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**Chairmanship: Poland****SPECIAL MEETING OF THE PERMANENT COUNCIL  
(1359th Plenary Meeting)**

1. Date: Sunday, 27 February 2022 (in the Neuer Saal and via video teleconference)

Opened: 10.05 a.m.

Closed: 12.45 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador A. Hałaciński

Prior to taking up the agenda, the Permanent Council held a moment of silence to express sympathy and solidarity with the victims of the ongoing aggression against Ukraine. The Chairperson, Ukraine (PC.DEL/312/22) and the Secretary General (SEC.GAL/36/22 OSCE+) also delivered statements.

3. Subjects discussed – Statements – Decisions/documents adopted:

Agenda item 1: THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION'S ONGOING AGGRESSION AGAINST UKRAINE

Point of order: Russian Federation (Annex 1), Chairperson

France-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, Montenegro and North Macedonia; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland and Liechtenstein, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Georgia and Ukraine, in alignment) (Annex 2), United Kingdom (Annex 3), Canada (Annex 4), Turkey (Annex 5), Albania (Annex 6), United States of America (Annex 7), Norway (PC.DEL/299/22), Belgium (Annex 8), Romania (Annex 9), France (Annex 10), Georgia (Annex 11), Austria (Annex 12), Latvia (Annex 13), Switzerland (PC.DEL/310/22/Corr.1 OSCE+), Lithuania (Annex 14), Germany (Annex 15), Moldova (Annex 16), San Marino (Annex 17), Netherlands (Annex 18), Czech Republic (Annex 19), Portugal (Annex 20), Monaco (Annex 21), Italy (Annex 22), Malta (Annex 23), Bulgaria (Annex 24), Slovenia (Annex 25), Andorra (PC.DEL/301/22 OSCE+), North Macedonia, Ireland (Annex 26), Estonia (Annex 27), Spain

(Annex 28), Secretary General, OSCE Parliamentary Assembly  
(PA.GAL/9/22 OSCE+)

Russian Federation

Agenda item 2:           REVIEW OF CURRENT ISSUES

None

Agenda item 3:           ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

4.   Next meeting:

To be announced



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe  
Permanent Council**

PC.JOUR/1359  
27 February 2022  
Annex 1

ENGLISH  
Original: RUSSIAN

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**1359th Plenary Meeting**  
PC Journal No. 1359, Agenda item 1

**STATEMENT BY  
THE DELEGATION OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

Mr. Chairperson,

I should first and foremost like to recall paragraph IV.2(C)5 of the Rules of Procedure of the OSCE, whereby, unless otherwise decided by the participating States, meetings are to be closed to the press and the public. We believe that we have a mandatory obligation to adhere to this rule.

Moreover, the wording of item 1 on the agenda of today's special meeting of the Permanent Council is of a deliberately confrontational nature. The Chairmanship has not undertaken any attempts to reach agreement on consensus-based wording with the OSCE participating States. At any rate, there have been no consultations with Russia. We consider this latest instance of non-compliance by the Chairmanship with the Rules of Procedure of the OSCE to be categorically unacceptable. It is contrary to paragraph IV.1(C)3 of the Rules of Procedure, which stipulates that draft agendas of Permanent Council meetings are to be prepared in advance by the Chairmanship, taking into account the views of all the participating States of our Organization.

Nor do we tire of recalling decisions by OSCE decision-making bodies, notably the 2002 Porto Ministerial Council decision and Permanent Council Decision No. 485 dealing with the role of the OSCE Chairmanship-in-Office. We urge the Chairmanship to revert to compliance with these documents regulating the OSCE's work.

I request that this statement be attached to the journal of today's special meeting of the Permanent Council.



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**1359th Plenary Meeting**  
PC Journal No. 1359, Agenda item 1

**STATEMENT BY  
THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE EUROPEAN UNION**

The delegation of France, in its capacity as EU Presidency, passed the floor to the representative of the European Union, who delivered the following statement:

The European Union (EU) condemns in the strongest possible terms the Russian Federation's unprovoked and unjustified military aggression against Ukraine. By its illegal military actions, Russia is grossly violating international law, the principles of the United Nations Charter and the OSCE *acquis* and undermining European and global security and stability. The European Union underlines that this includes the inherent right of Ukraine to choose its own future and destiny. Russia bears full responsibility for this act of aggression and all the destruction and loss of life it is causing. It will be held accountable for its actions.

We also strongly condemn the involvement of Belarus in this aggression against Ukraine and reiterate our call on it to refrain from such action and to abide by its international obligations.

The European Union demands that Russia immediately ceases its military actions, unconditionally withdraws all forces and military equipment from the entire territory of Ukraine and fully respects Ukraine's territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence within its internationally recognized borders and territorial waters. We call on Russia to respect international humanitarian law and stop their disinformation campaign and cyberattacks.

The European Union is shocked and saddened, and deplores the tragic loss of life and human suffering caused by this war launched by Russia against Ukraine. As the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights notes, documented fatal incidents include a ballistic missile strike and a bomb that struck a residential block. We recall the International Criminal Court (ICC) prosecutor's expression of increasing concern, reminding all sides that his office may exercise jurisdiction. The law of war prohibits indiscriminate attacks and those that target civilians and civilian property.

The European Union stands in solidarity with all those whose lives have been affected by this unjustified and unjustifiable attack and, especially, with those particularly vulnerable groups, like women, children and the elderly. Their rights must be upheld at all times, and accountability for any violation or abuse of these rights guaranteed.

Humanitarian needs are multiplying and spreading by the hour. Numerous civilians are dying or have been injured. According to the United Nations, at least 150,000 Ukrainians have already fled their homes – with many crossing into neighbouring countries. The European Union co-ordinates delivery of emergency assistance to Ukraine through the EU Civil Protection Mechanism. The EU's Emergency Response Co-ordination Centre is in constant contact with the Ukrainian authorities and those of neighbouring countries to channel further assistance. We call on Russia to ensure rapid, safe and unhindered humanitarian access and assistance to all persons in need. It is imperative that the safety and security of diplomatic and consular missions and their personnel in Ukraine is ensured.

We strongly condemn and express our deep concern over reported casualties of other nationalities, including members of the Greek community in eastern Ukraine, due to Russia's aggressive acts. Two Danish reporters were also wounded. We underline that journalists and other media actors must be offered every protection to carry out their essential role at this extremely dangerous moment. Journalists are civilians and should be treated as non-combatants.

We also call on Russia to ensure the safety and security of the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine and to facilitate the unhindered evacuation of its staff. We urge all OSCE autonomous institutions and executive structures to address as a matter of priority the humanitarian and other consequences of Russia's ongoing military aggression in the context of the OSCE's comprehensive approach to security.

The European Union reiterates its unwavering support for the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders. We call on all countries not to recognize the two self-proclaimed separatist entities and not to facilitate or in any way assist them. The European Union has reacted swiftly and forcefully to Russia's recognition of Ukraine's self-proclaimed separatist entities and deployment of its armed forces by adopting restrictive measures in response. On 25 February, the European Union adopted further restrictive measures that impose massive and severe consequences on Russia for its action, in close co-ordination with our partners and allies. The European Union decided to sanction the President of the Russian Federation, Vladimir Putin, and the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, Sergey Lavrov. The European Union also agreed on a further package of individual and economic measures covering also Belarus to respond to the unprovoked and unjustified military aggression carried out by the Russian Federation against Ukraine.

The European Union is united in its solidarity with Ukraine and will continue to support Ukraine and its people together with its international partners. We stand by the people of Ukraine and its democratically elected institutions and representatives. Following the December 2016 decision by the EU Heads of State or Government, the European Council acknowledges the European aspirations and the European choice of Ukraine, as stated in the Association Agreement. We will do all in our power to not leave Ukraine alone at this time of great need.

