



**PERMANENT DELEGATION
OF NORWAY TO THE OSCE**

**STATEMENT ON THE SEVENTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE END
OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR**

As delivered by Ambassador Robert Kvile
to the Permanent Council
Vienna, 7 May 2015

Mr Chairman,

I aligned myself with the statement made by Latvia on behalf of the European Union. I would like to add a point in my national capacity.

Mr Chairman,

Last week Mr Samuel Steinmann, a Norwegian Jew, passed away in his 92nd year. He was the last survivor of the group of 532 Norwegian Jews who 26 November 1942 were deported to the Nazi concentration camps. Only nine of them were ever to return to Norway.

It took Mr Steinmann many years before he was able and willing to tell his story from Auschwitz.

But when he finally did, his testimony became a powerful reminder of why we must never forget.

Samuel Steinmann's testimony became a powerful reminder of why we must continue to build an international framework that ensures respect for human rights and dignity for every citizen, regardless of sex, sexual orientation, religion, ethnicity or origin.

His testimony became a reminder of the interrelationship between human rights and security and stability.

Mr Chairman,

We honour all victims of the Second World War by working to ensure respect for human rights and for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of other nations.

Thank you