



**UDENRIGSMINISTERIET**

**Statement by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Denmark at the Reinforced meeting of the OSCE Permanent Council on 24. February 2025**

*Agenda item 1: The Russian Federation's ongoing aggression against Ukraine*

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*As delivered*

Mr. Chair,

Russia's illegal war of aggression imposes terrible costs on Ukraine, every day. Lives lost, houses and hospitals destroyed, childhoods stolen.

Shedding light on these costs has been one of the important contributions of the OSCE over the past three years.

Including several Moscow Mechanism reports and ODIHR's Human Rights monitoring in Ukraine.

Through their reporting we have learned in disturbing details how Russia conducts its war of aggression in Ukraine. Indiscriminate attacks on civilians. Clear patterns of serious violations of international humanitarian law. Large scale transfers of Ukrainian children to Russia, targeted re-education of these children. Arbitrary detention of Ukrainian civilians.

I am repeating these findings to remind us that accountability for Russia's crimes remains central to securing justice for Ukrainian victims and restoring respect for international law.

Denmark will continue to support the OSCE's efforts.

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Mr. Chair,

As we face what promises to be yet another difficult year for Ukraine, we are reminded that Russia's illegal war carries risks and costs far beyond Ukraine.

This illegal, unprovoked and unjustified act has undermined the European security architecture and challenged the very foundation of international law.

Despite claiming to be open to ending the war, Russia has only made unrealistic demands for peace. An offer to Moscow that would reward Russia's aggressions would be a disaster for

Ukraine, but also a disaster for transatlantic and European security. It would invite further acts of aggression by Russia or other actors.

Ukraine is fighting for all of Europe. And we must do all we can to support them.

Our objective remains to place Ukraine in a position of strength. Not to prolong the fighting - but in order to end the war. To enable Ukraine to secure a just and lasting peace at the negotiation table. And to deter Russia from future aggression. Denmark stands firmly behind Ukraine and we will continue to do so.

Thank you, Mr. Chair