# Committee : GA-1 The Disarmament and International Security committee

Agenda : The Status of disputed territories around the world with special reference to China and Crimea.

Country : The French Republic

The delegate of France strongly believes that, It is the collective responsibility of the organization to silence the guns that hinder the path to peace. France is deeply concerned with the humanitarian crisis in the Eastern Ukrainian region and in the Crimean peninsula , France has been providing assistance to Ukraine since 2014 in a number of areas, with a total value of €2.7 million. It has included emergency humanitarian and medical aid, assistance for displaced persons, and support for reforms.

The delegate of France would like to remind to representatives of Russia , Ukraine and Germany of their obligation towards the Minsk Agreement of 2014 [resolution number -S/RES/2202] . The delegate also wishes to mention UNGA resolution A/RES/68/262 paragraph 5 and 6 which clearly underscores the referendum held in the autonomous region of Crimea , and calls upon all international organizations not to recognize the alteration.

France supports the de-escalation efforts of the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine (SMM) and the Joint Centre for Control and Co-ordination (JCCC). We call upon the JCCC to guarantee the access and safety of OSCE observers in Avdiivka and all areas under its competence. France remains fully committed to the Minsk agreements in the framework of the Normandy format, which are the only way forward to settle the conflict.

The U.S.-led international efforts to defend the freedom of navigation guaranteed by the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS)**,** aiming at preventing the entire South China Sea from becoming an exclusive Chinese lake, has garnered the attention of the people of France . France, has announced its intention of coordinating the navies of fellow European Union nations to conduct Freedom of Navigation Operations or FONOPs in South China Sea. The French initiative thus has the potential of further weakening China’s position by conspicuously bringing Europe in as an additional heavyweight to the international pressure for respecting the rule of law, represented by The Hague-based arbitration court’s ruling.

The French initiative stems from a mounting concern in Europe that the aggressive Chinese expansion in the South China Sea and China’s rejection of the Permanent Court of Arbitration’s authority would constitute a serious issue for global governance and the rule of law, which will have far reaching consequences beyond Southeast Asia. As Le Drian said in his speech at the Shangri-La Dialogue, if the rule of law and freedom of navigation are not respected now and here in the South China Sea, tomorrow they will be trumped elsewhere in the world, including in and around Europe itself.

So, France sees an urgent need to back up the EU’s common concern with concrete action by conducting FONOPs in this part of the world, preferably under European colors. France condemns all acts of aggression and requests countries to respect article 73 , chapter XI of the United Nations charter. France urges nations not to salvage the autonomous regions for their natural resources and rather focus on developing these regions to a self sufficient level .

SOURCES

* https://thediplomat.com/2016/07/south-china-sea-the-french-are-coming/
* **www.un.org**
* [**https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/ukraine/situation-in-ukraine-what-is**](https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/ukraine/situation-in-ukraine-what-is)

**FORMAT**

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