The European Union firmly believes that the use of force and coercion to change borders has no place in the twenty-first century. Tensions and conflict should be resolved exclusively through dialogue and diplomacy, which is what the OSCE stands for. The

European Union will continue co-operating closely with neighbours and reiterates its unwavering support for, and commitment to, the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Georgia and of the Republic of Moldova. Russia abused its veto power in the UN Security Council on Friday – as it has repeatedly done with the consensus rule in the OSCE – to further its illegal actions. But Russia cannot veto our voices. Russia cannot veto the Ukrainian people. Russia cannot veto its own people protesting this war in the streets. Russia cannot veto the United Nations Charter and its international obligations and OSCE commitments. Russia cannot, and will not, veto accountability.

The candidate countries the Republic of North Macedonia<sup>1</sup>, Montenegro<sup>1</sup>, and Albania<sup>1</sup>, the EFTA countries Iceland and Liechtenstein, members of the European Economic Area, as well as Ukraine and Georgia align themselves with this statement.

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1 The Republic of North Macedonia, Montenegro and Albania continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.



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**1359th Plenary Meeting**  
PC Journal No. 1359, Agenda item 1

**STATEMENT BY  
THE DELEGATION OF THE UNITED KINGDOM**

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson, for convening this special Permanent Council meeting today.

It is deeply saddening that we are meeting for the fourth time in less than a week in the most appalling of circumstances. The news from Kyiv and elsewhere in Ukraine is grim. Russia's leaders have – without need or provocation – launched the largest European war since 1945. They have brought the madness of conventional war – a madness we had thought consigned to history – back to Europe. And they have done this against a peaceful, sovereign, and democratic neighbour.

Russia's actions show flagrant disregard for the United Nations Charter, the Budapest Memorandum, the Minsk agreements and the Helsinki Final Act. Alongside this, Russia has disregarded all of the subsequent OSCE declarations and de-escalation mechanisms that it not only freely signed up to, but helped to build. The Russian Government has walked away from its commitments designed to protect all our security and is looking to conquer an independent State by force of arms. This is an attack not only on Ukraine, but on the security and freedom of Europe as a whole.

We have by now all become used to the rhythm of the lies of the Russian Government. Russia said that their military build-up was merely an exercise – a lie. Russia said that Ukraine was a threat – a lie. And Russia is saying that they are conducting a peacekeeping operation – a lie.

But the truth of the Russian Government's actions in Ukraine is now beginning to emerge. As the Director of the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights said on Friday: "While the attack on Ukraine is little more than a day old, it is already taking its toll on civilians". The British Government has verified multiple instances of military strikes destroying large apartment buildings across Kyiv. UNICEF are reporting terrified families sheltering underground across the city. We have seen reporting of civilians shot by Russian soldiers, and – unbelievably – of tanks crushing people alive in their cars. We have verified footage of Uragan multiple launch rocket systems – weapons with wide area effects – indiscriminately targeting the city of Akhterka, causing many casualties. And, Mr. Chairperson, I am sorry to say, we have verified that a kindergarten called "Solnyshko" has been completely destroyed.

Overnight, we have seen reports that Ukraine's energy infrastructure has been targeted, including the oil depot in Rovenky, Luhansk, and Vasylykiv oil depot near Kyiv. We are also concerned by reports of heightened levels of radiation detected in the Chernobyl exclusion zone – just a couple of examples of the environmental cost this unprovoked Russian invasion is starting to have.

This crisis is also leading to displacement. United Nations agencies suggest around 100,000 people have lost their homes. Innocent civilians fleeing Russia's onslaught are now arriving in Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Hungary, Poland and the Czech Republic. We have reports that on Saturday morning there was a 58 kilometres queue on the border with Moldova, with 30,000 people having crossed. These have grown since. You mentioned, Mr. Chairperson, the thousands of civilians arriving into Poland. I am grateful for the humanitarian spirit in which these countries are receiving innocent civilians. We must also support the safe passage out of Ukraine for the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine teams.

The Russian military – under the government's orders – bomb civilians and have caused thousands to flee their homes. They call this demilitarization. They destroy kindergartens, and call it denazification. Mr. Chairperson, they will make a desert, and call it peace. Have they no shame? Have they no shame?

Mr. Chairperson, the Geneva Conventions have, for over 150 years, codified the laws of armed conflict. The President of the International Committee of the Red Cross has said that all sides must adhere to international humanitarian law. He has said, "Attacks must not be directed against civilian objects". And he has said that, "the use of weapons with wide area effects should be avoided in populated areas". And Amnesty International has said that the Russian military's use of area weapons in densely populated areas may constitute war crimes.

One day – when this horrific attack and unfolding tragedy is all over – Russian soldiers will have to look their Ukrainian brothers in the eye and answer to them for what they have done.

Until that day comes, we will make President Putin pay. Three days ago in this forum, our Foreign Secretary announced the toughest package of sanctions that Russia has ever faced. We said at the time, these sanctions will only get tougher. More sanctions were announced yesterday. Last night decisive action was taken with international partners to shut Russia out of the global financial system, including the important first step of ejecting Russian banks from SWIFT. We will continue to provide defensive assistance to Ukraine. And where there is evidence of war crimes, we will ensure that – however long it takes – justice is served.

Mr. Chairperson, the United Kingdom, with our international partners, stands united in condemning the Russian Government's premeditated, unprovoked and unjustified aggression against the Ukrainian people. We stand with Ukraine. We have nothing but the utmost respect and admiration for the brave men and women of Ukraine's armed forces, whose tenacity and fortitude – our military intelligence assesses – have stopped President Putin achieving any of his day-one objectives. We defend and will always defend the Ukrainian people's right to choose their own destiny, and make their own security



choices. Free from external aggression and free from coercion. We stand shoulder to shoulder with the people of Ukraine – for however long it takes – to ensure that their sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence is rightfully restored.

Mr. Chairperson, the world is watching. Russia is now an international pariah. Russia needs to stop its attack and withdraw its forces. President Putin's squalid venture will ultimately fail and will be seen to fail. However long it takes, that will be the steadfast and unflinching goal of the United Kingdom. Thank you.



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe  
Permanent Council**

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Annex 4

Original: ENGLISH

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**1359th Plenary Meeting**  
PC Journal No. 1359, Agenda item 1

**STATEMENT BY  
THE DELEGATION OF CANADA**

Mr. Chairperson,

In the 66 hours since we last met at this Council, Russia has continued its unprovoked, unjustified, and unconscionable war against Ukraine.

And there must be absolutely no doubt that this is war that Russia is waging. Kyiv is under siege as we speak, as are countless other cities across Ukraine. This morning, Kyiv stands.

This is a full-scale war launched by an aggressor – Russia – against its neighbouring State. Russia has used almost the entire spectrum of its conventional capabilities, including ground forces, theatre-launched missile systems, heavy bombers, naval bombardment, amphibious assault ships and troops, airborne assault troops, and special operations forces.

Russia has launched the largest war in Europe in generations. We will not allow Russia's aggressive disinformation and propaganda campaigns to hide this truth. The Kremlin is trying to hide this truth domestically, to hide reality from a Russian population that opposes this war, that can't understand why Putin has sent young Russians to invade and to kill innocent Ukrainians. Putin is imposing draconian responses against anti-war protests in Russian cities, detaining thousands, and threatening any media that reports anything that has not been sanctioned by the Kremlin. This cannot last. The truth will prevail, including for the Russian people, despite the Kremlin's cynical attempts.

Mr. Chairperson,

I, with all of Canada, honour the fortitude and courage the Ukrainian people are showing in their defiant defence of their home from Russian invasion.

Already there are countless acts of bravery and courage, but I'd like to speak about serviceman Vitaly Shakun.

In order to slow a Russian tank column that was advancing towards Henichesky Bridge, near Kherson, and without time to detonate the mines remotely, Shakun informed his

unit that he would do so manually. He said goodbye to his comrades by radio, and detonated the bridge.

Vitaly Shakun sacrificed his life to defend his home. Countless Ukrainians across their country are doing the same, as we speak.

Russia has achieved something I imagine it never set out to do: it has united the people of Ukraine. It has brought together former political opponents, with former President Poroshenko joining the fight led by President Zelenskyy and the Ukrainian Government. When asked by a CNN reporter how long did he think Ukraine could hold out for, Mr. Poroshenko, after a pause, replied “Forever”. Because, he said, no matter how many soldiers, missiles, or nuclear weapons Putin has, “we Ukrainians are a free people with a great European future”.

