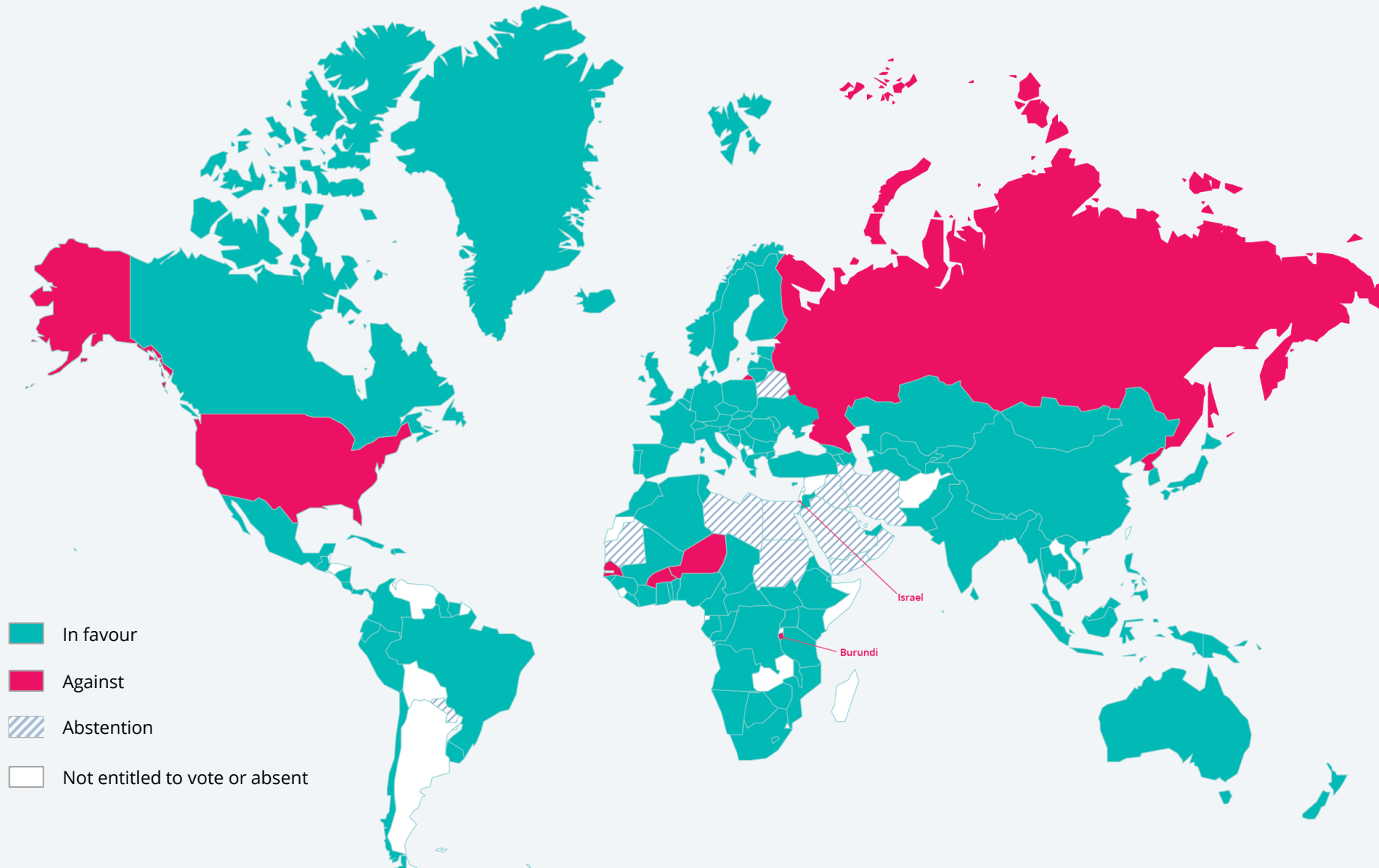


Vote on the new Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS

Map of the Month July 2026



- On 23 June 2026, the United Nations High-Level Meeting on HIV/AIDS adopted a new Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS by 149 votes in favour, 8 against and 14 abstentions.
- The declaration reaffirms the goal of eliminating AIDS as a public health threat by 2030. It further sets ambitious targets for testing, treatment and prevention, for closing funding gaps, and for protecting human rights and gender equality. Moreover, it encourages local production of medicines and technology transfer.
- The 8 votes against stem from the United States, Russia, Israel and North Korea, as well as Burkina Faso, Burundi, Niger and Senegal. The United States objected to “divisive” topics and trade clauses regarding technology transfer. Russia saw interference in domestic affairs and “non-consensus-based” language on gender. Israel, too, criticized the trade references.
- The Declaration’s ultimately broad support was preceded by substantively contested negotiations. At the request of the Africa Group, the phrase “on mutually agreed terms” was removed in relation to technology transfer (a move from which the EU, Switzerland and Canada dissociated themselves). The EU secured the inclusion of terms such as “key populations”, “sexual and reproductive health services” and “gender-based violence”.