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STATEMENT ON RUSSIA'S AGGRESSION AGAINST UKRAINE

As delivered by Ambassador Ellen Svendsen at the Permanent Council Vienna,
13 March 2025

Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Norway stands firmly with Ukraine. Russia's illegal war of aggression continues to threaten not only Ukraine's sovereignty but the very security and stability of Europe itself. Peace remains our ultimate goal, and we welcome the recent joint declaration between Ukraine and the United States. This declaration, and the proposal for a 30-day ceasefire, represent important steps forward.

Yet, we must remain clear-eyed: a ceasefire alone is not enough. True peace demands genuine negotiations and Russia's full respect for Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity. The responsibility now rests firmly with Russia to respond constructively and urgently.

While we welcome diplomatic progress, we must simultaneously strengthen our support for Ukraine. Norway is proud to stand shoulder to shoulder with Ukraine, not only in words but also in decisive action. We have therefore recently committed an additional contribution of NOK 50 billion, bringing the total Norwegian support for Ukraine up to NOK 85 billion for 2025, to bolster Ukraine's defense and reconstruction.

Our message today is unequivocal: As Russia continues its aggression, Norway—and indeed Europe—must intensify our support for Ukraine, including military assistance.

We are determined to support Ukraine in achieving a just peace through strength. In so doing, we fulfill our responsibility for peace and security in Europe together with Ukraine, the United States and all our NATO Allies and EU partners.

Thank you.

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