And beyond Ukraine, Russia has united Europe and the world. I, with Canada, join the growing chorus the world over who are saying: Slava Ukraini.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. I ask that my statement be attached to the journal of the day.



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe  
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27 February 2022  
Annex 5

Original: ENGLISH

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**1359th Plenary Meeting**  
PC Journal No. 1359, Agenda item 1

**STATEMENT BY  
THE DELEGATION OF TURKEY**

Mr. Chairperson,

At the outset, let me convey our heartfelt sorrow for the Ukrainian citizens who lost and are losing their lives.

We deeply regret witnessing the suffering of civilians, as thousands of men, women and children are displaced and leave their homes to seek safety.

No one has the right to put the lives of millions at grave risk. Nothing but nothing can justify the suffering of the civilians.

No statement can truly reflect the agony we feel, in the face of such a humanitarian tragedy.

Not only the OSCE geography, but also the international rules-based order is passing through testing times.

The military assault launched by the Russian Federation against Ukraine is unacceptable.

We reject this assault, as we rejected the decision to recognize the so-called breakaway republics of Donetsk and Luhansk. And as we rejected the illegal annexation of Crimea.

This assault is a blatant violation of international law.

It poses a serious threat to the security and stability of our region and the world.

We remain committed to and will continue to support the preservation of the sovereignty, political unity and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders, including Crimea and Donbas. This is our legal and moral obligation.

We call on the Russian Federation to stop this unlawful assault and get back to the path of dialogue and diplomacy.

It is high time to uphold our OSCE commitments, including those in the Helsinki Final Act, the Charter of Paris and the Istanbul Document.

It is also high time to remember the Charter of the United Nations.

It is our duty, as participating States, to defend legality.

My country is ready to work with all parties to facilitate a peaceful resolution of this crisis.

On a final note, I would like to underline the role of the Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine and the importance of safeguarding the safety and security of the monitors and staff. In this regard, we count on the deep experience of Chief Monitor Ambassador Çevik and his able team for the ongoing evacuation efforts. We also appreciate the tremendous work of Secretary General Schmid and the OSCE Secretariat in this vein.

I request that this statement be attached to the journal of the day.

Thank you.



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe  
Permanent Council**

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27 February 2022  
Annex 6

Original: ENGLISH

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**1359th Plenary Meeting**  
PC Journal No. 1359, Agenda item 1

**STATEMENT BY  
THE DELEGATION OF ALBANIA**

Mr. Chairperson,  
Distinguished colleagues,

Today we are called once more to express, clearly and loudly, where we stand, as participating States, individually and collectively.

Since the last extraordinary meeting of this distinguished Council, Russia has continued its aggression on sovereign Ukraine, inflicting on the way pain, suffering and devastation.

In doing so, it has buried under the rubble of Kyiv and other Ukrainian cities the Charter of the United Nations, international law, the OSCE principles and commitments. Russia may seek to overthrow a legitimate government and to destroy Ukraine, but the freedom and dignity that the Ukrainian people are fighting and enduring for cannot be destroyed.

On Friday, Albania and the United States of America presented in the United Nations Security Council a draft resolution that condemned Russia's actions, underscored that Russia must immediately cease its use of force against Ukraine and withdraw its forces. It also called for the facilitation of humanitarian assistance to those in need in Ukraine and urged continuous efforts to respond to the humanitarian and refugee crisis.

Russia – a permanent member of the Security Council to whom the world has entrusted the responsibility to decide on peace and security – unsurprisingly, misused its place by vetoing the resolution.

Yet, we take heart that 11 Security Council members voted in favour and over 80 Member States co-sponsored the draft resolution, demonstrating the widespread condemnation of Russia's aggression by the international community.

It is not too late to stop this madness, now. We call on Russia to immediately resort to reason. We are shocked and heartbroken by the numerous reports and images from Ukraine. We express condolences for the numerous lives lost. Our relentless efforts will continue – here in the OSCE, in the United Nations, and elsewhere – in search for peace in Ukraine.

Nations will remember, for generations to come, where each of us stood at this defining crossroads of history. Today, we stand with Ukraine, its people, its government. Today, we all are Ukraine!

Dear Mr. Chairperson,  
Colleagues,

We renew our call for utmost efforts to protect any human life in Ukraine, including the safety of OSCE personnel, whose work, dedication and bravery we deeply respect and admire.

At this critical juncture, in close co-ordination with our partners, we will continue to take all the necessary actions and continue to stand in solidarity with Ukraine.

I kindly request this statement be attached to the journal of this meeting.

Thank you.



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**1359th Plenary Meeting**  
PC Journal No. 1359, Agenda item 1

**STATEMENT BY  
THE DELEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

A tyrannical regime is waging a premeditated war against a peaceful nation. And now we are witnessing the results of Russia's aggression against Ukraine: civilian deaths and wanton destruction of civilian infrastructure – apartment buildings, kindergartens, orphanages. Children are huddling cold, hungry, and scared in crowded metro stations. It is cruel. It is barbaric. It is unconscionable.

This Organization was founded on principles. Principles enshrined in the Charter of Paris, the Helsinki Final Act, and the United Nations Charter. Over the last few months, the Russian Federation has rejected every single one of these principles. Instead, it has chosen war. It has chosen aggression. It has chosen to violate international law.

We appealed so many times – all of us in this Council – for dialogue and diplomacy. Our appeals were met with lies and silence. At some point, down the road, we will need to think about what this means for our diplomatic efforts to support peace and security in Europe. How do we rebuild our collective security when we do not share even the most basic norms of civilized discourse? How do we reason with a regime that claims the Ukrainian nation does not exist? How do we reach agreements when the Russian Federation so blatantly and brutally violates international law?

Despite the interpreters who translate our words into so many different languages, the words spoken by the Russian Federation's representative have no meaning. They do not correspond to the reality that we are all witnessing. That reality is that the democratically-elected President of Ukraine, who happens to be a native Russian speaker, is bravely standing his ground as Russian tanks and troops advance on Kyiv to forcibly remove him from power.

Last night I received a text from a former member of Ukraine's Parliament, who is now in Kyiv. She writes: "We do not know for how long we can stand, but be sure that after eliminating independent Ukraine, Russia will not stop, as all the redlines and psychological barriers have been crossed." Those were her words. Now we hear Russia threatening Finland and Sweden with "military and political repercussions." Those are the Kremlin's words.



Dear colleagues, this is madness.

We are not witnessing a clash of ideologies or worldviews. It's much more basic than that. It's about peace versus war. Dictatorship versus democracy. Truth versus lies. And it extends far, far beyond Ukraine.

Our immediate task has to be mobilizing resources to deal with the massive human and humanitarian tragedy playing out before our eyes. Kyiv, a city of nearly three million innocent men, women and children, is being encircled. Let us recall what Russian forces did together with their Syrian allies to the city of Aleppo just six years ago.

Tens of thousands of refugees have already fled Ukraine and many more will leave in the coming days. There are even more internally displaced people inside Ukraine and that number too will grow. We must help them. Ukrainians need food, water, shelter, and medicine.

And yes, they also need the means to defend themselves. Yesterday, Secretary Blinken announced that the United States will be providing another 350 million US dollars-worth of lethal security assistance to Ukraine. It's the right thing to do. It's what we need to do to support freedom in Ukraine and freedom around the world.

Over time, we must also meticulously document the Russian Federation's abuses, the civilian casualties the Russian Federation is causing, and any possible war crimes it commits to ensure there is accountability. This is a dark time, but when the fog of war clears, individuals will be held responsible. We are also taking note of all those enabling this war, including the regime in Belarus, and they too will be held to account.

Mr. Chairperson, I salute the heroic efforts by Ukrainians from all walks of life who are defending their country, their freedom, and their way of life. They deserve our strongest possible support. I also want to join the Chairmanship in expressing my condolences to all the victims of this appalling aggression by the Russian Federation.

Mr. Chairperson, I request that this statement be attached to the journal of the day.

Thank you.



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe  
Permanent Council**

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Annex 8

Original: ENGLISH

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**1359th Plenary Meeting**  
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**STATEMENT BY  
THE DELEGATION OF BELGIUM**

Mr. Chairperson,

Belgium fully aligns itself with the statement of the European Union (EU). Given the gravity of the situation, let me also speak in my national capacity.

