

## UN Council Approves Gaza Peace Board and Stabilization Mission



Published on November 18, 2025

Document Date: Mon, May 18 2026 04:11:59 am

Category: ,English,Middle East - , Snippets

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Sources Anadolu Agency

The UN Security Council on Monday approved a resolution creating a new transitional Gaza Board of Peace and authorizing an International Stabilization Force (ISF) to support security, governance and reconstruction efforts in the Gaza Strip.

The US-drafted resolution passed with 13 votes in favor, while China and Russia abstained.

Before the vote, US envoy Mike Waltz urged Council members to support what he described as a “pragmatic roadmap” to reduce violence and move Gaza toward long-term stability. He said the proposal draws from President Donald Trump’s “20-point plan” and reflects consultations with Qatar, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Türkiye, Pakistan and Indonesia.

Waltz argued that the resolution outlines “a possible pathway for Palestinian self-determination” following reforms within the Palestinian Authority. He added that the ISF would work to stabilize the environment, dismantle militant infrastructure, and protect civilians.

Following the adoption, Waltz said the move was “another significant step toward a stable Gaza,” noting that the newly established Board of Peace—chaired by President Trump—would guide political and reconstruction efforts.

According to the resolution, both the Board of Peace and the ISF will operate until December 31, 2027, unless the Council decides otherwise. Any future renewal of the ISF mandate must be coordinated with Egypt, Israel, and other contributing states.

Russia’s UN envoy Vassily Nebenzia criticized the resolution, saying it fails to address key legal and political concerns. He argued that it lacks clarity on when authority in Gaza would be transferred to the Palestinian Authority and warned that the ISF could function “autonomously” without regard for Palestinian leadership. Nebenzia also likened aspects of the plan to “colonial-

era practices.”

China’s envoy Fu Cong echoed these reservations, saying the text remains vague on crucial issues and does not adequately reflect Palestinian sovereignty or ownership in post-war governance plans.