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PC.DEL/1026/24 5 September 2024

ENGLISH only

Buantoscaireacht na hÉireann don Eagraíocht um Shlándáil agus Comhar san Eoraip Permanent Mission of Ireland to the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe

## Statement by Ireland at the 1487<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Permanent Council The Russian Federation's ongoing aggression against Ukraine

## 5 September 2024

Madam Chair,

Ireland fully aligns with the statement delivered by the European Union. I would like to add the following remarks in my national capacity.

Yesterday, Ireland's Prime Minister, Taoiseach Simon Harris, visited Kyiv to meet with President Zelenskyy and Prime Minister Shmyhal and to witness first-hand the devastating impact of Russia's war of aggression on local communities in Ukraine.

The Taoiseach reaffirmed Ireland's unwavering support for the people of Ukraine.

On a day when a Russian air attack killed seven people, including three children, in Lviv, the Taoiseach stated that Ireland would never accept a world in which Russia's attacks on civilians become normalised.

It is in this spirit of solidarity that the Taoiseach and President Zelenskyy signed the bilateral "Agreement on Support for Ukraine and on Cooperation between Ireland and Ukraine."

Under this 10-year agreement, Ireland will continue to provide long-term security and financial support, as well as humanitarian assistance to Ukraine, as defends its sovereignty and territorial integrity against Russia's invasion.

The agreement recalls that the future of Ukraine and its people lies within the EU.

Ukraine's security is an integral part of European security and Ukraine has the right choose its own foreign and security policy path, and its own security arrangements.

Ireland and Ukraine reaffirmed in this agreement our strong commitment to the OSCE and called for Russia's immediate return to respecting the OSCE's principles.

This week, Ireland also announced an additional €36 million package of support for Ukraine and its neighbours, bringing Ireland's total financial support to Ukraine to over €380 million.



Ireland's support to Ukraine in 2024 prioritises prevention and response to sexual and gender-based violence, support for maternity services and rebuilding of homes for people forced to flee conflict.

Russia's practice of deporting and forcibly transferring Ukrainian children was extensively documented by the OSCE Moscow Mechanism report in May 2023.

In this regard, Ireland's financial support to Ukraine includes €2 million for the reintegration of children forcibly deported to Russia and now returned.

Ireland will maintain its steadfast support to Ukraine and renews its call on the Russian Federation to uphold all of its obligations under international law and the Helsinki Final Act and to immediately release all those who have been illegally detained, including the three OSCE SMM personnel.

Thank you, Madam Chair.