



EUROPEAN UNION

OSCE Permanent Council No. 1512 Vienna, 13 March 2025

EU Statement in response to the Presentations by the Chairs of the Three Committees

1. The EU welcomes and thanks the Chairs for their presentations and for ensuring a collaborative approach among the Committees, based on joint commitments and principles, and promoting the OSCE's comprehensive concept of security.
2. We congratulate Ambassador Neil Holland and his team on assuming the Chairpersonship of the Security Committee. We attach great importance to the Security Committee as a platform for discussing non-military security issues and advancing OSCE commitments related to transnational threats. The first meeting provided an excellent opportunity to exchange on the security landscape in the OSCE region and to highlight topics for the Committee's work in 2025. We commend the Chair's commitment to focus the work of the Committee on addressing the impact of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine across the first dimension, notably with regard to hybrid threats. The EU fully supports your intention to promote interactive discussions and your commitment to ensure the full, equal and meaningful participation of female experts in the first dimension, as well as the involvement of stakeholders from civil society, academia and field operations, including representatives from Ukraine.
3. We thank Ambassador Melita Župevc and her team for taking on the Economic and Environmental Committee Chair in 2025. We reiterate our support for maintaining the balance between economic and environmental topics, while also including relevant stakeholders, such as OSCE field operations, civil society, academia and the private sector in our discussions. We applaud the focus on topics such as the

water-food-energy nexus, good governance, water management, innovation, ecosystem integrity, climate resilience and sustainable economic transformation. We stress the importance of linking these topics to stability and security, recognising its relevance to the OSCE as a platform for comprehensive discussions on security across the three dimensions. We moreover stress the importance of addressing the risks stemming from the economic and environmental impacts of Russia's war of aggression, including the environmental degradation and damage to critical infrastructure.

4. Ambassador Olsson Vrang, we congratulate you and your team on taking over the Chairpersonship of the Human Dimension Committee. We commend your broad selection of topics, including combating torture; tolerance and non-discrimination; freedom of peaceful assembly and association; human rights defenders; democratic elections; media freedom and the safety of journalists; gender equality, IHL and IHRL. We highly value your dedication to keeping the spotlight on Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, and its impact on the human rights situation in the region. We appreciate the focus on an inclusive approach, including with regards to civil society. We agree that discussions in the Committee should contribute to identifying gaps in terms of implementation, as well as policy recommendations and good examples. We reiterate that the annual HDIM in Warsaw remains the most important platform in the OSCE region for civil society and human rights defenders to speak and hold our governments accountable for the implementation of our OSCE commitments. It is a responsibility of all participating States to reach consensus on its organisation.
5. We look forward to working closely with the incoming Chairs and their teams under the Finnish Chairpersonship.

Albania, Andorra, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Republic of Moldova, San Marino and Ukraine align themselves with this statement.