



Permanent Mission of Ukraine
to the International
Organizations in Vienna

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF UKRAINE
1086th FSC Plenary Meeting
(11 September 2024)
Agenda Item 1, Opening Session

Mr Chairperson,

Ukraine aligned itself with the Statement by the European Union. In addition, I would like to make some points in my national capacity.

First of all, on behalf of the Delegation of Ukraine I would like to extend a warm welcome to Denmark as it assumes the important and responsible role of Chairpersonship of the Forum for Security Co-Operation (FSC). Ambassador Grønbech-Jensen, we wish you and your able team every success in steering the work of our Forum in this trimester. Let me assure you of Ukraine's full support and readiness to constructive cooperation.

We are grateful to Denmark for presenting its priorities that were outlined in the address by Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Denmark, His Excellency Mr Lars Løkke Rasmussen. We appreciate that the Danish Chairpersonship programme highlights Russia's ongoing aggression against Ukraine. It is extremely important that the ongoing war waged by the Russian Federation along with Russia's malign activities in Europe remain a top priority for the politico-military dimension of our Organisation.

We welcome Denmark's programme of Security Dialogues and look forward to the forthcoming discussions on proposed topics, including the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security, the Women, Peace, and Security Agenda and the Helsinki Final Act. All these topics are relevant to the current challenging situation in the OSCE region and fully meet the need to restore respect for international rules-based order.

At this critical juncture, when the international security architecture faces its most severe challenge in recent history, a strong focus of the FSC on the fundamental principles is more crucial than ever.

Esteemed colleagues,

Our Organisation was established for dialogue and peaceful cooperation in the security sphere, and Ukraine has always been a strong advocate for these values. At all times Ukraine has remained fully committed to the Helsinki Decalogue, which clearly states: “The participating States will settle disputes among them by peaceful means in such a manner as not to endanger international peace, security, and justice.” Regrettably, the Russian Federation has diverged from this path and opted for aggression, disregarding the fundamental values of peace and security.

Against this backdrop, we must ask ourselves: can we engage in a true dialogue as if nothing has happened when one participating State flagrantly disregards all foundational principles of this Organisation and wages a war of annihilation against another? Is constructive cooperation possible with a country that views our Forum as a platform to threaten and blackmail other participating States?

Our answer is clear: no. A nation that employs weapons banned under international law, executes prisoners of war and breaches international humanitarian law in the territories it has occupied cannot be a reliable partner in discussions on arms control or confidence- and security-building measures.

Russia’s ongoing brutal attacks on civilian and critical infrastructure of Ukraine, including the most recent strikes against cities of Poltava, Lviv and Zaporizhzhia that have left hundreds of casualties, underscore the undeniable reality that there can be no “business as usual.”

Ukraine remains deeply grateful to all its international partners that share this approach and expresses its utmost gratitude for their assistance to strengthen Ukraine’s self-defence against the ongoing war of aggression waged by the Russian Federation.

The aggressor state may believe that its threats and blackmail can force other participating States to give up their principles. However, we are fully confident that Denmark’s strong position backed by participating States, including Ukraine, and commitment to international law will prove that the Russian plan to force all of us to submit to Russia’s will will fail.

In conclusion, I would like to express Ukraine’s sincere appreciation to Croatia for its leadership during the previous FSC Chairpersonship and wish it success as a member of the FSC

Troika. We also extend our gratitude to Cyprus, the outgoing Troika member, and warmly welcome Spain to the Troika.

Thank you, Mr Chairperson.