

# Η ΕΕ στον ΟΗΕ: Το Ψήφισμα 65/276 και η Εφαρμογή του

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# Structure

- The status of the EU in the UNGA
  - Lisbon Treaty amendments
  - The Politics of Resolution 65/276
- The effect of the Resolution 65/276
- Examining the EU Performance at the UNGA
- Conclusions

# The status of the EU in the UNGA

- Double representation:
- a) **European Commission:** granted an observer status in the UN since 1974 representing the EU regarding the first pillar
- b) **Rotating Presidency:** a EU member-state in turn every six months represents the EU as regards foreign and security policy issues, granted preferential speaking rights
- In practice, the EU was granted preferential speaking rights among the major negotiating groups

# Lisbon Treaty provisions

- Art. 27(2) TEU: The High Representative (HR) of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy shall represent the Union for matters relating to CFSP
- Art. 15 TEU: The President of the European Council shall, at his level and in that capacity, ensure the external representation of the Union on CSFP issues
- HR would be the Vice-President of the Commission to ensure the consistency of the Union's external action
- EU delegation in third countries and at international organizations would represent the Union (the EU Delegation in New York will replace the Rotating presidency)

## Lisbon effects on the EU representation in the UNGA

- Lisbon Treaty: downgrading of the legal status of the EU in the UN
- Before Lisbon, the Rotating Presidency could speak among the first slots in the UNGA
- The EU lost its preferential speaking rights
- The EU had to react on this matter in order to ensure that its presence in the UNGA would continue also after the entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty

## The first attempt of the EU towards an enhanced observer status

- The EU examined 3 options:
  1. Maintain its existing observer status
  2. Establish new practices
  3. Searching for an enhanced observer status
- Opposition: by CARICOM but also from the African Union and the Pacific Island States
- Motion requesting adjournment: The General Assembly decided to postpone action on the EU draft resolution (75 votes in favor to 71 against with 26 abstentions) (14 September 2010)

# The reasons behind the failure

- Four basic reasons:

1. Challenge of the intergovernmental structure of the UN
2. Insufficient diplomatic effort of the EU (small number of outreach meetings)
3. Colonial sentiments
4. Many references in the internal dynamics of the EU in the draft (Lisbon Treaty)

# The second attempt of the EU

- The EU changed its strategy: more outreach meetings (mainly with the opposing countries), less references in the draft as regards the internal developments of the EU political system
- Adoption of the Resolution 65/276 (3 May 2011, 180 votes in favor, none against, 2 abstentions)



