
Chairmanship: Romania**847th PLENARY MEETING OF THE FORUM**

1. Date: Wednesday, 8 March 2017

Opened: 10.05 a.m.

Suspended: 1 p.m.

Resumed: 3 p.m.

Closed: 4.25 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador C. Istrate
Mr. D. Şerban

Prior to taking up the agenda, the Chairperson delivered a statement marking International Women's Day, 8 March 2017.

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

Agenda item 1: SECURITY DIALOGUE: GENDER EQUALITY IN THE MILITARY

– *Major A. Grant, United States Air Force (USAF), Department of Defense*

– *Lieutenant E. Raluca Radu, Gender Counsellor, Human Resources Department, Ministry of Defence, Romania*

– *Mr. O. Fisher, Acting Head of the Human Rights Department, ODIHR*

– *Mr. M. Pesko, Director of the Conflict Prevention Centre, and Mr. P. Gasparini, Chief of the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) at Vienna*

Chairperson, Ms. A. Grant, Ms. E. Raluca Radu, Representative of the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, Director of the Conflict Prevention Centre, Mr. P. Gasparini (FSC.DEL/46/17/Rev.1 OSCE+), Malta-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia

and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland and Liechtenstein, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Andorra, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine, in alignment) (FSC.DEL/50/17), United Kingdom, Slovenia (also on behalf of Austria, Canada, Finland, Iceland, Italy, Kazakhstan, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, Sweden and Turkey) (Annex 1), United States of America, Finland (Annex 2), Norway, Spain (FSC.DEL/47/17 OSCE+), Holy See (FSC.DEL/48/17 OSCE+), Portugal, Germany, Canada, Slovenia, Russian Federation, FSC Co-ordinator on Matters Relating to UNSCR 1325 (Italy)

Agenda item 2: PRESENTATION BY THE LATVIAN CHAIR OF THE
 CLOSING SESSION OF THE 2017 ANNUAL
 IMPLEMENTATION ASSESSMENT MEETING

Chairperson, Latvia

Agenda item 3: GENERAL STATEMENTS

Situation in and around Ukraine: Ukraine (FSC.DEL/52/17), Malta-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Montenegro; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Georgia, Moldova, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (FSC.DEL/51/17/Rev.1), United States of America, Canada, Russian Federation (Annex 3)

Agenda item 4: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) *Peer Review Seminar on the OSCE Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security, held on 16 February 2017:* FSC Co-ordinator for the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security (Montenegro)
- (b) *Sixth Moscow Conference on International Security, to be held on 26 and 27 April 2017:* Russian Federation

4. Next meeting:

Wednesday, 15 March 2017, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Forum for Security Co-operation**

FSC.JOUR/853

8 March 2017

Annex 1

Original: ENGLISH

847th Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 853, Agenda item 1

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF SLOVENIA
(ALSO ON BEHALF OF AUSTRIA, CANADA, FINLAND, ICELAND,
ITALY, KAZAKHSTAN, THE UNITED KINGDOM, THE UNITED
STATES OF AMERICA, SWEDEN AND TURKEY)**

Mr. Chairperson,

I would like to address the Forum for Security Co-operation in my capacity as Chair of the OSCE MenEngage Network. This network was launched at the OSCE in 2012 and seeks to raise awareness of the important influence men can have in ending gender-based violence and standing up against all kinds of inequality. I am therefore pleased to be also speaking on behalf of the United Kingdom, Sweden and Iceland as previous OSCE MenEngage Chairmanships, and of Austria, Finland, Kazakhstan and Turkey as the initiators of the OSCE-Wide Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security. I am equally glad that Canada, Italy and the United States also support this statement.

Mr. Chairperson,

Today we are celebrating International Women's Day. This is a welcome opportunity to remind ourselves that gender inequality affects us all. Efforts to eradicate it should therefore come from all of us, since we all have a stake in this issue. In this sense, today's Security Dialogue is also a timely reminder of the relevance of the gender perspective to the OSCE's first dimension and of the need to work harder to mainstream it in the military aspects of our work. The Forum, like the rest of the Organization, should be engaged on this issue 365 days a year, in line with our collective commitments.

