



**Delegation of Ukraine  
to the OSCE**

ENGLISH only

**Statement by Ukraine in connection with the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
of the start of the Great Patriotic War**

As for delivery by Ambassador Ihor Prokopchuk,  
Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the OSCE,  
at the Permanent Council,  
22 June 2011

Mr. Chairman,

Today is the Day of Mourning and Commemoration in Ukraine. Seventy years ago the greatest war of the 20<sup>th</sup> century broke the peaceful lives of our citizens and resulted in millions of victims.

Throughout the country the flags with black ribbons are flown at half-mast, at 10 o'clock local time the nation observed the minute of silence.

In this connection my Delegation would also like to draw the attention of the Permanent Council to the Address by the Heads of States of the Commonwealth of Independent States, dedicated to today's anniversary, which was also signed by the President of Ukraine. In particular, the leaders "called upon the international community to join efforts aimed at building and strengthening peace without wars, conflicts and violence on the basis of noble goals and principles of the UN Charter in the name of prosperity of all peoples and nations".

We strongly believe that the OSCE, with its unique mandate and comprehensive approach to security, can play its important role in achieving these goals.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.