



PERMANENT DELEGATION OF NORWAY
TO THE OSCE

**STATEMENT ON THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION'S ONGOING
AGGRESSION AGAINST UKRAINE**

As delivered by ambassador Ellen Svendsen to the Permanent Council, Vienna, 12
December 2024

Madame Chair,

Allow me to echo the sentiments of my European colleagues in expressing our deep concern that the OSCE Ministerial Council, once again was overshadowed by Russian actions that flagrantly violate international law and undermine the principles we are here to uphold.

Russia is escalating its reckless, illegal war of aggression against Ukraine, violating every principle of the Helsinki Final Act and the UN Charter. No one is fooled by Russia's claims or propaganda. The truth is simple: sovereign states must not invade, occupy, or terrorize others. Ukraine's resistance is heroic, defending not just its own freedom, but the very principles we all share.

We stand with Ukraine as it faces relentless, deliberate attacks on civilians, including children. With Russia resorting to cooperation with regimes like North Korea, we see the war's growing brutality. The Kremlin's disregard for human life is staggering, and accountability for these crimes is essential.

Nations across Europe and beyond are stepping up: through critical support we ensure that Ukraine can continue to defend itself. Russia's use of mines and unexploded ordnance leaves innocent people at risk for decades, and we will intensify our efforts to clear them.

As we approach the 50th anniversary of the Helsinki principles, we must prepare for the post-war era. Ukraine shall win this war. We stand united in our support, and committed to shaping a safer, more just future for the Ukrainian people.

Thank you.