On Friday, no less than 48 Ministers have condemned the Russian Federation's unprovoked and unjustified military aggression against Ukraine, with the involvement of Belarus. All EU Member States univocally agreed that Russia bears the full responsibility of the consequences of these actions violating the United Nations Charter.

While President Putin claims that Ukrainian civilians are not targets, the reality on the ground unfortunately contradicts this. The humanitarian situation is getting worse, for which only Russia is to blame. The aggressor and perpetrator of these heinous acts, is the Russian Federation. My Government has thus decided to assist Ukraine with humanitarian aid and other support to protect the lives of its citizens.

Furthermore, Belgium calls on Russia to fully respect the right to freedom of assembly and freedom of expression of its own citizens. The brave and peaceful people on the streets of Russia calling for peace and longing for freedom have our full support.

To conclude, Mr. Chairperson, we would like to once again reiterate our full support to independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders as well as to the Ukrainian people, its democratically elected institutions and representatives.

Today, we are all Ukraine.

I request that this statement be attached to the journal of the day.

Thank you.



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe  
Permanent Council**

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27 February 2022  
Annex 9

Original: ENGLISH

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**1359th Plenary Meeting**  
PC Journal No. 1359, Agenda item 1

## **STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF ROMANIA**

Romania fully subscribes to the statement made on behalf of the European Union (EU). In addition, I would like to make the following remarks, in my national capacity.

Romania reiterates its strongest condemnation of the unjustified and unprovoked ongoing military aggression by the Russian Federation against Ukraine, an independent and sovereign State. It is a grave breach of international law, a serious and flagrant violation of the UN Charter and of all OSCE commitments. It must stop now. We repeat our call on the Russian Federation to immediately and unconditionally withdraw all its military forces and equipment from the entire territory of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders. We also call on the international community to continue demanding Russia the immediately end of this aggression, which endangers international peace and security at a global scale.

We are deeply worried about the human impact of the ongoing military aggression. There is already documented evidence of civilian deaths and much suffering. We strongly condemn the Russian attacks on civilians and civilian infrastructure in Ukraine and we call on the Russian Federation to fully respect international humanitarian law, and to allow safe and unhindered access to all in need. The safety and security of our monitors in the Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine must also be ensured and we expect Russia to facilitate their safe evacuation. The Russian Federation bears direct responsibility of all its actions and their tragic consequences.

Belarus, by allowing its territory to be used for the military aggression against Ukraine, is also violating international law. Its shared responsibility in the current situation cannot and will not be overlooked. We resolutely call on Belarus to refrain from these actions and abide by its international obligations and OSCE commitments.

The ongoing Russian aggression is being met with the strongest reaction by the international community. Several political and economic measures have been put in place and more are to come. Romania has just joined other States in banning Russian airlines from our airspace. Russia will be facing isolation and severe costs, that will impact for years, if its military aggression and pressure against Ukraine do not stop.

Together with our European and Euro-Atlantic partners, Romania stands with Ukraine, its democratically elected institutions and representatives, and with the people of

Ukraine. In this tragic moments, it is important to support Ukraine and the Ukrainian people in need. In addition to what we do jointly with our EU partners and through the EU mechanisms, Romania is providing immediate assistance to those who are crossing the border in Romania and seeking shelter in our country. And we are witnessing a clear increase in the flow of Ukrainian citizens entering Romania.

Let me conclude by reconfirming Romania's firm support for the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized border. These days we mark eight years since the illegal annexation of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol of Ukraine by the Russian Federation. This sad anniversary shouldn't be forgotten. We continue to condemn this violation of international law and blatant breach of OSCE principles and commitments, as well as the use of the Crimean peninsula for launching of the current aggression against Ukraine. Further violation of Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity are taking place now, with Russia's ongoing military attack against Ukraine and its decision to recognize the Donetsk and Luhansk regions of Ukraine as independent entities.

In this context, we cannot and we should not forget about our other European partners, notably the Republic of Moldova and Georgia, which are also facing mounting pressure and are directly affected by the worsening security situation in the region. We stand firm in our support for their sovereignty and territorial integrity and for their right to make freely their own foreign policy choices.

We stand with Ukraine.

Distinguished Chairperson, I kindly request that this statement be attached to the journal of the meeting.

Thank you.



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe  
Permanent Council**

PC.JOUR/1359  
27 February 2022  
Annex 10

ENGLISH  
Original: FRENCH

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**1359th Plenary Meeting**  
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**STATEMENT BY  
THE DELEGATION OF FRANCE**

France aligns itself with the statement delivered by the European Union on behalf of the Member States and wishes to make the following statement in a national capacity.

France thanks the Polish Chairmanship for having convened without delay this new special meeting of the Permanent Council. We regret that, for what is now the fourth time this week, we have had no choice but to come together again in this venue given the extreme gravity of the situation.

France condemns in the strongest terms the premeditated military aggression launched by Russia against Ukraine. It likewise condemns the use of Belarusian territory, as approved by the Lukashenko regime, for conducting this aggression against a sovereign country in violation of all the fundamental principles on which this Organization is based and which constitute the kernel of its founding texts.

Mr. Chairperson,

The reason for our meeting is that Kyiv is being attacked by the Russian invader. Who could have imagined for one moment that, for the first time since the end of the Second World War, the capital of a free, independent and sovereign country in Europe would have to suffer such a fate and such atrocities? The events of this week, and even more so the Russian army's attack on Kyiv, are a turning point in the history of Europe and of our Organization. This act of aggression will have lasting, profound consequences for our lives and the geopolitics of our continent. By reneging on its word and signature, by rejecting the path of diplomacy, by choosing war and flouting the sovereignty of Ukraine, Russia has struck the most serious blow at peace and stability on our continent since the Second World War.

Allow me to express, on behalf of France and in my own name, our complete solidarity with the Ukrainian people and their democratically elected leaders. We pay emphatic tribute to their courage and resolve. Their liberty is ours as well. Eight years ago, the Ukrainians, a free and sovereign people, proudly defended their dignity. Today, there is nothing but infamy in the horrors of war inflicted by Russia on that country's population.

In these times, which are among the gravest that we have experienced since the birth of this Organization, we exhort Russia to assume, without delay and without attaching any conditions, its responsibilities by fully guaranteeing the protection of the civilian populations under the yoke of its army and fully respecting international humanitarian law. What is at stake is the preservation of the most fundamental values on which humanity rests.

International humanitarian law cannot be subject to any kind of interpretation, nor can it be made conditional on anything. It is not an abstract notion but a set of universally accepted rules for preserving human life and dignity. We remind Russia of the obligations incumbent on its army, which – and I am weighing my words – is the invader and the aggressor. We also exhort Russia not to hinder the provision of humanitarian assistance to the inhabitants of Ukraine. Lastly, we exhort Russia to ensure the safety of the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine, particularly in the areas not controlled by the Ukrainian Government. This is henceforth the direct responsibility of Russia, which will be held accountable for it before the international community, as for everything else.

Moreover, we express our serious concerns about the situation in Chernobyl following Russia's takeover of the nuclear power plant facilities located inside the exclusion zone. We remind Russia that any attack on or threat to attack nuclear facilities intended for peaceful uses is a violation of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and of international law. In addition, for the sake of our common security, it is of the utmost importance that the safe and secure operations of the nuclear facilities in that zone should not be affected or disrupted in any way.

Mr. Chairperson,

Kyiv is facing indiscriminate tank attacks and incessant shelling. Our Ukrainian colleagues here with us can bear witness to this. There will be consequences for these abject acts of aggression. We are prepared for that. We will not allow the fundamental principles of the European and international order to be destroyed by brute force. As we have stated on several occasions, we will respond in a vigorous, composed and resolute manner and with complete unity to this act of war. Russia will be banished from the international community. Our resolve will not waver. Russia will have to face a severe cost in both economic and diplomatic terms.

