



PERMANENT DELEGATION
OF NORWAY TO THE OSCE

STATEMENT ON UKRAINE
As delivered by Ambassador Robert Kvile
to the Permanent Council,
Vienna, 18 September 2014

Mr Chairman,

I have aligned myself with the statement made by Italy on behalf of the European Union. In my national capacity, I would like to add a couple of points on human rights, democracy and good governance.

Without good governance, democratic institutions and respect for human rights there can be no progress towards a stable and prosperous society. We are pleased to note the Government of Ukraine's intention to continue their democratic reform efforts. We are prepared to contribute to this process, both bilaterally and through the OSCE and other international organizations.

We encourage the OSCE institutions and the Project Coordinator in Ukraine to continue working out good project proposals aimed at strengthening Ukrainian democracy. We also encourage Ukrainian authorities to make full use of the assistance the OSCE, and other international organizations, can offer.

Mr Chairman,

I have noted with interest the talks OSCE Senior Gender Adviser Ambassador Miroslava Beham held in Kyiv last week.

I agree with her that more can be done to enhance women's participation in Ukraine's political life. This is important to strengthen democracy. I hope an increased share of women parliamentarians will be an outcome of elections in October. I also agree with Ambassador Beham that Ukrainian women must engage, and be included, in reconciliation and peace efforts, including through the National Dialogue process. This would be vital for securing a lasting solution to the crisis in Ukraine.

Thank you, Mr Chairman