## Resolution 65/276

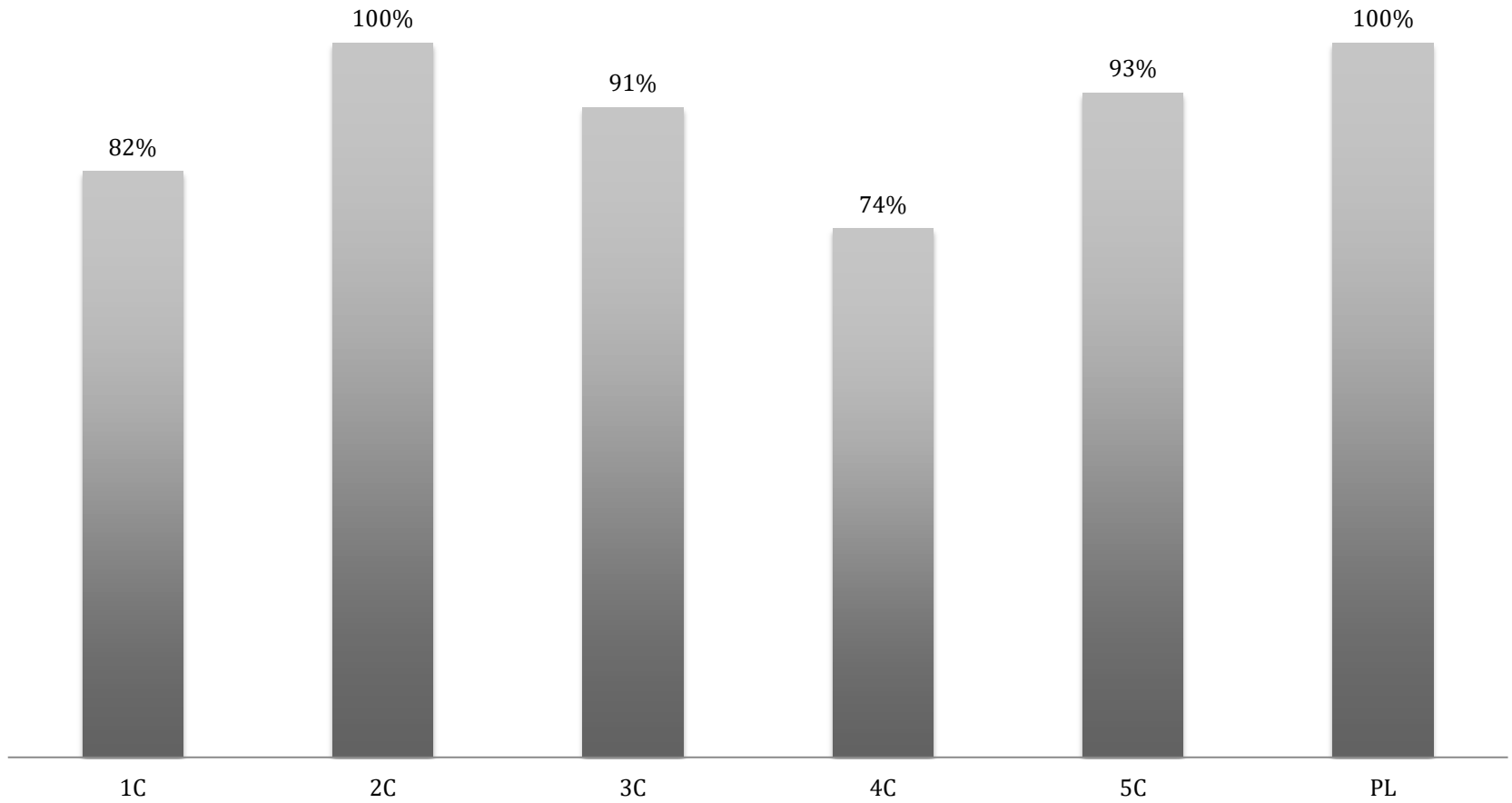
- (a) *inscribed on the list of speakers;*
- (b) *invited to participate in the general debate of the General Assembly;*
- (c) *permitted to have its communications relating to the sessions and work of the General Assembly;*
- (d) *permitted to present proposals and amendments orally as agreed by the States members of the European Union;*
- (e) *Allowed to exercise the right of reply regarding positions of the European Union*

# EU Performance at UNGA

- **EU Outcome at the UNGA**
- (a) EU oral interventions
- (b) EU voting behavior
- (c) the sponsoring of resolutions

EU oral interventions	Committee	64th session	65th session	66th session	67th session	68th session	69th session	70th session	71st session	72nd session	Total
Rotating Presidency (a)	1st Com	9	7	2	1	1	1	0	0	0	21
	2nd Com	22	26	5	2	3	3	0	0	9	70
	3rd Com	40	27	7	15	19	18	17	18	26	187
	4th Com	12	14	0	0	0	2	0	1	1	30
	5th Com	27	22	3	3	2	3	1	2	3	66
	Total	110	96	17	21	25	27	18	21	39	374
EU Delegation (b)	1st Com	0	0	1	4	7	6	7	6	9	40
	2nd Com	1	0	9	16	14	12	13	7	2	74
	3rd Com	0	8	16	17	16	10	11	17	19	114
	4th Com	0	0	6	8	7	8	10	7	8	54
	5th Com	0	1	13	21	26	27	19	23	22	152
	Total	1	9	45	66	70	63	60	60	60	434
EU member-states (support EU common positions) (c)	1st Com	16	8	13	70	35	38	35	5	15	235
	2nd Com	4	6	9	14	11	4	5	2	5	60
	3rd Com	38	33	41	46	63	46	11	24	31	333
	4th Com	12	12	12	8	12	6	5	1	4	72
	5th Com	1	1	11	5	1	3	1	0	0	23
	Total	71	60	86	143	122	97	57	32	55	723
EU member-states (individual statement) (d)	1st Com	24	38	56	54	29	15	51	60	33	360
	2nd Com	3	7	19	18	13	3	1	1	3	68
	3rd Com	0	2	2	3	1	0	22	34	50	114
	4th Com	0	1	2	2	0	5	9	9	9	37
	5th Com	0	3	17	19	3	1	0	1	0	44
	Total	27	51	96	96	46	24	83	105	95	623

