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**STATEMENT BY
HER EXCELLENCY MS. DOMINIQUE HASLER, MINISTER FOR FOREIGN
AFFAIRS, EDUCATION AND SPORT OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF
LIECHTENSTEIN, AT THE THIRTIETH MEETING OF THE
OSCE MINISTERIAL COUNCIL**

Skopje, 30 November and 1 December 2023

Mr. Chairperson,
Dear colleagues,

I should like to begin by expressing my sincere thanks to North Macedonia for its outstanding leadership in difficult times and for its hospitality here in Skopje.

The past year has been characterized by major political and institutional challenges for the OSCE. However, with its broad membership and its comprehensive concept of security based on the Helsinki Decalogue, the OSCE remains a unique and inclusive platform for European security issues.

This also includes new security challenges, such as those related to environmental risks and to divisions in our societies, which are fuelled by social media.

And yes, “it’s about people”, also in the case of the OSCE itself: my sincere thanks therefore go to the OSCE Secretary General and the heads of the three autonomous institutions. Together with their teams and the staff in the field operations, they too have made an immeasurably important contribution in the past difficult year. This deserves the greatest respect. The OSCE can continue to count on Liechtenstein’s full support.

Mr. Chairperson,

We are all called upon to ensure that the OSCE can function by providing it with the means to do so. This requires a willingness to make difficult compromises and to set aside individual interests in favour of collective ones and co-operative solutions.

And perhaps it would also be helpful if all participating States were to reflect on the added value that the Organization can bring to each individual State and to security in the OSCE area as a whole.

This is also relevant for institutional issues. We very much welcome the fact that agreement has been reached on Malta as the 2024 Chairmanship. At the same time, I should like to emphasize the need to urgently find a solution for the Organization’s four leadership positions.

Mr. Chairperson,

In addition to the ongoing Russian war of aggression in Ukraine, which Liechtenstein condemns in the strongest possible terms, we are concerned about developments in Nagorno-Karabakh and the tensions in the Balkans, particularly in Kosovo. We are also concerned about stability in Georgia and the Republic of Moldova.

Mr. Chairperson,

Two weeks ago, Liechtenstein took over the Presidency of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe. The common goal of the Council of Europe and the OSCE is to contribute to stability and security on the basis of the shared values of democracy, human rights and the rule of law. We are convinced that, especially in times like these, it is essential to stand up for these values. This conviction also underpins our commitment to the OSCE, which we are strongly resolved to continue.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.