening this timely and important debate. We express our appreciation to all briefers for their insights.
2. Thailand aligns itself with the ASEAN Statement delivered by the Philippines. We are deeply concerned by the growing reliance on power projection and unilateral actions, further undermining the already weakened rules-based international order. At this difficult time, redoubling our collective efforts to uphold and protect the international rule of law is imperative.
3. Thailand wishes to highlight the following three points.
4. First, the international rule of law is a **cornerstone of the attainment and maintenance of international peace and security**. It provides pathways for the prevention and peaceful resolution of disputes by transforming confrontation into dialogue, unilateral actions into collective responsibility, and the use of power into the exercise of restraint.
5. Second, **accountability is indispensable to the rule of law**. When violations of international law are left un-addressed, impunity takes root, grievances deepen, and the risk of further conflict escalates. Thailand believes that the rule of law and established legal frameworks must apply to all in an impartial and consistent manner, ensuring that there can be no differentiated treatments or exceptions.
6. Third, upholding the international rule of law is a **collective responsibility**. Its legitimacy and sanctity rest on universal respect and consistent implementation. We must join hands – across regions, political alignments, and levels of development – to uphold the rule of law at the international level. Only through genuine multilateral cooperation, mutual accountability, and good-faith engagement, can we preserve the credibility of the international rule of law and ensure that rules, rather than might, govern international relations.

Mr. President,

7. The challenges before us demand collective efforts and strong political will. Without the adherence and upholding of international rule of law, peace cannot endure, justice becomes selective, and multilateralism loses its credibility.

8. On this note, let me reiterate that the respect for international law cannot be selective. The principles of sovereign equality, territorial integrity, and the political independence of any State must be upheld in practice, not merely invoked in rhetoric. Those who consistently call on others to respect international law must themselves adhere to it fully and in good faith.

9. Thailand reaffirms its unwavering commitment to international law and the principles enshrined in the UN Charter that underpin the rule of law in international relations. We stand ready to work with all Member States to uphold and advance the rules-based international order with the UN at its core, in which disputes can then be resolved peacefully, accountability is upheld, and trust in multilateralism is sustained.

10. I thank you.