



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe  
Permanent Council**

PC.DEC/1504  
19 December 2024

Original: ENGLISH

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**1503rd Plenary Meeting**  
PC Journal No. 1503, Agenda item 12

**DECISION No. 1504  
EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE OF THE  
OSCE MISSION TO MOLDOVA**

The Permanent Council,

Decides to extend the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Moldova until 30 June 2025.

PC.DEC/1504  
19 December 2024  
Attachment 1

Original: ENGLISH

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER  
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE  
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND  
CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE**

By the delegation of Moldova:

“In connection with the Permanent Council decision on the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Moldova just adopted, the delegation of the Republic of Moldova would like to make the following interpretative statement under paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the OSCE Rules of Procedure:

The Republic of Moldova deeply regrets that it was not possible to extend again only for the OSCE Mission to Moldova the mandate for one year due to the disagreement of one participating State.

OSCE Ministerial Council Decision No. 18/06 states that the mandate for field operations should be of a one-year duration when the participating State hosting the field operation concurs. And it should not be for any other OSCE participating State to impose an alternative period.

Moldova, as the host country, reaffirms its strong support for the Mission’s work and values its critical contribution to the conflict mediation.

At the same time, we would like to underline yet again our concerns that six-month extensions do not allow proper planning of the Mission’s activities and continue to represent a heavy administrative burden. We do not see any reason to hinder the functioning of the Mission by reducing the duration of its legitimate mandate.

We call on the Russian Federation to reassess/review its position with regards to the renewal of the Mission’s mandate in the future, in order to avoid further constraints and bring the Mission’s mandate in line with the yearly OSCE cycle, in accordance with the relevant Ministerial Council decision.

We request that this statement be attached to the decision.”

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER  
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The delegation of Hungary, in its capacity as EU Presidency, passed the floor to the representative of the European Union, who delivered the following statement:

“In connection with the Permanent Council decision on the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Moldova, the European Union would like to make the following interpretative statement under the relevant provisions of the Rules of Procedure:

The European Union deeply deplores once again the isolated and unsubstantiated position of the Russian Federation to arbitrarily limit the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Moldova to six months instead of one year, which is the rule we collectively subscribed to and reconfirmed in 2006 at the ministerial level. Indeed, the Brussels OSCE Ministerial Council Decision No. 18/06 reaffirmed unequivocally that the mandate for field operations should be of a one-year duration when the participating State hosting the field operation concurs. We continue to believe that a six-month extension represents a very heavy administrative burden for the Mission and we do not see any reason to render the functioning of the Mission even more challenging in the current very difficult circumstances, when the Republic of Moldova continues to face the consequences of Russia’s ongoing war of aggression against Ukraine.

We remind the Russian Federation of its commitment, made at the 1999 Istanbul OSCE Summit, to completely and unconditionally withdraw its military forces and equipment stationed on the territory of the Republic of Moldova without its consent. We also recall the international commitments of the Russian Federation to destroy the ammunition stockpiles at the Cobasna depot. The OSCE has the mandate and means to ensure the safety, transparency, and international verification of such operations.

We commend the Head of Mission and her dedicated team for the outstanding work they carry out to implement the mandate of the Mission, which has continued in spite of the present challenging circumstances. We recall our strong support for the Mission’s work in facilitating engagement and regular dialogue between the sides in the context of achieving a lasting comprehensive political settlement of the Transnistrian conflict, based on respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Moldova within its internationally recognized borders with a special status for Transnistria.

It is essential that the Mission continues to monitor the situation in the Security Zone and on the border with Ukraine, reporting promptly on any incidents occurring there. We

reiterate our appeal for strict adherence to the rules established by the Joint Control Commission in the Security Zone and emphasize the importance of respecting the Mission's mandate and ensuring the free movement of its members.

Having in mind the importance of allowing the OSCE Mission to Moldova to continue its invaluable work, and taking into account the position of the host country, the European Union has decided to join the consensus to extend the mandate by six months.

We call on Russia to reconsider its position in order to allow for a resumption of a one-year extension of the Mission's mandate, as per the established rule it agreed upon at ministerial level during the Ministerial Council meeting in Brussels in 2006.

We request that this interpretative statement be attached to the decision and to the journal of today's meeting.

The candidate countries North Macedonia<sup>1</sup>, Montenegro<sup>1</sup>, Serbia<sup>1</sup>, Albania<sup>1</sup>, Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova, Bosnia and Herzegovina<sup>1</sup>, and Georgia, the EFTA countries Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area, as well as Andorra and San Marino align themselves with this statement.”

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1 North Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.

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19 December 2024  
Attachment 3

Original: ENGLISH

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER  
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE  
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND  
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By the delegation of Canada:

“Madam Chairperson,

Regarding the decision of the Permanent Council on the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Moldova, Canada would like to make the following interpretative statement under paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the OSCE Rules of Procedure:

Canada regrets that one participating State has blocked consensus on extending the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Moldova for the regular one-year term. We have joined consensus on this irregular six-month extension, but are disappointed the Russian Federation has once again groundlessly and recklessly prioritized its narrow national interest to undermine the efficiency and effectiveness of our Organization, and broader European security.

Canada continues to strongly support the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Moldova. We sincerely hope the Russian Federation does not plan to continue this disruptive path with regards to the renewal of the Mission’s mandate and that the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Moldova will be renewed for the regular one-year term in June 2025. This would not only be in line with Ministerial Council Decision No. 18/06 but also with the wishes of the host country.