It is widely recognized that gender equality cannot be achieved without the meaningful involvement of men and boys. It is less well understood, however, that it benefits them just as much as it does women and girls. This is also true of the women, peace and security agenda. Real-life experience has shown that increasing the number of women in crisis management processes and peacekeeping missions leads to better quality in brokerage and mediation. It also ensures improved contacts with socially underprivileged groups in crisis areas and with local women.

While men can and need to act as advocates for the meaningful inclusion of women in the prevention, management and resolution of conflicts, it is also important that we strive to

integrate a gender perspective into all peace- and security-related work, at all stages and levels, so that the needs, views and talents of both women and men can be taken into account. This is the best way to challenge gender stereotypes and enhance the role of women in conflict prevention and peace processes. The importance of the FSC military advisers' contribution to these efforts therefore cannot be emphasized strongly enough.

In this context, it is worth recalling some of the initiatives already taken by the OSCE executive structures and participating States. A case in point is the inaugural OSCE National Action Plan (NAP) Academy organized last September in Vienna by the Gender Section. Another one is the conference on inclusive peace and security held under the German OSCE Chairmanship last November in Berlin. These events represented concrete actions in supporting the implementation of UNSCR 1325 and subsequent resolutions adopted by the UN Security Council, which together form the women, peace and security agenda. It is therefore important that the current Austrian OSCE Chairmanship has placed this watershed resolution, as well as gender equality and women's empowerment, high among its priorities.

Mr. Chairperson,

Before concluding, I would like to take this opportunity to call once again for the adoption of the OSCE-Wide Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security initiated by Austria, Finland, Kazakhstan and Turkey in 2013. The draft Action Plan does not seek to create new commitments for the OSCE participating States but, rather, to enhance our tools for implementing the commitments already existing in this field.

Finally, I would like to thank all the speakers of this very gender-balanced panel for their contributions, and especially Major Amy Grant and Lieutenant Elena Raluca Radu for their presentations. I would also like to commend the Romanian FSC Chairmanship and you personally, Ambassador Istrate, for convening today's Security Dialogue on this important topic and would encourage representatives of all future FSC Chairmanships to follow your example.

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



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Forum for Security Co-operation**

FSC.JOUR/853
8 March 2017
Annex 2

Original: ENGLISH

847th Plenary Meeting
FSC Journal No. 853, Agenda item 1

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF FINLAND

Mr. Chairperson,

In addition to the statement of the European Union, I would like to make a few comments in my national capacity.

United Nations Security Council resolution 1325 on women, peace and security urges all actors to increase the participation of women in all peace and security efforts and to incorporate a gender perspective into all such endeavours. While there has been a lot of international activity to promote this resolution, practical implementation remains a challenge. Active participation and leadership by women is crucial throughout all peace and security decision-making and activities, including disarmament and non-proliferation efforts, which at the moment suffer from a clear under-representation of women among experts. This is a major challenge for the whole OSCE area.

For these reasons we have warmly welcomed the Joint OSCE-UNODA Initiative on Women Scholarship for Peace, which is aimed at enhancing women's participation in all phases of multilateral disarmament issues.

Finland has also been glad to give financial support to this unique education-focused project, with a donation of 60,000 euros.

The project is a great example of concrete co-operation between the OSCE and the UN. We truly think that sharing the expertise of the two organizations can especially bring added value to disarmament efforts, which clearly need an inclusive approach to be sustainable and efficient.

I thank you for your attention and kindly ask that this statement be attached to the journal of the meeting.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Forum for Security Co-operation**

FSC.JOUR/853

8 March 2017

Annex 3

ENGLISH

Original: RUSSIAN

847th Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 853, Agenda item 3

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

Dear Mr. Chairperson,

In connection with the reference to Crimea in the statements by a number of delegations today, the delegation of the Russian Federation feels obliged to make the following observations.

The proclamation of independence of the Republic of Crimea and its incorporation into the Russian Federation was a legal expression of the right of the people of Crimea to self-determination at a time when Ukraine, with outside support, was in the throes of a *coup d'état*, with radical nationalist elements exerting a forceful influence on the decisions adopted in the country, which in turn resulted in the interests of the Ukrainian regions and Russian-speaking population being ignored.

The multi-ethnic population of Crimea took the corresponding decisions by a huge majority in a free and fair expression of its will. The status of the Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol as constituent entities of the Russian Federation is not open to reconsideration or discussion. Crimea is and will remain Russian. This is a fact that our partners will have to come to terms with.

This position is based on and fully complies with international law.

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