
Erdogan at UNGA: Calls for Reform and Palestine Recognition



Published on September 23, 2025

Document Date: Wed, Sep 24 2025 06:14:16 am

Category: ,English,Snippets

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Sources Anadolu Agency

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan is set to address the high-level General Debate of the 80th session of the United Nations General Assembly on Tuesday. He will be the fourth speaker on the opening day, following Brazil and the United States, in line with long-standing UN tradition.

Before departing for New York, President Erdogan emphasized that this year's session is

distinguished by the growing number of countries recognizing the State of Palestine. He expressed hope that these decisions would accelerate the implementation of the two-state solution and contribute to lasting peace in the region.

Erdogan has consistently advocated for reform of international governance, particularly the UN Security Council, underscoring his well-known phrase, “The world is bigger than five.” He is expected to repeat these calls in his Assembly speech.

On Monday, Erdogan addressed the High-level International Conference for the Peaceful Settlement of the Question of Palestine, condemning the ongoing humanitarian catastrophe in Gaza. He noted that the conflict has claimed more than 65,000 lives, calling it a massacre that the global community cannot ignore. He welcomed recent recognition of Palestine by several states, describing it as a historic step toward justice and peace. Erdogan reiterated the urgent need for a ceasefire, unhindered humanitarian access, and the withdrawal of Israeli forces.

On the sidelines of the Assembly, Erdogan held bilateral meetings, including with Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney, whom he congratulated for Canada’s recognition of Palestine. He also met Kuwaiti Crown Prince Sheikh Sabah Khaled al-Hamad al-Sabah to discuss expanding bilateral trade and cooperation, and European Council President Antonio Costa to review Türkiye-EU relations.

Additionally, Erdogan attended the Türkiye Investment Conference and addressed the Turkish American National Steering Committee, reaffirming Türkiye's commitment to deepening its strategic partnership with the United States across sectors such as security, trade, energy, and education.