Canada greatly values the role the OSCE field mission plays to support Moldova in addressing the challenges and security risks it faces.

We request that this statement be attached to the decision.

Thank you.”

PC.DEC/1504  
19 December 2024  
Attachment 4

Original: ENGLISH

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER  
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE  
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND  
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By the delegation of the United Kingdom:

“Thank you, Madam Chairperson.

In connection with the Permanent Council decision just adopted on the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Moldova, the United Kingdom would like to make the following interpretative statement under paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the OSCE Rules of Procedure.

We are deeply disappointed that the Russian Federation today continues not to allow the full 12-month extension that Moldova has called for and that the Mission, its staff and the people of Moldova deserve. This disruptive tactic is part of a pattern of behaviour in which Russia continues to make it difficult for the OSCE to carry out the work it is mandated to do. We call on the Russian Federation to cease playing games with the Mission’s mandate, reconsider its position and return to full 12-month mandate renewals.

Madam Chairperson, I would like to request that this statement be attached to the decision as adopted and to the journal of the day.”

PC.DEC/1504  
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Attachment 5

ENGLISH  
Original: RUSSIAN

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER  
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE  
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND  
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By the delegation of the Russian Federation:

“Having joined the consensus regarding the Permanent Council decision on the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Moldova until 30 June 2025, the Russian Federation notes the following.

Cause for deep concern is given by the ongoing stagnation in the political process for a Transdnestrian settlement, the absence of efforts to make use of the tried-and-tested negotiation mechanisms, primarily the key ‘5+2’ format, and the deteriorating human rights situation in the Republic of Moldova, in particular with regard to freedom of the media and guaranteeing the rights of national minorities.

We expect the Mission to closely monitor the Republic of Moldova’s compliance with its OSCE commitments, document its findings in regular reports, work with the Moldovan authorities in a targeted manner to put things right, and step up its efforts to revitalize the political process for a Transdnestrian settlement.

The Russian Federation takes the position that without tangible progress in these areas the Mission’s mandate will be regarded as unfulfilled, and the field operation will have to be wound up.

I request that this statement be attached to the adopted decision and included in the journal of today’s meeting of the Permanent Council.”

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19 December 2024  
Attachment 6

Original: ENGLISH

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER  
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE  
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND  
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By the delegation of the United States of America:

“Thank you, Madam Chairperson.

In connection with the Permanent Council decision just adopted on the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Moldova, the United States makes the following interpretative statement under paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the OSCE Rules of Procedure.

The United States values the work of the OSCE Mission to Moldova. Although the formal settlement process is on hold, the Mission continues to play a key role in facilitating dialogue between the sides and in helping Moldova strengthen its democracy in line with its chosen European path.

We again express our disappointment that the Russian delegation was unable to join consensus on extending the mandate of the Mission for a full year. The United States recalls Ministerial Council Decision No. 18/06 on further strengthening the effectiveness of OSCE executive structures and reminds Russia of its commitment to that decision and to the principle that ‘when the participating State hosting a field operation concurs, the mandate for field operations should be of a one year duration.’

Russia’s refusal to respect that commitment can be seen only as a deliberate attempt to undermine the work of this Organization and its field missions.

Russia’s procedural theatrics will not draw our attention from its unlawful use of force against, and blatant violation of, the territorial integrity of Ukraine and Georgia, which violate international law and directly contravene Helsinki Final Act principles. Russia’s continued stationing of forces in Moldova without Moldova’s consent is a further contravention of its commitments.

Sadly, the people of Moldova and the Mission’s staff bear the brunt of Russia’s failure to agree to a full year mandate extension. The United States rejects any notion this six-month extension will set a precedent for future mandates. Per Ministerial Council Decision No. 18/06, the Mission’s mandate should be brought in line with the yearly OSCE cycle.



The OSCE Mission to Moldova's work to facilitate a lasting and comprehensive settlement process is indispensable. We support Moldova's sovereignty and territorial integrity within its internationally recognized borders and a comprehensive settlement of the Transnistria conflict with a special status for Transnistria. Our support for Moldova on its chosen path towards rule of law reform and further European integration is unwavering.

Madam Chairperson, I request that this interpretative statement be attached to the decision and to the journal of the day.

Thank you, Madam Chairperson.”

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Attachment 7

Original: ENGLISH

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER  
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE  
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND  
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By the delegation of Switzerland:

“Madam Chairperson,

In connection with the Permanent Council decision just adopted on the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Moldova, Switzerland would like to make the following interpretative statement under the relevant provisions of the Rules of Procedure.

Switzerland regrets that one single participating State does not allow the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Moldova for the regular one-year term.

We would like to recall our strong support for the Mission’s work and express our gratitude for its valuable efforts on the ground. It is imperative that the team can keep up its work without additional budgetary or administrative difficulties.

Taking into account the position of the host country, Switzerland decided to join consensus to extend the mandate by six months.

However, we call on Russia to reconsider its decision and to abide by OSCE Ministerial Council Decision No. 18/06, which clearly states that the mandate of field operations should be of a one-year duration when the host country of the field operation agrees.

We request that this interpretative statement be attached to the decision and to the journal of today’s meeting.

Thank you, Madam Chairperson.”