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**STATEMENT BY
H.E. MS. DOMINIQUE HASLER, MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
EDUCATION AND SPORT OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN,
AT THE THIRTY-FIRST MEETING OF THE
OSCE MINISTERIAL COUNCIL**

Malta, 5 December 2024

Mr. Chairperson,
Dear colleagues,

I should like to express my sincere gratitude to you, Mr. Chairperson, and your team for the excellent leadership of our Organization and for the hospitality here in Malta. Whether in the United Nations Security Council or in the OSCE, Malta's strong commitment to multilateralism and to upholding the fundamental principles of our organizations deserves high praise.

In particular, we welcome the important agreement brokered by the Maltese Chairmanship on the appointment of the OSCE's four leadership positions. We also support the adoption of a decision as soon as possible regarding the Chairmanships for 2026 and 2027. We thank Cyprus for its willingness to assume the 2027 Chairmanship.

Mr. Chairperson,

The OSCE continues to face growing political and institutional challenges. The main reason for this is the Russian war of aggression in Ukraine, which has been going on for almost three years now. This war has reached an alarming level of escalation with unacceptable humanitarian consequences and is condemned in the strongest possible terms by Liechtenstein. We also emphatically call for the release of the three OSCE officials Vadym Golda, Maxim Petrov and Dmytro Shabanov. We will continue our support for Ukraine and our commitment to the issue of accountability.

Mr. Chairperson,

The war in Ukraine and geopolitical developments have further weakened multilateralism. Particularly in the OSCE, the pursuit of national interests at the expense of the mechanisms for collective security that have been developed and proven over decades is increasingly coming to the fore. Liechtenstein notes with great concern the shift away from a multilateral world order towards a multipolar world, in which international law is replaced by power politics. This applies to our own security and to the security, solidarity and co-operation of the international community as a whole.

The OSCE is geared towards comprehensive security and occupies a special place among the international organizations, particularly for those States that do not belong to any security alliance.

Liechtenstein will continue to work hard to ensure compliance with international law, for multilateralism and for a strong OSCE.

Mr. Chairperson,

Geopolitical developments, rapid technological progress and also the COVID-19 pandemic have created a sense of insecurity in sections of our societies. Trust in the State order, in democracy and in the multilateral system must be rebuilt.

This is another reason why we are grateful to Finland for placing the topic of resilience at the forefront of its upcoming Chairmanship. Fifty years ago, Finland demonstrated a keen sense for progress and forward-looking solutions with the Helsinki process. In this spirit, I should like to assure the Finnish Chairmanship that it can count on Liechtenstein's support.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.