



## **STATEMENT BY THE PERMANENT MISSION OF TURKEY**

### **980<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Forum for Security Cooperation (23 June 2021)**

#### **Transparency in military exercises and activities**

Thank you Mr. Chair,

Transparency, particularly in military exercises and activities is the main pillar for mutual confidence as well as effective multilateralism.

Increasing military transparency and full implementation of our legal and political commitments are important to achieve a strengthened security community.

The Vienna Document, together with the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (CFE Treaty) and the Treaty on Open Skies, constitutes one of the main pillars of the European conventional security architecture.

Turkey attaches utmost importance to the full implementation of these Documents.

They are essential for the military and political stability, despite the recent challenges these Treaties face.

Our acquis has indeed provided us with military transparency, contributing to increased security across the OSCE area.

We must continue to build upon our collective acquis. We should not allow the erosion of and disrespect for our principles. The relevance and value of these instruments are intact. There is still a need to further strengthen the cooperation,

In this regard, we particularly very much value the Vienna Document and support its full and improved implementation, as well as its modernization.

A modernized and reinforced Vienna Document will definitely contribute to further military transparency and predictability, including military exercises.

Mr. Chair,

Taking this opportunity, we renew our call on all participating States to strictly adhere to their commitments and obligations under the Vienna Document, CFE and the OST.

Selective and arbitrary implementation harms the effectiveness of our instruments, reduces the transparency as well as trust, and increases risk.

Thank you.