

748th Forum for Security Co-operation  
Distributed at the request of Finland also on behalf of Austria and Turkey

Statement by Finland, also on behalf of Austria and Turkey, on Women, Peace and Security

We would like to thank Sweden for raising the important issue of Women, Peace and Security today. Indeed, the event organized by Sweden last week helped to raise awareness and showed once again the high level of engagement among participating States on the topic.

Turkey, Austria and Finland continue to strongly support and actively promote the comprehensive implementation of UN Security Council resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security and its follow-up resolutions. Particularly, the emphasis of the UN Security Council Resolution 2122 on the role of regional organizations in the implementation of 1325 and subsequent resolutions is a clear call for our increased efforts at the regional level.

We firmly believe that the OSCE as a regional security organization, also through the Forum for Security Co-operation, has its important role to play in implementing our common commitments related to Women, Peace and Security. As you all recall, Finland, Turkey and Austria together with Kazakhstan have worked towards the adoption of an OSCE-wide action plan to help our efforts in this direction. The proposed OSCE-Wide Action Plan aims to strengthen and offer guidance on the implementation of the commitments relating to Women, Peace and Security. Furthermore, we also seek to provide a platform for sharing best practices and lessons learnt in this regard.

The OSCE-Wide Action Plan builds on the commitments previously undertaken by the OSCE participating States, such as Ministerial Council decisions on the Elements of the Conflict Cycle as well as on Women in conflict prevention, crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation. Our purpose is to take these decisions forward by proposing measures to further their implementation. We believe this would allow us to enhance the OSCE focus on the role of women in matters of peace and security.

Austria, Turkey and Finland firmly believe that our collective efforts to enhance the implementation of commitments relating to Women, Peace and Security will make an important contribution to the work of the OSCE. We look forward to continuing this work also at the Forum for Security Co-operation with all participating States.