## EU Voting Cohesion (2009-2015)



## Resolutions Sponsored by the EU as a Bloc Stemming from Brussels (2009-2015)

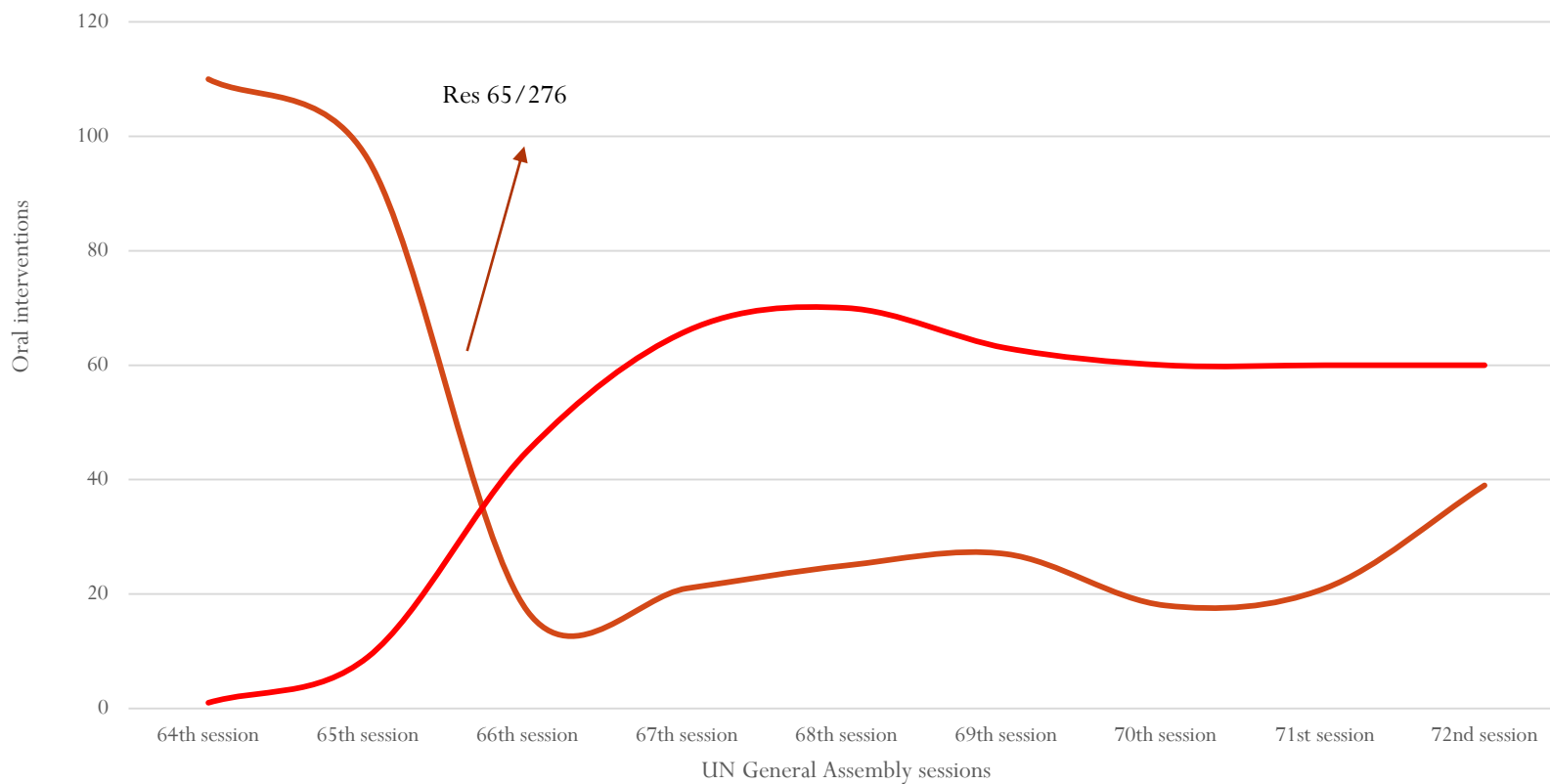
Resolution	Committee
Rights of the child	3C
Elimination of all forms of intolerance and of discrimination based on religion or belief	3C
Situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea	3C
Situation of human rights in Myanmar	3C
Freedom of religion or belief	3C

