



**Permanent Mission of Ukraine**  
to the International  
Organizations in Vienna

## **STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF UKRAINE**

**1074<sup>th</sup> FSC Plenary Meeting**  
(17 April 2024)

Agenda Item 1, Opening Session

Mr Chairperson,

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

I would like to start by expressing Ukraine's sincere appreciation to the Delegation of Cyprus for its dedicated Chairpersonship in the Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC) during the first trimester of this year. We also extend a warm welcome to Croatia as a new FSC Chairpersonship and wish you, Ambassador Horvatić, and your team every success in steering the work of our Forum.

We welcome the priorities of the Croatian Chairpersonship, which are particularly relevant in light of Russia's ongoing war of aggression against Ukraine. Our Forum remains an important platform for addressing this greatest contemporary challenge to international peace and security.

Ukraine welcomes Croatia's significant attention to humanitarian demining and women's contribution to peace and security. Given current security developments in the OSCE region, these topics keep their relevance, and we look forward to participating in future Security Dialogues to share our experience, particularly through the prism of Ukraine's efforts to repel ongoing Russian aggression.

We also welcome with interest the innovative topics introduced by Croatia, in particular the changing role of military education and emerging technologies in military data collection. Our Delegation will work on the possibility of contributing to the discussion of these issues.

Esteemed colleagues,

Croatia takes over the Chairpersonship amid Europe's gravest security crisis in its recent history. It is clear to all responsible participating States that this crisis stems from the actions of the Russian Federation, whose aggression extends well beyond Ukraine and poses a real threat to the very foundations of the world order based on rules and respect for international law.

Here, at the OSCE, we all see how the Russian Federation spares no effort to justify its violations of International Humanitarian Law, nuclear blackmail and unrestricted missile terror against civilians. The Russian Federation continues to misuse the OSCE as a tool to "normalise" the chaos it has created, promoting the idea of "the right of the strongest" and trying to convince the world that armed aggression and forced annexation of foreign territories are commonplace. Such actions are unacceptable, and it is in our collective interest to prevent them from continuing.

We firmly believe that the only way to maintain the effectiveness of our Organisation is to demonstrate that our common values and principles are not just theoretical concepts that exist only on paper but are real guidelines for participating States. The FSC should not be a place for Russian propaganda narratives, but a tool for isolating the aggressor and demonstrating that there is no place for aggression in a civilised world governed by international law.

At this critical juncture, the collective position of participating States to uphold OSCE principles and commitments is of paramount importance.

We thank our partners for helping the Ukrainian people in defending the sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of our State. Political support and practical military assistance, in particular aimed at strengthening Ukraine's air defence capabilities, are more crucial than ever, since the aggressor-state cannot be convinced, but only forced to peace. The broad international solidarity shown in response to the egregious act of armed aggression remains fundamental to our joint efforts to restore peace.

In conclusion, allow me once again to congratulate Croatia on assuming the FSC Chairpersonship and assure of Ukraine's readiness for constructive cooperation. We also express

our deep gratitude to the outgoing Troika member, Canada, and warmly welcome Denmark as a new Troika member.

Thank you, Mr Chairperson.