



PERMANENT DELEGATION OF NORWAY  
TO THE OSCE

**STATEMENT ON THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION'S ONGOING WAR OF  
AGGRESSION AGAINST UKRAINE**

As delivered by ambassador Ellen Svendsen at the Permanent Council,  
Vienna, 17 October 2024

Thank you, Madam Chair,

Norway remains steadfast in its commitment to supporting Ukraine in its pursuit of sovereignty, peace, and security, as outlined in the Ukraine Peace Formula. Russia's illegal, unprovoked, and ongoing war of aggression against Ukraine constitutes a flagrant violation of international law, including the UN Charter and the Helsinki Final Act.

We condemn Russia's escalating campaign of hybrid activities. These actions once again highlight Russia's reckless, irresponsible behavior in blatant disregard of the rules-based international order and international law.

Likewise, we strongly condemn Russia's relentless military actions, which frequently target civilian infrastructure, most notably the occupation of the Zaporizhzhya Nuclear Power Plant. This poses a grave and unacceptable risk to nuclear safety across Europe. Russia's deliberate and systematic attacks on Ukraine's energy infrastructure only add to this risk. Recent assaults have left millions of people without power. Norway will continue supporting Ukraine in their tireless repair of the damages.

The humanitarian crisis in Ukraine deepens with each passing day. Since the start of Russia's full-scale invasion, large numbers of civilians have been forcibly displaced from areas occupied by Russian forces. Many have been imprisoned. The conference co-organised by Ukraine, Canada and Norway and hosted by Canada at the end of this month, will focus on the human dimension of the 10-Point Peace Formula and the release and return home of all captured and deported Ukrainians.

We mourn the passing of the brave journalist Viktoriia Roshchyna in a Russian prison last week. We call upon the Russian authorities to conduct a prompt investigation into the circumstances around her death. Norway condemns the threats to the lives and safety of journalists and media workers resulting from Russia's aggression against Ukraine.

As recently reported by the OHCHR, for the first time, the term "widespread and systematic" has been used to describe the torture and illtreatment of Ukrainian prisoners of war by Russian forces, findings underlined by the recent OSCE's Moscow Mechanism report. We reiterate our call for the immediate release of all unlawfully detained prisoners, including the three SMM staff currently detained in Russia.

Norway calls upon all international actors to refrain from supporting this illegal war and to implement strong measures against the aggressor. True peace can only be achieved through adherence to international law, and Norway will remain unwavering in its support of Ukraine until its sovereignty and territorial integrity are fully restored.

It is for Ukraine to decide what are acceptable terms for a negotiated solution, and what the conditions are for engaging in talks with Russia. Russia started this war. Russia can end it at any moment.

I thank you.