

# MÉXICO

Misión Permanente de México  
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## **Statement delivered by Mexico in the general debate of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization (New York, February 22, 2022)**

Mr. Chair,

The Special Committee on the Charter, well used, can provide eminent services to the Organization. It is a specialized forum, of universal composition, that offers the possibility of making pronouncements that have authority regarding the interpretation and implementation of the Charter of the United Nations. This is the premise upon which General Assembly resolution 3499 (XXX) laid, when it established that the Special Committee is mandated to examine in detail the suggestions and proposals of States on strengthening the role of the United Nations with respect to to the maintenance and consolidation of international peace and security, the development of cooperation among all nations, and the promotion of the rules of international law in the relations among States.

It is from this perspective that for several years now, Mexico has submitted to the Committee a proposal to analyze the application of Articles 2 (4) and 51 of the Charter of the United Nations. This proposal is fully consistent with General Assembly resolution 76/115, adopted last December.

In this resolution, the Committee is requested to “continue its consideration of all proposals concerning the question of the maintenance of international peace and security in all its aspects in order to strengthen the role of the United Nations and, in this context, to consider other proposals relating to the maintenance of international peace and security already submitted or which may be submitted to the Special Committee at its session in 2022”.

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We deeply appreciate the support already expressed by a great number of delegations for our proposal. Likewise, we have continued to hold consultations with some delegations that have still expressed doubts on the matter. In this sense, we reiterate that at all times my delegation has shown flexibility to exchange points of view with the rest of the membership in order to make adjustments to the working document. This continues to be the case and we have called for further informal consultations to be held tomorrow, with a view to revising the text in order to arrive at a more consensual vision.

However, we want to underscore that there is no reason or motive to prevent the Special Committee from examining this proposal as part of its substantive agenda. Blocking this proposal is not only contrary to the mandate of the General Assembly itself, but also goes against the deliberative spirit of this body. Likewise, supporting its inclusion on the agenda does not represent a substantive endorsement of my delegation's proposal; in turn, its inclusion would demonstrate the will for dialogue and understanding between delegations, even despite our differences of opinion.

This is a proposal that falls within the competence of the Special Committee, with a legal, technical, and non-political nature, and which seeks to have a repository of the interpretation of Member States on the operation, scope, and limits to the right of self-defense, focusing on recent practice, in view of important changes in the phenomenology of armed conflicts, including the emergence of new actors, and in other situations that may arise in the future. The compilation of the opinions of States is something necessary and relevant that does not undermine the competence of other UN bodies in matters of international peace and security, nor does it duplicate efforts.

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Today more than ever it is still pertinent and necessary to have a focused space for exchange and discussion that allows the entire Membership to share their opinions regarding the recent practice that has an impact in the interpretation of Article 51 of the Charter, in the context of the use of force against non-state actors such as terrorist groups, as well as the precedent that this could represent for other cases in the future.

We reiterate that our goal is to create an opportunity for dialogue and constructive exchange of ideas among all members of the Organization on a topic that concerns us all and that, from a general point of view, is not formally discussed in any United Nations forum under a legal and technical angle. This will also serve to strengthen the Organization and the rule of law at the international level.

Mr. Chair:

Mexico has never opposed the discussion of any topic in the General Assembly. Multilateral diplomacy is based precisely on the possibility of dialogue on topics that, at a certain moment, seem pertinent one delegation or another. The universality of our Organization is nourished by this possibility. For this reason, we hope that the proposal can be incorporated into the substantive agenda of the work of the Special Committee, recalling that our working methods also foresee the possibility of resorting to a vote. And this, of course, is without prejudice to the possibility of opening other spaces and avenues in the General Assembly so that we can debate this issue in an inclusive manner and with full transparency.

Thank you very much.