

## Diplomatic Pressure Intensifies on Syria as UN General Assembly Set to Vote on New Resolution

ICRtoP blog

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To read the full blog post, see [here](#).

The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) has scheduled a vote on 16 February at 3:00 pm EST on a new resolution concerning the situation in Syria, drafted and circulated by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on 10 February. The UNGA has previously condemned the Syrian government's crackdown against civilian protesters on 22 November and 19 December 2011, with each urging strong support for regional efforts by the League of Arab States.

The [Saudi-drafted UNGA resolution](#) is similar to the one that was subject to in-depth negotiations and ultimately vetoed by Russia and China at the UN Security Council (UNSC) on 4 February.

Specifically, it calls for the UN to support the Arab League peace plan, which provides that President Bashar al-Assad delegate power to a deputy and begin a process of political transition. However, the language of the UNGA draft resolution is much stronger in condemning the violence and urging accountability for violations for human rights, "including those violations that may amount to crimes against humanity."

It also calls on the Secretary-General of the UN, **Ban Ki-moon**, to support the efforts of the League of Arab States through the appointment of a Special Envoy and technical and material assistance.