



Permanent Mission of Ukraine
to the International
Organizations in Vienna

As delivered

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF UKRAINE

1054th FSC Plenary Meeting (13 September 2023)

Agenda Item 1, Opening Session

Madam Chairperson,

Ukraine has aligned itself with the statement by the European Union. In addition, I would like to make some points in my national capacity.

At the outset, allow me to convey our deepest gratitude to the Delegation of Bulgaria for chairing the Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC) in the second trimester of 2023 and welcome the Delegation of Canada to take over this responsible and challenging task in the third trimester.

We strongly believe that, with a view to restoring the rule of international law and recreating the efficiency of international institutions, Canada will continue to pay its utmost attention to the devastating effects of the brutal and unjustified war of aggression that the Russian Federation wages against Ukraine.

The Delegation of Ukraine welcomes the agenda of Security Dialogues presented by the Canadian Chairpersonship. It is well-balanced and diverse and we are looking forward to the upcoming discussions. It is important that the working programme for our Forum features a number of both traditional and innovative topics. Especially valuable is the intent of the Chairpersonship to guide our politico-military discussions towards related human dimension issues.

The issue of humanitarian mine action remains a priority for Ukraine because up to 30% of the territory of Ukraine is mined by Russian occupiers. The threat of mines and explosive remnants of war to the lives of our children is increasing. We commend Canada

for placing this issue at the centre of the discussion at our first Security Dialogue in this trimester.

We eagerly anticipate the Security Dialogue aimed at discussing the application of International Humanitarian Law in the OSCE area. This issue is highly relevant today against the backdrop of the violations of international humanitarian law committed by Russia during its aggressive war against Ukraine.

Mental health is an urgent problem for the whole world, but in full measure – for every Ukrainian against a backdrop of a full-scale war, terrorist crimes of the aggressor state and systematic terror of the civilian population. On 7 September, just a week ago, the Third Summit of Girst Ladies and Gentlemen took place in Kyiv with the topic: «Mental Health: Fragility and Resilience of the Future». We applaud the decision of the Canadian FSC Chairpersonship and the OSCE Chairpersonship of North Macedonia to choose this topic for the discussion at the joint FSC-PC meeting. We look forward to sharing our experiences in this field.

We also look forward to a lively and substantive discussion on information integrity and the weaponization of information. This is an innovative topic for the FSC. We believe that in the current security situation in the OSCE region, it deserves to be discussed from a politico-military point of view.

The UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security remains highly relevant and plays an important role in the OSCE area. We support the inclusion of this topic in the Security Dialogue agenda.

Esteemed colleagues,

Canada takes responsibility for the FSC Chairpersonship in an extremely challenging period for regional and international security.

As demonstrated by recent high-profile international events, in particular the Third Summit of the International Crimea Platform (23 August 2023) and the Jeddah Peace Formula meeting (05-06 August 2023), the world remains united in its desire to stop the Russian war against Ukraine and restore the proper functioning of the international order based on rules and laws.

We believe that the Canadian approach to the Chairpersonship will keep our Forum at the forefront of international peace efforts, and call on all OSCE participating States to remain firm in forcing the aggressor state to cease its brutal war.

We would like to wish you, Ambassador Kinnear, and your able team every success in guiding our work during the upcoming months. Please be assured of Ukraine's full support.

In conclusion, let me express our gratitude to Bosnia and Herzegovina, an outgoing Troika member, and welcome Cyprus as a new FSC Troika member.

Thank you, Madam Chairperson.