## Resolutions Sponsored by the EU Member-States (2009-2015)

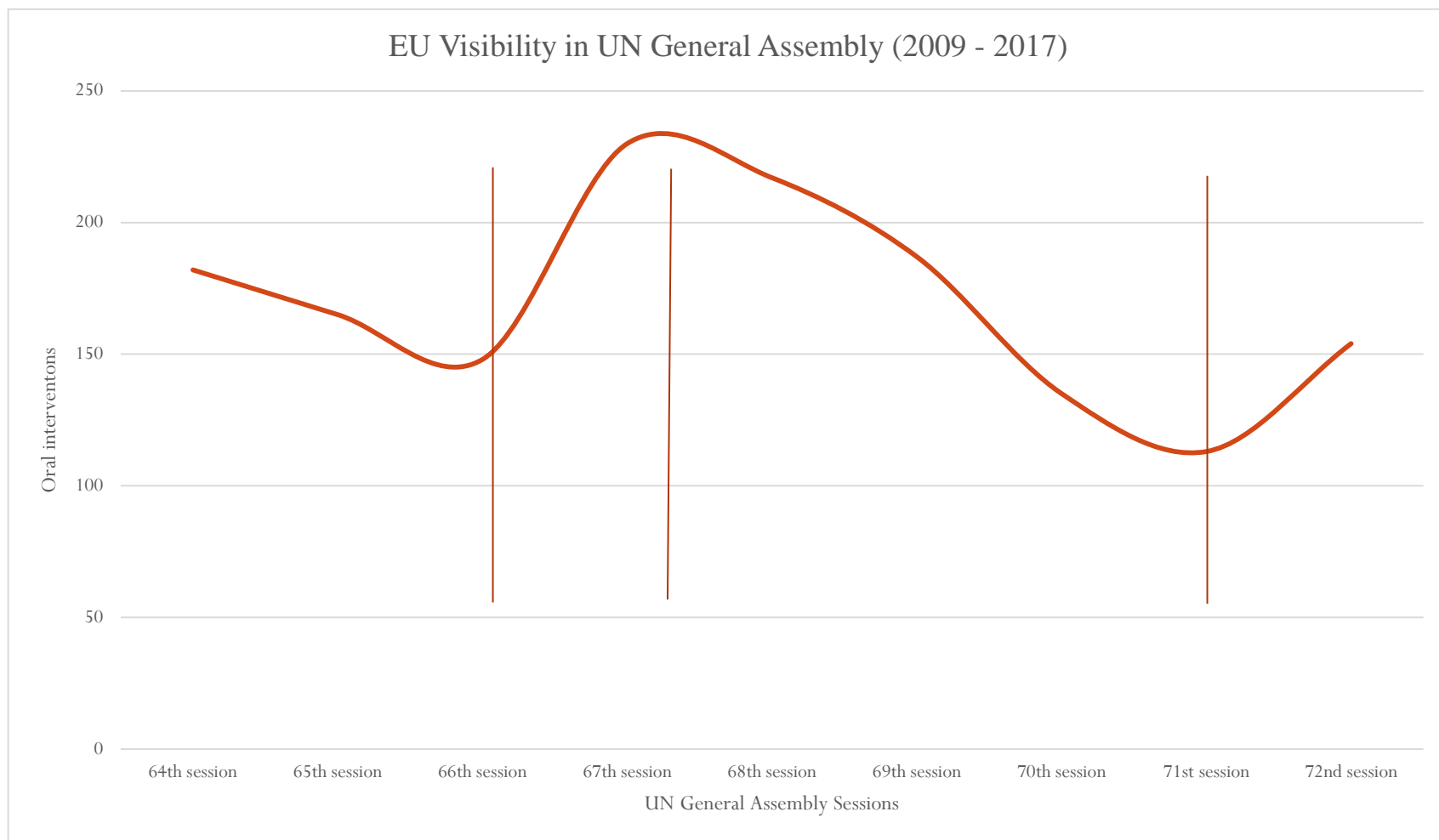
Session	1C	2C	3C	4C	5C	6C	PL	Total
<b>64<sup>th</sup></b>	8	2	8	4	0	8	6	36
<b>65<sup>th</sup></b>	6	1	10	1	0	5	9	32
<b>66<sup>th</sup></b>	12	1	12	6	0	5	1	37
<b>67<sup>th</sup></b>	7	0	9	5	0	3	6	30
<b>68<sup>th</sup></b>	6	2	15	5	0	6	3	37
<b>69<sup>th</sup></b>	6	1	3	1	0	4	1	16
<b>Total</b>	45	7	57	22	0	31	26	188

