



**Permanent Mission of Ukraine**  
to the International  
Organizations in Vienna

## **STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF UKRAINE**

As delivered by HE Mr Yuriy Vitrenko, Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the  
International Organizations in Vienna

### **1534<sup>th</sup> meeting of the OSCE Permanent Council**

Agenda Item 1, “Address by Federal Councillor Ignazio Cassis, Head of the Federal  
Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland”

(18 September 2025)

#### **Mr Chairperson,**

Allow me to join other delegations in welcoming the Head of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland, Federal Councillor Ignazio Cassis, and to express our gratitude for his personal presentation of the priorities of the future Swiss OSCE Chairpersonship.

We highly value Switzerland’s priorities committed to efforts aimed at achieving a comprehensive, just, and sustainable peace for Ukraine. Russia’s unprovoked and unjustified war of aggression against Ukraine constitutes one of the gravest security challenges within the OSCE area, and it must remain central to any OSCE discussions.

Numerous violations of international law, along with Russia’s rejection of the very notion of the rules-based order, cannot be tolerated, as they threaten not only Ukraine but also the entire European and international security architecture.

We must always remember that, at the same time while Moscow representatives seek to justify the war of aggression against Ukraine here in Vienna, Russian military forces are launching new strikes against the civilian population in their attempts to seize further territory from a sovereign and independent state. Can such behaviour be ignored by responsible states? From Ukraine’s perspective, the answer is indisputably no.

**Mr Chairperson,**

**Federal Councillor Cassis,**

Ukraine commends the strong commitment of the future Swiss OSCE Chairpersonship to upholding the Helsinki principles, as well as its clear recognition that these principles are indispensable for restoring a just and lasting peace in Europe.

Equally important is the emphasis placed on the promotion of democracy, the rule of law, and human rights. In these challenging times, unprecedented in Europe since the end of the Second World War, it is clearer than ever that the path to a just and lasting peace lies in respect for international law and democratic values.

Apparently, this goal cannot be achieved without a stable OSCE structure and an effective toolbox. It has rightly been noted that the OSCE remains the largest regional security organisation in the world. Yet the special and significant role our Organisation plays in the international security cannot be taken for granted. It must be demonstrated through decisive and resolute actions aimed at safeguarding the fundamental principles to which all States have committed themselves.

At the Helsinki+50 Conference, Ukraine's Foreign Minister, Andrii Sybiha, emphasised the necessity of protecting our common values, and of identifying tools that can ensure their observance while strengthening the OSCE's effectiveness.

It is exactly for this purpose that Ukraine has proposed its 5 points initiative aimed at restoring OSCE its relevance at this crucial juncture for Europe and the world. We keenly look forward to advancing this vision together with the current Finnish and future Swiss OSCE Chairpersonship, through taking suggested concrete steps.

**Dear colleagues,**

Indeed, at this decisive time for the OSCE area, the collective resolve of all responsible participating States to uphold our shared commitments is of paramount importance. We firmly believe that the only way to maintain the effectiveness of our Organisation and to strengthen its capacity for action, is to demonstrate that our common fundamentals remain relevant and, even more important, can be defended.

Otherwise, if violations are ignored, and irresponsible state is treated as an equal and trustworthy partner, it will be difficult to ensure that the Helsinki Final Act is not just a theoretical set of norms preserved in archive, but a practical and imperative guide for all.

Those participating States that reject these principles and attempt to reshape the world order by force and coercion, cannot be regarded as reliable partners, and their participation in the OSCE must be terminated or at least suspended. They possess neither moral nor legal right to use – or rather abuse – our Organisation in order to impose their imperialistic demands and advance their bloody revanchist agenda.

To conclude, let me reaffirm Ukraine's steadfast readiness for mutually beneficial cooperation with the future Swiss OSCE Chairpersonship. Our Swiss colleagues can be assured of our constructive participation and support.

**Thank you, Mr Chairperson.**