



**PERMANENT DELEGATION
OF NORWAY TO THE OSCE**

STATEMENT ON THE
SENTENCING OF ESTON KOHVER

As delivered by Ambassador Robert Kvile
to the Permanent Council,
Vienna, 3 September 2015

Mr. Chairman,

In a press statement last month, Norway's Foreign Minister Børge Brende said that the sentencing of Eston Kohver to 15 years in prison is a deeply disturbing development. He reiterated the call for Eston Kohver's immediate release and safe return to Estonia.

In his statement, the Minister went on to underline that Kohver was abducted on Estonian territory and illegally detained in Russia, and that he was deprived of the right to a fair trial. There was no public hearing of the case, the Estonian consul was not allowed to be present at the hearings and Mr. Kohver did not have access to adequate legal aid, the Foreign Minister concluded.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman