

UNGA SPEECH COMPARISON

A qualitative, criteria-based comparison — not a ranking or score.

Different times. Different challenges. Shared goal: a more stable, prosperous, and peaceful world.

WHAT IS A UNGA SPEECH? PURPOSE & KEY ELEMENTS

A U.S. president's address to the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) is an opportunity to:



Define
strategic
priorities



Explain
security and
conflicts



Signal
diplomatic
posture



Address
international
cooperation
and institutions



Discuss
economy, technology,
development



Communicate
commitments to
a global audience



OUR DRAFTED SPEECH (ALTERNATIVE)

A responsible and practical path forward



Peace and diplomacy

Negotiation is strength, not surrender.



Responsible military power

Use force judiciously, with clear objectives and consideration of consequences.



Middle East, Iran, and Ukraine

Humanitarian protection, durable settlements, security arrangements, and credible implementation.



Sovereignty and alliances

Respect national sovereignty while strengthening alliances.



UN reform

Improve effectiveness, accountability, and results.



Economy, energy, AI, public health, climate

Resilient supply chains, dnerge reliability, innovation with safeguards, global health, climate action, and support for developing nations.



Practical cooperation and accountability

Work with partners to deliver measurable progress.



Tone

Cooperative, measured, and institution-aware.

VS



TRUMP UNGA ADDRESS — SEP 22, 2026

America First through strength and action



America First and national interests

U.S. power, sovereignty, and direct action.



Defense of U.S. foreign-policy actions

Justified recent military actions as a demonstration of strength and deterrence.



Iran

Warned of potential annihilation if a peace deal is not reached, while expressing openness to diplomacy.



Ukraine

Expressed confidence in a diplomatic resolution; discussed sanctions and energy concerns.



AI and technology

Referred to "super intelligence"; emphasized U.S. leadership and resisted international control.



Criticism of institutions

Critical of the UN bureaucracy and the International Criminal Court (ICC).



Western Hemisphere

Addressed cartels, Venezuela, and Cuba; emphasized regional security and a stronger U.S. role.



Greenland / Denmark

Discussed a security agreement and strategic interests.



Domestic context

Highlighted domestic achievements and referenced the midterm context.



Tone

Forceful, action-cenered, and institution-critical.

HISTORICAL LENS: PREVIOUS FIVE U.S. PRESIDENTS AT UNGA

Representative speeches selected. Full-text analysis is preferable to media summaries.



Different eras.
Different global challenges.
A consistent American presence.



Joe Biden
2024

Responsible leadership
and international
cooperation.



Donald Trump
2019

Sovereignty,
national independence,
and U.S. strength.



Barack Obama
2014

Globak cooperation
and a rules-based
international order.



George W. Bush
2008

Security, freedom,
and combating
terrorism.



Bill Clinton
1999

Globalization, peace,
and international
engagement.

ANALYTICAL DIMENSIONS (USED FOR COMPARISON)

A consistent framework to examine each speech.



Strategic objective

What did the president
want others to understand
or do?



Security doctrine

How were military power,
threats, deterrence,
and peace described?



International cooperation

What role was assigned
to the UN, alliances, and
international institutions?



Diplomatic rhetoric

How were disagreement,
negotiation, sovereignty,
and legitimacy framed?



Policy specificity

Were there concrete
proposals, commitments,
timelines, or actions?



Intended audience

Was the speech primarily
directed at the U.S. public,
foreign governments,
allies, adversaries, or
international institutions?

DESCRIPTIVE CONTRASTS (NOT JUDGMENTS)

Different approaches to similar global challenges:



Cooperation
and multilateral action



More unilateral
action



Institutional
partnership



Institutional
criticism



Responsible
restraint



Deterrence
and pressure



Global
audience



Domestic
political audience



Broad multilateral
agenda



Concentrated
national-security
agenda

