



Permanent Mission of Ukraine
to the International
Organizations in Vienna

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF UKRAINE

1085th FSC Plenary Meeting
(24 July 2024)

Agenda Item 3, Closing Session

Mr Chairperson,

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

First, let me express our sincere appreciation to the Delegation of Croatia and personally to Ambassador Horvatic for the professional stewardship of the FSC during this very challenging trimester. We commend the Croatian Chairpersonship for prioritising the issue of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine and for not allowing the Russian delegation to dictate its will in this room. In this, Mr Chairperson, you have our full support.

The thematic discussions proposed and organised by the Chairpersonship gave us the opportunity to discuss various issues of the current security landscape in the OSCE region and allowed us to address the wider implications of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine for the region and the world.

Despite the persistent attempts of the Russian delegation to place itself above the other 56 participating States and disrupt the work of the Forum by challenging the Chairpersonship, blocking the FSC agenda and making unfounded demands for special treatment, Croatia managed to lead the Forum, demonstrating its staunch commitment to the mandate and the common principles on which this Organisation is built.

The Russian Federation remains the only participating State ever to have blocked FSC meetings. Realising its isolation and inability to win over other participating States, the Russian delegation has chosen to disrupt the work of the OSCE decision-making body.

Mr Chairperson,

Almost two and a half years on, Russia's illegal war of aggression against Ukraine remains the greatest challenge to the international order on which the security of all states depends. This should matter to every country, regardless of its location on the globe. During this trimester, we have often heard calls from the Russian side for peace, to which only lip service has been paid, while in reality Russia continued to raze Ukrainian cities to the ground and kill Ukrainian citizens.

The current security situation in Ukraine demonstrates that the Russian Federation does not need either peace or dialogue, but rather wants to use this Organisation as a platform to try to justify its war of aggression and spread its aggressive propaganda through various procedural ploys and other tricks. This is why the Russian Federation preferred to discuss procedural issues, such as the composition of the expert panel or the language used by the Chairpersonship, rather than recognise its responsibility and engage in meaningful dialogue.

It is of utmost importance that the vast majority of participating States here understand this strategy and do not allow the Russian Federation to implement it. No less important is our shared vision of a no-business-as-usual approach to the work of the OSCE and, in particular, the FSC against the backdrop of the ongoing full-scale war in Europe.

This is a clear demonstration of true commitment to the rule of law and a readiness to respond to Russia's flagrant violations of international norms. We hope this approach will continue to guide our work in the FSC until the rule of law is restored.

We express our sincere gratitude to all our international partners for their solidarity with Ukraine in countering the unprovoked and unjustified war of aggression waged by the Russian Federation. Your unwavering support for Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity within its internationally recognised borders, along with practical assistance in the political, military, economic, and financial spheres, is extremely important.

In conclusion, we would like to warmly welcome Denmark as the upcoming FSC Chairpersonship and extend our best wishes for success in this responsible task. We also express our sincere gratitude to the outgoing FSC Troika member, Cyprus, for its dedicated work, and we

welcome Spain as a new Troika member. Dear colleagues, let me assure you that the Delegation of Ukraine is, as always, committed to constructive and fruitful cooperation.

Thank you, Mr Chairperson.