

Kremlin Backs UN Security Council Reform, But Says Permanent Members and Veto Powers Should Remain

September 22, 2026



A view of the Kremlin in Moscow. duma.gov.ru

Russia supports reforms to the UN Security Council that would increase the number of permanent members but otherwise rejects proposals to abolish veto powers, the Kremlin [said](#) Tuesday.

“We believe that the Security Council certainly needs to be reformed,” Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters during a daily briefing.

However, Peskov said, Moscow still believes “this institution of permanent Security Council members, as well as the right of veto, is a very important element of the entire structure of the United Nations.”

“And we maintain our commitment to this very important element,” he added.

His comments followed Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan’s renewed [calls](#) to abolish

both permanent membership on the Security Council and the veto privilege ahead of the 81st UN General Assembly.

Related article: [New U.S. Sanctions Will Harm Ukraine Peace Talks and Bilateral Ties, Kremlin Says](#)

The Security Council has been paralyzed on a number of critical issues in recent years amid deep divisions between the five veto-wielding permanent members: France, the United Kingdom, Russia, China and the United States.

Russia's veto has prevented the Security Council from taking action to end the war in Ukraine.

On Monday, a French-Mexican initiative to restrict permanent members from using their veto in cases of mass atrocities gained traction after the United Kingdom signed on, leaving the non-binding declaration one vote short of a two-thirds majority among UN members.

At the UN General Assembly this week, the 15-member Security Council, which includes non-permanent members, may hold high-level meetings on AI and the wars in Ukraine and the Middle East, including talks with Arab leaders, diplomats said.

Reuters and AFP contributed reporting.

Original url:

<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2026/09/22/kremlin-backs-un-security-council-reform-but-says-permanent-members-and-veto-powers-should-remain-a93768>