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## THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION'S ONGOING AGGRESSION AGAINST UKRAINE

Delivered by Ambassador Anne-Kirsti Karlsen at the Permanent Council Vienna, 18 May 2023

Mr. Chair,

Norway is aligned with the statement made by the EU. Let me, however, add a few lines in my national capacity.

Yesterday, Norway celebrated its Constitution Day. The president of our Parliament, "Stortinget", had invited the Chairman of the Ukrainian Rada to greet the traditional children's parade. Among the children were many refugees, not least from Ukraine. It was a way for us to say that we share Ukraine's hope to celebrate its own independence in peace, an independence built on the values of democracy, sovereignty, and territorial integrity.

I reiterate Norway's strong support for the Ukrainian people. We will continue to support Ukraine's legitimate self-defense against the Russian aggression, which we will uphold for as long as it takes.

Thank you.

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