
Chairmanship: Romania**842nd PLENARY MEETING OF THE FORUM**

1. Date: Wednesday, 25 January 2017

Opened: 10.05 a.m.
Suspended: 1 p.m.
Resumed: 3.05 p.m.
Closed: 3.25 p.m.

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

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

Agenda item 1: SECURITY DIALOGUE: “CHALLENGES AND EXPECTATIONS: SOUTH EAST EUROPEAN SECURITY”
 - *Ms. Z. Basic, State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, Republic of Croatia*
 - *Ambassador S. Miculescu, Representative of the Secretary-General, United Nations Office in Belgrade*
 - *Ambassador H. Berk, Director of RACVIAC – Centre for Security Cooperation*

Chairperson, State Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of Croatia, Ambassador S. Miculescu, Ambassador H. Berk, 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 Liechtenstein, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Moldova and Ukraine, in alignment) (FSC.DEL/12/17), Canada, Turkey, Slovenia (Annex 1), United States of America, Serbia, Russian Federation, Ukraine (FSC.DEL/10/17), Montenegro

Agenda item 2: GENERAL STATEMENTS

- (a) *Request to use the OSCE Communications Network for efforts to address “security of and in the use of information and communication technologies (ICTs)”*: Chairperson, Malta-European Union, Hungary, Switzerland, United States of America, Russian Federation, Representative of the Conflict Prevention Centre
- (b) *Situation in and around Ukraine*: Ukraine (FSC.DEL/11/17), 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/13/17), Canada, United States of America, Russian Federation (Annex 2)

Agenda item 3: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) *Briefing on the seventy-third and seventy-fourth meetings of the OSCE Communications Group, held on 16 December 2016 and 19 January 2017 respectively*: Representative of the Conflict Prevention Centre, Chairperson

The FSC agreed on Friday, 15 December 2017 as the date for the 2017 annual exchange of military information.

- (b) *Announcement of the military exercise “Joint Viking”, to be conducted from 6 to 15 March 2017*: Norway

4. Next meeting:

Wednesday, 1 February 2017, at 9.30 a.m., in the Neuer Saal



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

FSC.JOUR/848
25 January 2017
Annex 1

Original: ENGLISH

842nd Plenary Meeting
FSC Journal No. 848, Agenda item 1

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF SLOVENIA

Mr. Chairperson,

I would like to welcome today's exchange of views on the current challenges and expectations in South East European security. It represents an important contribution to a better understanding of the situation in this important region, which also hosts a number of OSCE field presences. I would therefore like to thank all the presenters for their valuable contributions, especially the Director of the RACVIAC Centre for Security Cooperation.

There are two reasons for this. The first one is personal, since I know Ambassador Berk already. Let me therefore say, Haydar, that it is a real pleasure to see you again. Your professionalism and expertise in security affairs have always been an inspiration to me. The second reason is connected to the fact that Slovenia actively supports the Centre's work. We believe that RACVIAC makes a very important contribution to stability in the region, which is why we have for some time been contributing a member to its permanent staff and also ensuring the participation of our experts and lecturers in the seminars organized by RACVIAC. I am happy to report that we intend to continue with this kind of committed involvement in the future.

Mr. Chairperson,

I would also like to use this opportunity to highlight one persistent challenge to South East European security, namely, the scourge of landmines. More than two million of these "silent killers" and other pieces of unexploded ordnance still litter the region, with the contaminated area covering roughly 2,700 square kilometres. It was for this reason that 19 years ago Slovenia established the International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance, ITF. And it is also for this reason that we continue to support its activities. I am therefore pleased to inform you that only last Friday my Government signed yet another two-year agreement with the ITF, committing to contribute 740,000 euros for a number of projects, including continued support for the Fund's work in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Before concluding, Mr. Chairperson, I would like to address a question to Ambassador Berk 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 speaking out against all kinds of

inequality. Haydar, you mentioned in your presentation that RACVIAC is also active in integrating gender perspectives in the security sector. I would therefore like to ask you the following question: What, in your opinion, are the main challenges to gender mainstreaming in the region?

With this, Mr. Chairperson, I would like to thank you for giving me the floor and ask you to attach the statement to the journal of the meeting.

Thank you.



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

FSC.JOUR/848
25 January 2017
Annex 2

ENGLISH
Original: RUSSIAN

842nd Plenary Meeting
FSC Journal No. 848, Agenda item 2(b)

**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.