Finally, we call on the Russian people not to allow themselves to be deceived by the lies and manipulations being thrust upon them by their own leaders, and not to allow the image of their country to be tarnished in the eyes of the world. The Russian leaders alone are responsible for the consequences that will come crashing down on them and will also affect their country's population.

Slava Ukraini! [Glory to Ukraine!]

I would be grateful if you could attach this statement to the journal of the day.



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**1359th Plenary Meeting**  
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**STATEMENT BY  
THE DELEGATION OF GEORGIA**

Mr. Chairperson,

Georgia aligns with the statement delivered by the European Union delegation. In addition, I would like to make the following remarks:

We strongly condemn Russia's continuous military aggression and use of force against Ukraine, for the fourth day in a row, by land, air and sea. As stated previously at this forum, Russia's actions blatantly violate the United Nations Charter, the Helsinki Final Act, and other international obligations that Russia committed to uphold.

This unprovoked aggression has already inflicted horrific human suffering; Yesterday, Ukrainian side reported that 198 civilians, including three children were killed and over a thousand were injured. Fatalities, regrettably, are surging, as Russian missiles continue to target civilian infrastructure.

Over this short period of time, over hundreds of thousands of Ukrainians had to flee their homes by crossing the borders into neighbouring countries to the west in search of safety. This adds further to the numbers of displaced persons, who were forced to leave their houses behind, following the illegal annexation of Crimea by Russia and occupation of Donbas.

We acknowledge the importance of humanitarian burden sharing under these very challenging circumstances. Therefore, Georgia has allocated one million Lari for the humanitarian assistance to Ukraine, including for the delivery of pharmaceutical products and medical supplies. We also offer to cover the accommodation for all Ukrainian visitors who are stranded in Georgia due to the outbreak of the war.

Mr. Chairperson,

We believe that international community shall be united in defending the very fundamentals of the international rules-based order. We join our call on Russia to immediately cease its aggression and withdraw all troops from Ukraine and around it. We stand with international community in our efforts to get Russia to negotiating table and abide it by the international law, including by its clear obligations under the humanitarian law.

We reiterate our unwavering support for the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders, including Crimea and Donbas. We admire the bravery of Ukrainians in their fight for freedom. We stand in solidarity with Ukraine.

I thank you, Mr. Chairperson, and I kindly ask you to attach this statement to the journal of the day.





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ENGLISH  
Original: GERMAN

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**1359th Plenary Meeting**  
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**STATEMENT BY  
THE DELEGATION OF AUSTRIA**

Mr. Chairperson,

Austria aligns itself fully with the statement by the European Union. In addition, I should like to make a few remarks in my national capacity.

For more than three days now, war has been raging in our immediate neighbourhood. It is a war that the leadership of the Russian Federation has unleashed with cynical attempts at justification and in violation of international law.

For more than three days now, images have been reaching us that we thought had been banished forever. They are images of senseless violence, destruction and suffering. There is no place in the twenty-first century for the logic of the rule of force. That is why we, united as never before, had to launch – and have launched – massive political and economic sanctions against the aggressor.

Among the shocking images from the past few hours are those recording attacks on what are clearly civilian objects. We condemn in the strongest terms this flagrant crossing of yet another red line. The Geneva Conventions and international humanitarian law are not discretionary legislation. The international community will hold accountable those who have such actions to answer for.

The evacuation of our monitors with the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine is under way. Some colleagues are already safe. Others still have a dangerous journey ahead of them. We therefore unequivocally call for their protection and safety to be fully safeguarded.

Mr. Chairperson,

We must not allow the history of Europe again to be written with letters of blood. Russia must cease all hostilities with immediate effect. Russia must fully withdraw its troops from Ukrainian territory without delay. The bloodshed and destruction must be stopped immediately.

Our solidarity with Ukraine, the Ukrainian Government and the Ukrainian people is unfaltering.

Mr. Chairperson,

I request that this statement be attached to the journal of the day.

Thank you.



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Original: ENGLISH

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**1359th Plenary Meeting**  
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**STATEMENT BY  
THE DELEGATION OF LATVIA**

Mr. Chairperson,

Latvia fully aligns itself with the statement made by the European Union, however, let me add some remarks in my national capacity.

Here, in this room, we are not only a combination of our names and surnames. We are first and foremost the representatives of our governments or regimes. No one is just a secretary now (reference intended).

And you, distinguished Ambassadors of Russia and Belarus, are ambassadors of war criminals now. All representatives of Russia's and Belarus' official positions are accomplices of the war criminals.

Some say that everyone who decided to wage the war against Ukraine, all who enable it, all fighting against Ukraine, all who support it will go to hell. But before hell you will go to The Hague. And your delegations might even be sitting closer together there than in this hall.

We represent our countries or regimes here. We represent either clear and strong support to Ukraine or we try to hide behind vague words. I represent Latvia, expressing unwavering support to Ukraine, its sovereignty and territorial integrity in its internationally recognized borders, condemning Russia's war against Ukraine, calling on Russia to stop the war.

And I cannot be friends with anyone who does not say the same words here in this hall. I cannot be friends with anyone who stayed in this hall this last Thursday when all who clearly and strongly support Ukraine walked out. I cannot be friends with those who do not have the sign "We are all Ukraine" in front of their country name tags today. No matter how nice are the lunches you throw, or dinners, or receptions. Because I know, if such a dire hour comes for my country, myself and my family, you will not be there.

This is war. You take sides. You don't stand in the middle of a battlefield alone just sending thoughts and prayers for peace when bullets fly by your ears – you take a gun, and you defend. Whom?

My bullets are my words.

I stand with Ukraine.

Latvia stands with Ukraine.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson, and I kindly ask that my statement be attached to the journal of the day.



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**1359th Plenary Meeting**  
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**STATEMENT BY  
THE DELEGATION OF LITHUANIA**

Mr. Chairperson,

Lithuania fully aligns with the statement delivered on behalf of the European Union. Allow me to make a few remarks in my national capacity.

Lithuania condemns in the strongest possible terms Russia's large-scale military aggression, enabled by Belarus, against peaceful Ukraine and its people. Aggression that is unprovoked and unjustified. Aggression that is a brutal attack on the entire democratic world.

Russia must immediately cease all military acts and withdraw its forces from the territory of sovereign Ukraine, as well as from Belarus.

Despite continuous attempts by Russia to spread poisonous lies and war propaganda, no one has a single doubt that Russia is the aggressor, and Belarus is Russia's accomplice. Ukraine has the undeniable right to self-defence as it is embedded in Article 51 of the United Nations Charter.

Russia, and Russia alone, is responsible for the blood of innocent people, women and children, young and old, for their sufferings and for millions lives destroyed. Russia is responsible for indiscriminate shelling of civilian residence areas, hospitals, schools, kindergartens, ambulances. All of this is a blatant violation of the provisions of the United Nations Charter, international law, including international humanitarian law. We cannot allow such impunity to continue. Accountability for the crimes committed by the aggressor must be ensured.

Russia's illegal military attack against Ukraine is a crime of aggression, as provided for in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.

Since Ukraine has lodged the declaration accepting the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court (ICC), any act of genocide, crime against humanity or war crime committed within the territory of Ukraine falls under the jurisdiction of the ICC.

We welcome the intention of the Government of Ukraine to put all evidence of these crimes for the attention of international courts. All of us should do everything we can to assist Ukraine in this regard. Russia will not enjoy impunity.

To conclude, Ukraine belongs to the European family of nations. We underline our unwavering support for Ukraine's European and Euro-Atlantic aspirations. Lithuania stands firmly by Ukraine, its independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity within its internationally recognized borders.

Слава Україні.

Thank you. I kindly ask you to attach this statement to the journal of the day.



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Original: GERMAN

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**1359th Plenary Meeting**  
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**STATEMENT BY  
THE DELEGATION OF GERMANY**

Mr. Chairperson,  
Madam Secretary General,  
Dear colleagues,

I support the statement by the European Union and should like to add the following in my national capacity.

Today, on the fourth day of the brutal Russian attack on Ukraine, we look on in horror at the fighting in many parts of the country, above all in Kyiv as well.

Millions of Ukrainians have to fear for their lives, hundreds of people have already lost their lives, hundreds of thousands are fleeing, thousands have been injured.

