



General Assembly

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Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization

New York, 18–26 February 2025

Draft report

Rapporteur: Ms. Eliza Grisle (Latvia)

II. Maintenance of international peace and security

C. Consideration of the revised working paper submitted by Belarus and the Russian Federation

1. During the general exchange of views held at the 312th and 313th meetings of the Special Committee, on 18 February, and at the 1st meeting of the Working Group of the Whole, on 19 February, the Special Committee considered the further revised working paper submitted by Belarus and the Russian Federation at the 2014 session of the Special Committee ([A/69/33](#), para. 37), in which it was recommended, inter alia, that an advisory opinion be requested from the International Court of Justice as to the legal consequences of the resort to the use of force by States without prior authorization by the Security Council, except in the exercise of the right to self-defence.

2. The sponsor delegations recalled the continued relevance of the topic addressed in the further revised working paper, highlighting that the topic was key in the international agenda. A sponsor delegation emphasized that an advisory opinion by the International Court of Justice would make a significant contribution to safeguarding and to the progressive development of the principles and rules of international law, as well as to strengthening international peace and security. A sponsor delegation reiterated that the legal question proposed in the further revised working paper was of a generic character and was not intended to seek the Court's position on any specific situation. The sponsor delegations expressed their readiness to consider constructive proposals with respect to the further revised working paper.

3. A number of delegations reiterated their support for the proposal and the thorough and meaningful consideration of it by the Special Committee. Other delegations expressed their opposition to the request for an advisory opinion by the International Court of Justice as outlined in the proposal. It was indicated that the proposal did not pose a well-defined and specific question for the International Court



of Justice to provide a meaningful response. The view was also expressed that the proposal was not necessary, and it was suggested that the Special Committee could move on from the proposal.
