

Chairmanship: Portugal**831st PLENARY MEETING OF THE FORUM**

1. Date: Tuesday, 4 October 2016

Opened: 10 a.m.

Closed: 12.25 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador M. da Graça Mira Gomes

Prior to taking up the agenda, the Chairperson, on behalf of the FSC, offered condolences to Switzerland in connection with the helicopter crash that took place during an inspection under the provisions of the Vienna Document 2011 on 23 September 2016. Switzerland thanked the Chairperson and delegations for their expressions of sympathy.

3. Subjects discussed – Statements – Decisions/documents adopted:

Agenda item 1: SECURITY DIALOGUE: “DEFENCE CO-OPERATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN”

– *Ambassador A. Mokrani, Director for the European Union and Specialized European Institutions, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Algeria*

– *Brigadier General F. Vestito, Chief of the Experimentation Office at the Centre for Defence Innovation of the Italian Ministry of Defence*

– *Mr. N. Severiano Teixeira, Director of the Portuguese Institute of International Relations*

Chairperson, Ambassador A. Mokrani, Brigadier General F. Vestito, Mr. N. Severiano Teixeira, Slovakia-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association country Iceland, member of the European Economic Area; as well as Georgia, Moldova, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment)

(FSC.DEL/195/16), Malta (FSC.DEL/194/16 OSCE+), United States of America, Armenia, Spain (FSC.DEL/192/16 OSCE+)

Agenda item 2: GENERAL STATEMENTS

Situation in and around Ukraine: Ukraine (Annex 1) (FSC.DEL/193/16), Slovakia-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Montenegro; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Georgia, Moldova, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (FSC.DEL/196/16), United States of America, Russian Federation (Annex 2), Netherlands

Agenda item 3: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Adoption on 23 September 2016 of United Nations Security Council resolution 2310 on the maintenance of international peace and security: FSC Chairperson's Co-ordinator on Non-Proliferation Issues (Belarus)

4. Next meeting:

Wednesday, 12 October 2016, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Forum for Security Co-operation**

FSC.JOUR/837

4 October 2016

Annex 1

Original: ENGLISH

831st Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 837, Agenda item 2

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF UKRAINE

Madam Chairperson,

In connection with today's statement by the Russian delegation on the status of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea (ARC), the delegation of Ukraine wishes to emphasize the following.

International law prohibits the acquisition of part or all of another State's territory through coercion or force. The Autonomous Republic of Crimea, which remains an integral part of Ukraine, was illegally occupied by military force and annexed by the Russian Federation in violation of OSCE principles and commitments and norms of international law. Illegitimate actions on the part of the Russian Federation do not have any legal consequences with regard to the status of the ARC as an integral part of Ukraine. The territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders is safeguarded by international law and UN General Assembly resolution 68/262 of 27 March 2014, "Territorial integrity of Ukraine".

We call on the Russian Federation to return to the tenets of international law and reverse the illegal occupation and annexation of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.

The delegation of Ukraine requests that this statement be registered in the journal of the day.

Thank you, Madam Chairperson.



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Forum for Security Co-operation**

FSC.JOUR/837

4 October 2016

Annex 2

ENGLISH

Original: RUSSIAN

831st Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 837, Agenda item 2

**STATEMENT BY
THE DELEGATION OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

Madam Chairperson,

In connection with the reference to Crimea in the statements by a number of delegations today, the delegation of the Russian Federation feels obliged to make the following observations.

The proclamation of independence of the Republic of Crimea and its incorporation into the Russian Federation was a legal expression of the right of the people of Crimea to self-determination at a time when Ukraine, with outside support, was in the throes of a *coup d'état*, with radical nationalist elements exerting a forceful influence on the decisions adopted in the country, which in turn resulted in the interests of the Ukrainian regions and Russian-speaking population being ignored.

The multi-ethnic population of Crimea took the corresponding decisions by a huge majority in a free and fair expression of its will. The status of the Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol as constituent entities of the Russian Federation is not open to reconsideration or discussion. Crimea is and will remain Russian. This is a fact that our partners will have to come to terms with.

This position is based on and fully complies with international law.

Thank you, Madam Chairperson. I request that this statement be attached to the journal of the day.