We are shocked by the Russian side's ruthless deployment of artillery and missiles against densely populated urban areas. We have received reports of the shelling of residential areas, civilian infrastructure, oil terminals and a radioactive waste disposal facility in Kyiv. It is scarcely possible to put all the human suffering into words.

“Today, we are all Ukraine.”

With its brutal and completely unprovoked war of military aggression against Ukraine, the Russian Government, indeed Russia – a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council – is violating the most basic rules of the international order in full view of the world.

Over these past few days, President Putin and the Russian Government have been trampling underfoot the fundamental OSCE principles and international law.

It is horrifying how cynically and brazenly they go about this. The Russian Government does not even try to conceal its violation, but openly states its objective, namely the violent overthrow of a democratically legitimated government.

President Putin has not only breached the Minsk agreements: he is disregarding the entire security architecture in Europe, with regard to the renewal of which both the OSCE and NATO have made new proposals for negotiations.

We were ready to take into account the security needs of everyone.

However, as is clear today, the Russian willingness to talk was merely feigned. The Russian commitments to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine that we heard just a few days ago still linger in the ear with their cynical ring.

Germany condemns in the strongest terms not only the brutal military attack by Russia on Ukraine. We also condemn the collaboration of Belarus in this aggression. Belarus, too, has become an accomplice in the war in Ukraine and is disregarding its OSCE commitments.

We demand that the Russian Government immediately end the bloodshed, halt all military actions, withdraw all troops and military equipment from Ukraine, and return to diplomacy.

We all urgently call on the Russian Government and military to fully respect the provisions of international humanitarian law for the protection of civilians.

We demand that Belarus at once stop aiding and abetting this war of aggression.

We the OSCE participating States must now close ranks and stand up to this flagrant violation of international law by Russia and Belarus.

I therefore urge all those here in this room who are still unable to commit themselves unequivocally: press your governments, lobby in your capitals for a clear commitment to international law and our common principles and for taking up the cause of Ukraine.

There will come a time after this war. You will then want to have been on the right side of history.

“Today, we are all Ukraine.”

Together with its allies and partners, Germany is responding with the greatest resolve. The economic, political and geostrategic consequences for Russia will be grave, and we are working with all our might on further measures. It is the Russian Government alone that bears responsibility for the consequences. The powers that be in Minsk will also feel the consequences of their complicity.

I profoundly regret that, owing to the Russian missile strikes on Kyiv and other cities, the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine was forced to evacuate its international staff for the time being. I call on the Russian Government to guarantee the safety of the members of the Mission who are still in Ukraine.



Germany stands in complete solidarity alongside Ukraine. Our thoughts are with the victims, those killed and injured and their relatives, with the people who are now having to flee the violence in Ukraine.

“Today, we are all Ukraine.”

Thank you.

Mr. Chairperson, I request that this statement be attached to the journal of the day.



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**1359th Plenary Meeting**  
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**STATEMENT BY  
THE DELEGATION OF MOLDOVA**

Excellencies,

In his statement at the reinforced Permanent Council meeting two days ago, Moldova's Deputy Prime Minister Nicu Popescu stated,

I quote: "The Republic of Moldova joins the international community in condemning in the strongest possible terms the act of war that the Russian Federation has launched against Ukraine. This act represents not only an attack against Ukraine. It constitutes a breach of international law and the serious violation of the fundamental documents and principles on which this Organization and international order is based. While being a neutral country, we call on the Russian Federation to immediately stop the use of military force and to return to the path of diplomacy, dialogue and co-operation as the only tools for ensuring peace and stability on our continent" – end quote.

On Thursday evening, in fact right after the reinforced Permanent Council meeting ended, the Parliament of Moldova introduced the state of emergency. The airspace was also closed earlier that day.

Over the last 72 hours, more than 52,000 citizens of Ukraine entered the territory of Moldova from neighbouring Ukraine.

While 18,000 of them further left for Romania, more than 33,000 remained in Moldova, being fully assisted by Moldovan authorities, and welcomed to their homes by ordinary Moldovans. Apart from Ukrainians there are other nationalities too. They cannot easily depart due to closed air traffic, congestion at the border and visa issues. We are doing our best to cope with the situation, but we also need the assistance from our partners.

Following the announcement of the Secretary General in the reinforced Permanent Council meeting on 24 February 2022 of the decision on the temporary emergency evacuation of the field operations in Ukraine, the Moldovan authorities in co-operation with the Secretariat and the Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine (SMM) have offered all the necessary support to accommodate the SMM members on the territory of the Republic of Moldova. So far, more than 100 SMM vehicles have already entered Moldova and more than

150 SMM cars are expected to enter during today. We stand ready to provide further requested assistance in this sense.

In conclusion, I would like to once again stress that the Republic of Moldova reconfirms its long-standing and principled position of strong and unwavering support for the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders.

Thank you.



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Original: ITALIAN

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**1359th Plenary Meeting**  
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**STATEMENT BY  
THE DELEGATION OF SAN MARINO**

Mr. Chairperson,

The Republic of San Marino is following with growing apprehension the unfolding events in Ukraine.

We join the European Union in condemning this unjustified and unprovoked Russian aggression against Ukraine.

We bring to this venue the heartfelt and pressing appeal for peace which has been issuing at all times from city squares all over Europe. Stop the war at once!

Having recourse to war has always and will always, no matter what, be deplored by our Republic: history, including recent history, teaches us that war leaves in its wake a world that is worse than that which came before.

We issue our appeal again for this war to be concluded as soon as possible, and for all the parties to return to dialogue and find an agreed solution that ensures security for Ukraine, the whole European continent and the world.

Since we are in the twenty-first century, let us make use of the rich range of existing international mechanisms and organizations to resolve conflicts and misunderstandings. Let us encourage dialogue and promote negotiation.

In addition, we hope that the Ukrainian population will receive the humanitarian aid that it urgently needs. We are horrified by the suffering that these people are undergoing: the loss of so many lives, the continuous fear, the total lack of security.

In closing, we reiterate our support for the sovereignty, territorial integrity, unity and independence of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders.

I kindly request that this statement be attached to the journal of this meeting.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.



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**1359th Plenary Meeting**  
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**STATEMENT BY  
THE DELEGATION OF THE NETHERLANDS**

Mr. Chairperson,

Thank you for calling this special meeting of the Permanent Council. The Netherlands fully aligns itself with the statement made by the delegation of the European Union. We once again condemn in the strongest possible terms the Russian aggression against Ukraine.

The position of the Russian delegation in this room over the last weeks and months reminds me of an old Russian story:

“Алло, дорогой, только что по радио передали, что один водитель едет по встречке. Будь осторожнее. – Один??? Да их тут тысячи!”

Or to give you an English version:

“A man drives along the Moscow ring road. On the radio he hears an announcement of a ghost driver on the ring road, warning drivers to be extremely careful. The man turns to his wife and says “one ghost driver, I see thousands of them?”

Mr. Chairperson, this comparison is not meant to be funny. But I hope it will help the Russian delegation realize that they’re on the wrong side of history, that they can come up with all kind of fake reasons to justify their blatant aggression against another participating State, but nobody in this room as well as outside believes them.

Russia should immediately cease all hostilities and withdraw from Ukraine immediately.

We commend Ukraine for its bravery in resisting the aggression and deeply mourn the victims together with our Ukrainian friends. Today we are all Ukraine.

Mr. Chairperson,

I kindly ask for this statement to be attached to the journal of this meeting.



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**1359th Plenary Meeting**  
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**STATEMENT BY  
THE DELEGATION OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC**

The Czech Republic fully subscribes to the European Union statement. I would like to make a few remarks in my national capacity.

We are profoundly shocked that this kind of unprovoked aggression can happen in Europe today, under the pretence of genocide and denazification.

Russia has been intentionally spreading lies and disinformation, despite the fact that the Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine (SMM) has been in place over all the past eight years. It has reported on all serious violations, including those of human rights, and there were no such accusations in SMM reporting.

Russia's so-called arguments originate in the same manufacturing workshop as those we heard a few days ago, namely that Russia would never attack Ukraine.

This is an unprovoked, unjustified act of war by one of the most powerful military powers in the world, a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council, against an independent and sovereign State.

