



**PERMANENT DELEGATION  
OF NORWAY TO THE OSCE**

**STATEMENT IN RESPONSE TO THE REPORT BY THE HEAD OF THE  
OSCE MISSION TO MOLDOVA**

As delivered by Ambassador Robert Kvile  
to the Permanent Council,  
Vienna, 29 May 2014

Mr Chairman,

I aligned myself with the statement made by Greece on behalf of the European Union, but would like to make a few additional points in my national capacity.

Mr Chairman,

In his talks with Moldovan political leaders in Chişinău on Monday, the Foreign Minister of Norway underlined his strong support to Moldova's continued reform process. The signing of the Association Agreement with the EU in June will be a major step on Moldova's courageous journey to stability, prosperity and rule of law. Such a development will benefit all, not only the Moldovans themselves, but also its neighbors and partners in the region, including Russia, the Foreign Minister stated.

He went on to say that the abolishment of visa requirements for Moldovan citizens who want to travel to the EU is an historic achievement which confirms that reforms pay off. The Foreign Minister announced that Norway has followed suit.

Mr Chairman,

In order to show support for Moldova at a critical time, the Norwegian Government has announced to double its allocation to project support in the country in 2014. In particular, legal reform and anti-corruption measures will be given priority at the request of the Government of Moldova. Only through a solid legal framework based on rule of law and respect for human rights can democracy thrive and a prosperous development be ensured.

Mr Chairman,

It is encouraging that the negotiations within the 5+2 format will resume next week. Norway strongly supports this process and the OSCE's continued efforts to resolve the conflict. It is crucial that the OSCE representation in Moldova is allowed to continue its work effectively.

Thank you, Mr Chairman