



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

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Explanation of Vote after the Vote

by

His Excellency Dr. Suriya Chindawongse

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

**before the 11th Emergency Special Session
of the United Nations General Assembly**

New York, 12 October 2022

As delivered

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Mr. President,

1. As a small sovereign nation, Thailand holds sacred the U.N. Charter and international law as they are our first and last line of defense. We are unequivocally committed to the principle of respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity of States as enshrined in the UN Charter. It has long been Thailand's long-standing and consistent policy to be opposed to the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity of any State, and to the unprovoked acquisition of the territory of another State by force.
2. However, Thailand chose to abstain from the vote on the resolution because it takes place during an extremely volatile and emotionally charged atmosphere and situation, and thus marginalizes the chance for crisis diplomacy to bring about a peaceful and practical negotiated resolution to the conflict that may push the world towards the brink of nuclear war and global economic collapse.
3. We are genuinely concerned about the increased politicization of international principles that has become counterproductive as the means and guidance to end the war. Condemnation provokes intransigence and therefore greatly reduces the chance for constructive engagement.
4. Thailand bemoans the physical, social and humanitarian destruction of Ukraine and the extreme hardship endured by Ukrainians. We therefore emphasize the need for all stakeholders in this absolute tragedy in Ukraine to de-escalate the conflict and violence, and try to find a peaceful means to settle the differences by addressing the pragmatic reality and concerns of all involved. Human security and right to life is an important pillar in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (Article 3) and to date such right has been deprived from Ukrainians and many millions of people around the world. It is the ultimate duty and responsibility of this esteemed organization to restore peace and normalcy of life for the Ukrainians, not through violent means, but by diplomatic mechanisms that can only bring practical and lasting peace.

Thank you.