# The impact of Res 65/276 at UNGA

## EU Presidency + EU Delegation Oral Interventions

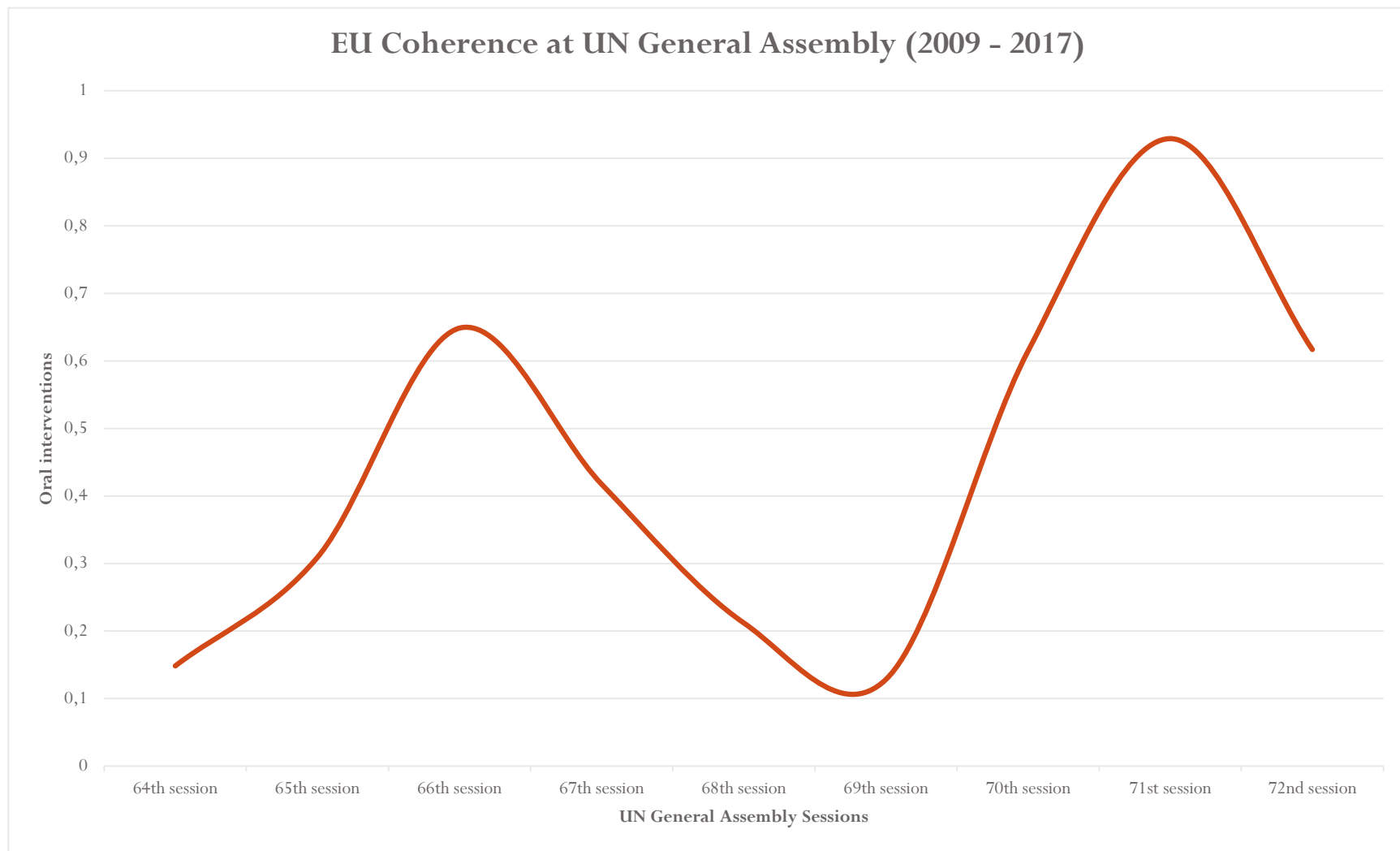


# EU visibility at UNGA





# EU coherence at UNGA



# The effects of Resolution 65/276

- The EU exercises very often the right of speaking among the major groups
- The EU intervenes in the General Debate of the General Assembly affecting the political agenda in the UNGA
- The EU does not so often circulate official documents in UNGA meeting-rooms
- The EU does not make often oral amendments and proposals
- The EU does not exercise its right of reply

# Conclusions

- Still early to deduce conclusions as regards the effect of Res 65/276 on the EU representation in the UNGA
- But, the EU managed to keep its preferential speaking rights among the major groups
- The EU plays a crucial role in setting the political agenda in the General Debate
- But, it does not exercise in effect any other right of the Res 65/276