By this act, the current Russian leadership has lost any credit for exercising the role of guardian of the international security order in the United Nations.

We condemn in the strongest possible terms Russia's gross violation of international law and its undermining European and global security and stability.

We also condemn the involvement of Belarus in this aggression against Ukraine. We call on Belarus to abide by its international obligations that is not to offer its territory for an aggression against a third country.

Among all those horrible consequences of this conflict, there is one positive sign that despite serious restrictions on access to resources due to censorship, harassment of protesters, and media workers in Russia, we can witness including from social media, that Russia's people are against this war.

They are feeling ashamed and they are letting the world know that this is not their war.

This is an important signal of change for the future.

We follow with great admiration bravery, and determination of Ukrainian people, we stand fully behind them supporting them by all ways possible, including by welcoming Ukrainian refugees onto Czech soil.

The Czech Republic, together with the European Union, our allies, and other like-minded countries, is ready to reply with the strongest possible restrictive measures to convince the Russian Government to return to the path of law and negotiations and to cease its aggression towards an independent and sovereign State.

It is democracy, rule of law, and peaceful coexistence among nations which must prevail in the end.

I kindly ask that this statement be attached to the journal of the day.



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**1359th Plenary Meeting**  
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**STATEMENT BY  
THE DELEGATION OF PORTUGAL**

Mr. Chairperson,

Thank you for giving me the floor and let me thank you for convening this meeting.

I have to start with the expression of my condolences and our deepest sorrow and shared grief to all that are suffering the loss of their dearest ones due to the ongoing hideous aggression.

In addition to the statement by the European Union, I would like to add some remarks.

It is impossible to remain silent in face of the ongoing tragedy in Ukraine, which was caused by the military aggression of Russia, with the support of Belarus, against a peaceful neighbouring country. At this grave hour, Portugal reiterates its deep solidarity to Ukraine and the Ukrainian people. You are not, and will not be alone.

We call on the Russian Federation to immediately cease the hostilities. You must return your troops to Russia and give peace a chance.

Truth is often the first casualty of war. Therefore, and echoing the Representative on Freedom of the Media, protection of journalists and their work should remain a high priority. We recall that under international human rights and humanitarian laws, the States should respect and protect freedom of expression and treat media workers as civilians.

Through the current aggression, Russia is not addressing its security concerns, nor would there ever be room for a participating State to address any security issue on the basis of military aggression.

The OSCE was created to prevent conflicts and preserve peace and stability. Guided by the Helsinki spirit, we have here a platform and the instruments to address crisis situations and security concerns. The only and essential component lacking is political will.

Thank you.





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ENGLISH  
Original: FRENCH

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**1359th Plenary Meeting**  
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**STATEMENT BY  
THE DELEGATION OF MONACO**

Mr. Chairperson,

The Principality of Monaco remains extremely concerned about the deterioration of the situation in Ukraine.

Monaco attaches the greatest importance to respect for international law, for the Charter of the United Nations, and for the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of all Member States, and to the central principle of pacific settlement of disputes.

Monaco fully supports the efforts of the Chairmanship and all the OSCE structures aimed at ensuring that the military operations are halted as swiftly as possible and resuming the path of dialogue.

Monaco likewise supports the initiatives of the European Union to penalize Russia economically and financially.

Monaco recalls that, in accordance with its commitments vis-à-vis the European Union in financial matters, it will implement without delay any sanctions that may be adopted in that sphere.

Thank you.



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ENGLISH  
Original: ITALIAN

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**1359th Plenary Meeting**  
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**STATEMENT BY  
THE DELEGATION OF ITALY**

Mr. Chairperson,

Italy aligns itself fully with the statement by the European Union and wishes to add some observations in its national capacity.

Italy condemns in the strongest terms Russia's attack on Ukraine, which is unjustified and unjustifiable. We also condemn the collaboration of Belarus in the attack.

The numerous civilian casualties and the images of destruction that we are witnessing at present recall the darkest days of European history and fill our hearts with deep sadness. We wish to express our most heartfelt condolences to the families who today are mourning their dead. We share in their tragedy. This war was not wanted by the Ukrainian people, nor is it wanted by the Russian people, who in many cities are protesting courageously.

I should like to remind you that on Friday, the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, which is chaired by Italy, decided, by a very large majority of its members, to suspend the Russian Federation with immediate effect on account of its grave violations of the principles at the heart of that organization tasked with protecting human rights, the rule of law and fundamental freedoms.

Italy demands of Russia one more time that it immediately halt its military operation and withdraw its armed forces from Ukraine. Russia will be held accountable for any violations of international humanitarian law.

Italy reaffirms its unwavering support for the full sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders, and stands by the Ukrainian people and institutions at this dramatic time.

As a tangible token of our solidarity with the Ukrainian people, we are drawing up a 110 million euro package of financial assistance for humanitarian purposes and macro-financial stabilization. Other forms of assistance are currently also being considered.

Italy is working in close co-ordination with its partners in the European Union and its G7 and NATO allies so as to respond with unity and determination to the Russian attack. Through the recent adoption of stricter and more biting sanctions and restrictive measures, we are sending out a message of unity and solidarity with the cause of Ukraine and the defence of the European security architecture. We are prepared to adopt even harsher measures if these should not prove to be sufficient.

Italy reiterates its strong appreciation and support for the efforts undertaken by the Polish Chairmanship and the Secretary General to ensure that the Organization can act effectively in the face of an unprecedented challenge to the principles and common commitments that are at its basis.

We are proud of the work performed so far by the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine and of the contribution made by our monitors.

We express our full support for the Secretary General and those in charge of the Mission as they fulfil their duties at this difficult time to ensure the security and safety of all OSCE personnel in Ukraine. We are very grateful for the co-operation.

Mr. Chairperson,

We also wish to join in with all those who have already spoken by reaffirming that today “we stand with Ukraine”.

I formally request that this statement be attached to the journal of the meeting.



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**STATEMENT BY  
THE DELEGATION OF MALTA**

At the outset I would like to extend our thanks to the Polish Chairperson-in-Office for convening this special Permanent Council meeting.

Further to the statement delivered by the European Union, which we strongly align with, I would like to add some brief remarks in my national capacity.

Malta strongly condemns the escalation by the Russian Federation of the aggression of Ukraine, which has already resulted in several casualties and a significant displacement of people seeking refuge from the carnage.

We also strongly condemn the involvement of Belarus in this aggression against Ukraine and reiterate our call on it to refrain from such action and to abide by its international obligations.

We express our full solidarity with Ukraine in the face of this unjustified and blatant aggression. Our sincere condolences to the families of the victims. Malta is ready to dispatch humanitarian assistance to slightly alleviate the suffering unjustly imposed on the Ukrainian civilian population.

Mr. Chairperson,

Allow us to repeat what we have already stated. This aggression is not just a flagrant violation of international law.

It is also a clear attack on Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity, as well as a complete defiance of the numerous and repeated calls and attempts to de-escalate the crisis.

It is also an attack on each one of us and on the OSCE values and principles to which we have all committed.

Using cynical words to justify the invasion of Ukraine does not correspond to reality. This kind of disinformation must be debunked.

This aggression must stop. Unconditionally.

Might can never be right.

It is not too late for Russia to pull back its troops.

It is not too late for diplomacy to be given another chance and to prevail.

We stand with Ukraine. Today we are all Ukraine.

Mr. Chairperson, I kindly request to have the statement attached to the journal of the day.



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**1359th Plenary Meeting**  
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**STATEMENT BY  
THE DELEGATION OF BULGARIA**

Mr. Chairperson,  
Distinguished colleagues,

I thank the Polish Chairmanship for convening this special meeting in a very critical moment.

We fully align ourselves with the statement delivered on behalf of the European Union. In addition, I would like to add some remarks in my national capacity.

Like all the speakers before me, Bulgaria once again condemns in the strongest possible terms the ongoing Russian unprovoked and unjustified military aggression against Ukraine. Despite the efforts of the international community, Russia has refused to engage in diplomacy and has instead chosen the path of use of force. This precedent erodes the international order. We need to speak out to save the peaceful and civil manner of resolving disputes between States.

