



**Permanent Mission of Ukraine**  
to the International Organizations in Vienna

**Statement by the Delegation of Ukraine  
in response to the Chairpersons of the Security Committee, the Economic and  
Environmental Committee, and the Human Dimension Committee**

As delivered by Viktoriya Kuvshynnykova, Chargée d'Affaires a.i,  
Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the International Organizations in Vienna,  
to the 1469<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Permanent Council

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**Madam Chairperson,**

We congratulate Ambassador of Ireland to the OSCE Anne-Marie Callan and Ambassador of Austria to the OSCE Florian Raunig with their reappointment as Chairpersons of the Human Dimension and the Economic and Environmental committees respectively.

We also congratulate Ambassador of Slovakia to the OSCE Peter Burian on assuming his duties as Chairperson of the Security Committee.

Dear ambassadors, since the launch of Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine on 24 February 2022 the OSCE has crossed the point of non-return to the "business as usual" in all three dimensions.

We reiterate the critical importance for the chairs of the committees and the OSCE Chairpersonship of Malta, as a guardian of the OSCE principles and commitments, to strictly adhere to this practice until the Russian Federation halts its aggression against Ukraine.

We have to ensure that the gross violations stemming from the Russian aggression continue to be duly addressed by this Organization in 2024.

**Dear Ambassador Burian,**

Ukraine welcomes that the high dynamic of work in the First Committee will be preserved in 2024, namely through prioritizing the threats posed by the criminal actions of the aggressor state in the temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine.

The Committee must address the consequences of the Russian military occupation of the territory of Ukraine and other States in violation of the fundamental Helsinki Final Act principles guiding relations between participating States.

We welcome your idea on the thematic debates of the Security Committee on the protection of critical infrastructure, related both to its physical and cyber aspects, as well as on addressing human trafficking and trafficking of cultural property in times of war.

The challenges related to cybersecurity, including countering disinformation and misinformation in cyberspace, must remain in the focus of our activities.

**Dear Ambassador Raunig,**

The Committee, that you are chairing, plays a highly important role in dealing with the most pressing threats that our region is facing right now. Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine affects our region in many different ways, but when it comes to the

economic and environmental consequences of this war, their magnitude has an even more far-reaching and long-lasting nature.

Accordingly, our delegation sees the Economic and Environmental Committee as the most suitable and natural place to address these enormous economic and environmental war-related threats and their impact on the entire OSCE region.

At this stage, while Russia continues its war, our discussions within the Committee on energy and food insecurity, environmental degradation and threats to climate actions, primarily contribute to raising participating States' awareness of the different aspects of the existing dangers that Russia creates.

Later, all the work done in the second dimension during the war will be a solid basis for the further development of the nexus between environment and security and shaping the OSCE's role in the prevention of such terrible repetitions in the future.

We are grateful for your consistent stance when it comes to keeping the EEC work relevant and count on your further leadership to this end.

**Dear Ambassador Callan,**

We welcome your resolute stance as Chairperson of the Third Committee to address the most pressing human rights and international humanitarian law issues stemming from the Russian war against Ukraine.

Our ultimate aim must remain to immediately stop Russia's genocidal actions in Ukraine and ensure that the aggressor State and its war criminals are held accountable. In this context we reiterate the importance of the continued monitoring and documentation of war crimes, crimes against humanity and other atrocities perpetrated by Russia, including in Crimea and other temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine.

Among the most pressing issues today are the challenges related to the tracing and return of deported Ukrainian children, the immediate and unconditional release of all political prisoners from the occupied Crimea and other TOT of Ukraine, as well as of all arbitrary detained Ukrainian civilians.

We need to make Russia abide by its obligations under IHL regarding the communication of the full lists of all POWs it detains, as well as ensure the provision of adequate medical assistance to all those political prisoners, civilian hostages and POWs in Russian captivity, and provide unhindered access to them for the ICRC and other independent international monitors.

These tasks are deeply enshrined in the OSCE human dimension commitments and form an integral part of the Ukrainian 10-point Peace Formula, designed to achieve a just and long-lasting peace.

The OSCE has to do more to help resolve these critical issues and thus make its significant contribution in protecting human rights and seeking justice.

Last but not least, we count on the Chairpersonship of Malta to ensure that the above-mentioned gross violations are duly addressed at all OSCE human dimension events in 2024. We welcome that the First SHDM next week will be dedicated to ensuring respect for the international humanitarian law and human rights law.

**Dear colleagues,**

Despite all Russia's actions to undermine OSCE's work we believe that the resilience, which we have already demonstrated, will help our Organization to withstand these challenging times.

The protection of the OSCE fundamentals in all three dimensions of security must remain at the heart of the committees' efforts in 2024.

You can count on Ukraine's support and active involvement in the committees' work throughout this another difficult year.

**Thank you, Madam Chairperson.**