



UNGA80 – Action on L.55 REV1

A global call for concrete action for the elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

EU Explanation of Vote (after the vote)

20 November 2025

Thank you, Chair.

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the European Union and its Member States.

The Candidate Countries North Macedonia*, Montenegro*, Serbia*, Albania*, Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova, Bosnia and Herzegovina* and Georgia align themselves with this statement.

The need to eliminate racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, is something that unites all Member States of the United Nations.

No country or region is free from these related phenomena, so we all have an obligation to eliminate them. The EU remains fully committed to this work.

We can all agree that racism in all its forms must be tackled in a comprehensive way by taking effective measures at the national, regional and international level.

And we can all agree on the need to ratify and implement the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, which is the universal foundation for efforts to prevent, combat and eradicate racism.

This is the common ground on which the European Union seeks to build a shared sense of understanding, which is central to our work together.

Furthermore, the EU remains firmly committed to the primary objectives and commitments undertaken at the 2001 Durban World Conference, to combat and eradicate all manifestations of racism, xenophobia and related intolerance.

The EU therefore acknowledges the role of Iraq in presenting this resolution, and of South Africa in facilitating the discussions on the text, and the thoughtful approach of both.

This year we believe that the conversations between us have shown real signs of movement. We still have a number of concerns, and still wish to see greater synergies between the various UN mechanisms to combat racism, especially in the context of UN80.

** North Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.*

But we are also committed to seeking to resolve differences through constructive engagement.

We take good note of this vote and remain committed to working with others to reach consensus in the spirit of this Committee.

Thank you.

[301 words, plus alignment]