As the humanitarian situation is quickly deteriorating, we join the Polish Chairmanship and other delegations in speaking out loudly that civilians bear the brunt of the ongoing Russian military aggression. We remind Russia of the international humanitarian law and demand that these norms be upheld. We join others in expressing our deepest condolences to the people of Ukraine for the numerous victims and our thoughts are with their families.

We therefore feel essential to convey clear messages and urge Russia to return to the path of law and negotiations and to immediately cease its aggression against a sovereign, independent neighbouring country, and withdraw its forces from the Ukrainian territory.

Bulgaria reiterates its unwavering support for Ukraine's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity within its internationally recognized borders and territorial waters. We stand firmly by the people of Ukraine, including by the Bulgarian community there, as they face this unprecedented crisis. We also stand firm in our unwavering support to the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Georgia and Moldova.

We join the highest appreciation to the Secretary General and the Secretariat for their efforts to organize the evacuation of the international personnel of the Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine.

We are all Ukraine today.

Mr. Chairperson, I kindly ask that this statement be attached to the journal of today's meeting.

Thank you.



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**1359th Plenary Meeting**  
PC Journal No. 1359, Agenda item 1

**STATEMENT BY  
THE DELEGATION OF SLOVENIA**

Mr. Chairperson,

It is difficult to say something new, but I would like to reiterate and add some of our national remarks to what we have already expressed through the European Union statement.

Today's images from Ukraine seemed an unrealistic scenario a week ago. As the events in and around Ukraine are unfolding fast, so are growing our concerns, especially for civilian population. We strongly condemn the direct targeting of civilians and deplore the tragic loss of life, human suffering and destruction. We call on Russia to respect international humanitarian law and to allow unhindered humanitarian access and assistance to all persons in need, including the staff of Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine. "The Children of Ukraine need peace. Desperately. Now" (UNICEF).

We reiterate our call on Russia to immediately stop the aggression on Ukraine.

Responsibility for this act of war lies with Russia. They violate international law and disregard our shared principles. Not the people of Russia, but their leaders.

The logic of Putin turned out to be illogic. He was continuously opposing the Ukrainian membership in NATO because this would move the NATO threat directly to the Russian border. Now he is invading Ukraine and coming to the NATO border himself.

Standing in solidarity with Ukraine and its people Slovenia has already responded with humanitarian aid and in accordance with the request for international assistance for Ukraine in the field of civil protection, closed the airspace for any aircraft registered in Russian Federation, provided material assistance as well as arms and equipment and we will continue to help. For Ukrainians to defend themselves, and defend all of us. They need our help. And, they need it on time.

Putin has, on several occasions, denied the very existence of Ukrainian people. And, in these last days, more than ever, Ukrainians demonstrated what Putin doubted – Ukraine is a nation. They are now giving their lives to defend their country.



Slovenia continued to stand with Ukraine also in co-sponsoring the United Nations Security Council resolution. At the same time, we deplore the misuse of veto by Russian Federation, preventing the United Nations Security Council from upholding its responsibility to maintain international peace and security. Together with Ukraine and partners, we will work to put forward a General Assembly resolution to demand immediate withdrawal of Russian forces.

We reiterate our unwavering support for the independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders including autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol and will never accept territorial changes as a consequence of the use of force.

This must not and will not remain without consequences. We will support all measures that will be adopted as a response to this invasion.

Mr. Chairperson, I would like to ask you to attach this statement to the journal of the meeting.

Thank you.



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe  
Permanent Council**

PC.JOUR/1359  
27 February 2022  
Annex 26

Original: ENGLISH

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**1359th Plenary Meeting**  
PC Journal No. 1359, Agenda item 1

## **STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF IRELAND**

Ireland fully aligns itself with the statement made by the European Union, and would like to make the following remarks in our national capacity.

Ireland strongly condemns Russia's unjustified and unprovoked attack on Ukraine and we call on Russia to immediately cease its military operations. We are appalled by the scenes we are seeing in Ukraine and we express our condolences to the families of the victims.

Russia's action in Ukraine is a flagrant violation of the principles of international law, OSCE commitments and humanitarian norms. The consequences of this action – the loss of human life, injury, displacement and suffering in Ukraine – are absolutely unacceptable.

Mr. Chairperson, Ireland stands in solidarity with the people of Ukraine. Ireland's support for Ukraine's sovereignty, territorial integrity and right to choose its own foreign and security policy path remains unwavering.

As an expression of solidarity with the people of Ukraine, Ireland will provide 10 million euros in Irish aid support to address humanitarian needs. This support will be channelled through Ireland's humanitarian partners on the ground, including the United Nations and civil society organizations. Ireland is also providing medical supplies via the European Union's Civil Protection Mechanism.

Ireland wishes to emphasize the need for full respect for international humanitarian law and the importance of respect for the safety and security of humanitarian workers.

As is too often the case, this conflict will have a differential impact on women and girls who will face increased risk and vulnerability, especially those displaced. Their rights must be upheld at all times, and accountability for any violation of abuse of these rights guaranteed.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Chairperson-in-Office, the Secretary General and the Secretariat for their work to evacuate Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine personnel.

Finally, let me reiterate that we stand with Ukraine today.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. I would be grateful if this statement could be attached to the journal of the day.



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**1359th Plenary Meeting**  
PC Journal No. 1359, Agenda item 1

**STATEMENT BY  
THE DELEGATION OF ESTONIA**

Mr. Chairperson,

I thank the Chairperson for convening this extraordinary meeting at this critical time for all of us.

Estonia is fully aligned with the statement made on behalf of the European Union Member States. I also agree with the overwhelming condemnation of Russian for its acts by all the delegations spoken before me. In addition, I would like to stress some issues and add a few on our behalf.

Let me be clear, it is an aggression by Russia.

It is a war against a democratic nation and the whole humanity.

It is a breach of international law and the OSCE principles. We cannot throw the principles away even if Russia does.

It is a war against people and it brings along enormous deliberate human suffering and victims. The perpetrators of those crimes should be made accountable.

It is criminal act against Ukrainian and Russia's own people. This is an attack against democracy and free society, including in Russia.

I expect Russian colleagues to stop spreading lies we have heard for too long as a cover up for Russia's malign intentions. Russian statements are to be considered hate speech and a war propaganda.

I also expect Russian colleagues to report correctly back to Moscow the overwhelming condemnation their aggression and demands to stop their inhumane and unjustified military action against and in Ukraine.

Stop war start building peace by true diplomacy, and not at gun point and under the threat of military force.

We stand with Ukraine.



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe  
Permanent Council**

PC.JOUR/1359  
27 February 2022  
Annex 28

ENGLISH  
Original: SPANISH

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**1359th Plenary Meeting**  
PC Journal No. 1359, Agenda item 1

**STATEMENT BY  
THE DELEGATION OF SPAIN**

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

Spain aligns itself with each and every one of the words spoken by the European Union.

In addition, I wish to deliver a statement in my national capacity.

Spain wishes to reiterate unequivocally and emphatically its condemnation of the invasion of Ukraine by the armed forces of the Russian Federation. We are dealing with a completely unjustified aggression, unparalleled in its gravity, and a flagrant violation of international law that jeopardizes global security and stability. The Russian Federation has breached the letter and the spirit of the Charter of the United Nations, the Helsinki Final Act and all the OSCE commitments voluntarily undertaken by all the participating States, including the Russian Federation.

Spain demands that the Russian Federation immediately and unconditionally cease its aggression and withdraw its armed forces from the entire territory of Ukraine before the number of casualties increases further.

The Russian Federation continues to pay no heed to the international community and to imperil the lives of civilians – men, women and children – who are suffering from the consequences of this aggression.

Mr. Chairperson,

Spain upholds and will uphold the sovereignty and integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders. Accordingly, we wish to reaffirm once again our complete solidarity with the people and Government of Ukraine, whose suffering we deeply lament.

The use of force has always proved ineffective as a method for resolving disputes. The only valid path involves dialogue and diplomacy. Spain therefore wishes to reiterate once

again the importance of the OSCE as an appropriate forum for laying the foundations of European security.

Thank you.