



Permanent Mission of Ukraine
to the International Organizations in Vienna

**Statement by the Delegation of Ukraine
in response to Margareta Cederfelt, President of the OSCE
Parliamentary Assembly**

As delivered by Ambassador Yevhenii Tsymbaliuk,
Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the International Organizations in Vienna,
to the 1351st meeting of the Permanent Council,
20 January 2022

Mr. Chairperson,

The Delegation of Ukraine warmly welcomes President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly Margareta Cederfelt back to the Permanent Council.

We appreciate, Madam Cederfelt, your strong leadership over the Assembly, which contributes to maintaining robust and efficient OSCE parliamentary body.

We thank you for sharing information on the recent Assembly's activities as well as its plans for the year 2022.

The Delegation of Ukraine fully supports your view, Madam President, regarding the need for the OSCE PA's strong involvement in addressing the most pertinent challenges in all three OSCE dimensions of security.

Ukraine stands ready to support the OSCE PA endeavors aimed at achieving peace and security in Europe based on the OSCE principles and commitments, enshrined in the Helsinki Final Act.

We view the adoption in July 2021 of the Assembly's Urgent Resolution on "The Destabilizing Military Build-Up by the Russian Federation Near Ukraine, in the Temporarily Occupied Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the City of Sevastopol, Ukraine, the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov" as yet another important contribution to the international efforts aimed at overcoming the Russian-Ukrainian conflict.

The OSCE PA, not being burdened by the consensus rule, and adopting annually resolutions on Russia's ongoing aggression against Ukraine and violation of fundamental OSCE principles, remains among leading European institutions exercising pressure on Russia to ensure its return to the tenets of international law.

Given the fact that the worst crisis in the European security triggered by Russia's armed aggression against Ukraine is entering in its 8th year, we call on the OSCE PA to place this issue high on its agenda in 2022.

This will significantly contribute to the peaceful resolution of the Russian-Ukrainian conflict with full respect to the norms of international law, which provide for the sovereignty, political independence, unity and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders.

Madam President,

We take this opportunity to reiterate the invitation to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly to join the Crimea Platform and contribute to the de-occupation of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol.

In order to advance international cooperation at parliamentary level within the Crimea Platform, the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine established an Inter-Parliamentary Coordination Council.

We strongly believe that active engagement of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly would significantly strengthen the implementation of this important initiative.

President Cederfelt,

We seize this opportunity to reiterate that the conduct of so-called “elections” in the temporarily occupied Crimea during the 17-19 September 2021 parliamentary elections in Russia was unlawful as they violated the legislation of Ukraine and norms of international law. The results of the above-mentioned “elections” are null and void.

On 5 October 2021, the restrictive measures were introduced in Ukraine against the persons who were registered as candidates and members of the relevant so-called “election commissions”, illegally operating in the temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine.

We expect the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly to take all necessary measures, in line with the UN GA Resolution 68/262 “Territorial Integrity of Ukraine”, to prevent the registration as participants or accreditation as members of delegation of the above-mentioned persons at any event under the OSCE auspices.

By way of concluding, let me once again reiterate Ukraine’s support for the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly activities and wish you, President Cederfelt, every success in your endeavors.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.