



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

**Statement in response to the Report by the Head of the OSCE Mission to the Republic of Moldova Ambassador Kelly Keiderling**

As for delivery by the Delegation of Ukraine  
to the 1497<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Permanent Council,  
21 November 2024

**Madam Chairperson,**

The Delegation of Ukraine welcomes Ambassador Kelly Keiderling to the Permanent Council and thanks her for the report.

Taking this opportunity Ukraine would like to reiterate its full support to the Mission's mandated activities, unimpeded implementation of which is crucial for reaching the comprehensive, peaceful, and sustainable settlement of the Transdniestrian conflict, based on the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Moldova within its internationally recognized borders.

**The 5+2 negotiation format remains dysfunctional** as the aggressor-state – the Russian Federation has completely discredited itself as a guarantor and mediator within this format by the act of full-scale military aggression against a sovereign and independent state Ukraine – another guarantor and mediator.

At the same time all of us could observe **Russian massive attempts to destabilise the situation in the Republic of Moldova** before and during the presidential elections in this country. Such Russian malign activities, additionally threatening the already fragile security situation in the region, have once again demonstrated the aggressive nature of the war criminal regime in Moscow. They also speak volumes about Russian contribution to the conflict resolution process.

The Mission's efforts aimed at supporting the **dialogue between Chisinau and Tiraspol in the 1+1 format** and their commitment to solve problems in a peaceful manner were positive and even more important in the current challenging security environment than ever before.

We would like to underline again, that such contacts and Mission's facilitation **should be focused on gradually bringing the Transdniestrian conflict settlement process closer to the final goal** – full reintegration of the Republic of Moldova within its internationally recognised borders with a special status for the Transdniestrian Region.

The **compliance by Tiraspol with the relevant Moldovan legislation** remains crucial for both finding solutions to people's everyday problems and conflict resolution in the whole.

We believe that **the progress on this track should not and cannot be reached at the cost of constant concessions by Chisinau** on different issues of the conflict resolution agenda.

This applies to such practical issues as importation of medicines, harmonization of the foreign trade procedures, facilitation of access to the international road traffic for vehicles from Transdniestrian Region and so on.

For example, it is important for Tiraspol to finally start implementing previously reached agreements on **registration of the vehicles from Transdniestrian region according to the Moldovan legislation**. Further advocacy for allowing the neutral-design plates for the Transdniestrian vehicles, that were imported after 2018, doesn't bring the parties closer to the final resolution of this problem, but comforts Tiraspol.

**The Latin-script schools** continue suffering from the burden of high utility tariffs. The insistence of Tiraspol de-facto authorities on registering pupils of these schools in the Transdniestrian military conscription system contradicts to the very substance of the conflict resolution process. These aspects don't contribute to smooth operation of these schools at all.

Meanwhile, enjoying concessions, the de-facto authorities in Tiraspol openly promote their own goal – recognition of the so called “Transdniestrian Moldovan Republic”. It is clearly mentioned in the Mission's report, when it touches upon recent **adoption by Tiraspol of another alarming regulation, that prohibited the term “Transnistria”**.

Again and again, we receive new information about restrictions related to the freedom of movement and activities of journalists and representatives of civil society, illegal persecutions, and other **human rights violations in the Transdniestrian region of the Republic of Moldova**.

Mainly, all these violations are stemming from the so called “Transdniestrian strategy on countering extremism for the years 2022-2026”.

The regulation, mentioned above, seems to replenish Tiraspol's toolbox, used for violations of human rights and political persecution.

In this regard we once again call on the Mission to prioritize the human rights dimension within the wider efforts to support the conflict resolution process.

### **Madam Chairperson, Dear Colleagues,**

Ukraine once again takes this opportunity to underline the urgency of the issue of withdrawal of military units and munitions of the Moscow war criminal regime from the sovereign territory of the Republic of Moldova as Russia recommitted to do at the 1999 Istanbul Summit and as it was requested by Chisinau itself on numerous occasions.

The participating States should exert additional pressure on Russia to provide the OSCE Mission to Moldova with the possibility to monitor and report on the situation at the munition depot in Cobasna as it is envisaged by its mandate, the scope of which was expanded by the PC Decision N°329/99.

In terms of finding a peaceful and comprehensive solution to the Transdnestrian conflict, Ukraine has always been and will continue to be standing firmly on its position, based on full respect to sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Moldova within its internationally recognized borders with a special status for the Transdnestrian Region.

**Thank you, Madam Chairperson.**