



Permanent Mission of Ukraine
to the International Organizations in Vienna

**Statement by the Delegation of Ukraine
in response to Margareta Cederfelt, President of the OSCE
Parliamentary Assembly**

As delivered by Ambassador Yevhenii Tsymbaliuk,
Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the International Organizations in Vienna,
to the 1396th meeting of the Permanent Council,
27 October 2022

Mr. Chairperson,

The Delegation of Ukraine warmly welcomes Margareta Cederfelt, President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, back to the Permanent Council and thanks her for the strong statement in support of Ukraine against the backdrop of the ongoing russia's war of aggression.

Let me also sincerely thank you, President Cederfelt, for your personal participation in the First Parliamentary Summit of the International Crimea Platform co-hosted by Ukraine and Croatia in Zagreb on 25 October 2022.

The Assembly's contribution is of great importance for the unity of the international community in defending international law, which defines that the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol are Ukraine.

Madam President,

We appreciate OSCE PA's longstanding and unwavering support of Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity within its internationally recognized borders.

Back in 2014, when russia launched aggression against my country, the OSCE PA was among the first international institutions acknowledging in its resolution that "the russian federation has, since February 2014, violated every one of the ten Helsinki principles in its relations with Ukraine".

The message of the Assembly this year, after russia waged its all-out war on Ukraine, was strong and clear - the unprovoked russian war of aggression against Ukraine, facilitated by belarus as co-aggressor, constitutes a gross violation of the fundamentals of international law, including a severe breach of the OSCE's commitments and principles, the Charter of the United Nations, and the Geneva Conventions, and thus poses a great threat to the civilian population and infrastructure of Ukraine and jeopardizes the security architecture of Europe and the whole OSCE region.

With the adoption of the 2022 Birmingham Declaration, and its resolution on "The russian federation's war of aggression against Ukraine and its people, and its threat to security across the OSCE region" the Assembly reaffirmed yet again to be at the forefront of international peace and security processes.

We also highly value the steadfast position of the OSCE PA leadership categorically condemning russia's attempt to annex the territory in the Donetsk, Luhansk, Zaporizhzhia and Kherson oblasts of Ukraine in violation of international law, as well as their call on the russian federation to withdraw all its forces from across Ukraine.

When it comes to the OSCE PA input to the political and international isolation of the kremlin regime, let me reiterate the importance of an appropriate implementation of

the provisions of the Assembly's July resolution on amendments to the Rules of Procedure. We need to ensure the possibility to suspend the mandate of the delegation of the State committing the violation of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of another State.

President Cederfelt,

We view as a top priority for the civilized world to put an end to russia's impunity and ensure accountability.

Ukraine reiterates the need to further promote the creation of a special international tribunal to prosecute the crime of aggression against Ukraine, and we thank the Assembly for supporting this initiative in its Birmingham Declaration.

We also welcome the establishment of the OSCE PA Special Rapporteur on russia's war crimes in Ukraine. We count on the Assembly's active engagement into promoting the need to swiftly and duly investigate russia's atrocities.

Dear colleagues,

The criminal pattern of russia's regime requires concrete and resolute actions in order to find a long-term solution to the russian crisis in the OSCE and beyond.

To this end there is a need:

- to increase the provision of military assistance to Ukraine, including weapons, as well as financial, humanitarian and political support;
- to increase sanctions pressure on the russian federation and its officials in order to force it to stop the crime of aggression against Ukraine immediately, withdraw all its armed forces from the territory of Ukraine and restore the territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders as of 1991;
- to recognize the russian federation as a state sponsor of terrorism and impose specific sanctions envisaged for a state sponsor of terrorism;
- to support Ukraine's initiative to establish a special international tribunal on the crime of aggression by the russian federation against Ukraine and hold to account the russian federation, its political and military leadership for violations of international law, war crimes, crime of aggression, crimes against humanity, and genocide of the Ukrainian people;
- to create all necessary legal mechanisms at both the international and national levels in order to ensure compensation for all the damages caused by the russian federation to Ukraine, its population and natural environment.

Madam President,

Let me conclude by reiterating that Ukraine stands ready to further support the OSCE PA endeavors aimed at achieving peace and security in Europe based on the OSCE principles and commitments, enshrined in the Helsinki Final Act.

I wish you, President Cederfelt, every success in your endeavors.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.