



PERMANENT MISSION OF ROMANIA
to the International Organizations in Vienna

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Session II

**Early warning, conflict prevention, crisis management, conflict resolution
and post-conflict rehabilitation: lessons learned and way ahead**

June 20, 2013

Statement by Romania

Mr. Chairperson,

Distinguished participants,

Romania fully aligns itself to the statement presented on behalf of the EU. I take the opportunity to make some additional remarks in my national capacity.

There can be no security community - the goal set by our Heads of States and Governments in Astana - without the **resolution of protracted conflicts**, as these conflicts remain serious threats to our common security. Therefore, we need to put this topic at the very top of our political priorities and at the core of the OSCE agenda. We can no longer afford to tolerate the protracted conflicts in the OSCE area, as the status quo also is detrimental to peace and stability. Therefore, we must renounce setting their settlement as a long-term goal and reset our mind frame on the urgency of resolving these conflicts, by aiming to achieve tangible progress as part of the OSCE daily agenda.

The persistence of protracted conflicts in the OSCE area is a violation of the letter and the spirit of the Helsinki Final Act and of the subsequent commitments we have jointly undertaken in the OSCE in the past decades. Therefore, in order to live up to the legacy of the Helsinki Final Act we must grasp the opportunity of Helsinki+40 and muster the political will needed to give a decisive impetus to the settlement of these conflicts.

The **resolution of the conflict in the Republic of Moldova** continues to be a political priority for Romania. We look forward to substantial progress in the



“5+2” format, the only legitimate framework to identify a lasting solution to the Transnistrian conflict based on the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Moldova and fully respecting the norms and principles of international law. Political and security issues need to be tackled immediately, as they are the core of the resolution of the conflict and of the “5+2” mandate. In that respect, a process of genuine engagement of all actors is needed and we look forward to tangible outcomes during the Ukrainian Chairmanship. We are concerned about repeated incidents in the Security Zone this year and count on relevant international actors, including the OSCE, to discourage provocations and build-up of tensions that can only damage the settlement process.

Romania reiterates its support for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of **Georgia** and for restoring a meaningful cross-dimensional OSCE presence throughout Georgia. EUMM and humanitarian organizations should be allowed to have access to the breakaway regions. Effective functioning of the Incident Prevention and Response Mechanisms (IPRM) is essential and in this context the Gali IPRM should be resumed.

Regarding the **conflict dealt with by the OSCE Minsk Conference**, Romania underscores that provocative measures, threat or use of force or maintaining the *status quo* do not contribute to the resolution of this protracted conflict. The efforts should be focused on sustainable conflict resolution and also on preparing populations for peace.

Ladies and gentlemen,

We welcome the pace of implementation of the Ministerial Council Decision 3/11 regarding an **enhanced comprehensive framework for the OSCE action with regard to early warning, early action, dialogue facilitation and mediation support and post-conflict rehabilitation** and especially we value the efforts of the Secretariat and Institutions in this respect.

We have to acknowledge, however, that the success of OSCE actions throughout the conflict cycle ultimately depends on the **political will of the participating States to use** resolutely and in a timely fashion the **Organization’s capabilities** to respond to challenges arising throughout the conflict cycle.

While much has been done in the area of early warning, there is still an acute need to address the gap between early warning and early action, as well as



putting to good use the capabilities of our Organization with regard to mediation capacity and dialogue facilitation.

As part of our contribution to the conflict cycle debate and specifically to the issue of mediation, we are pleased to announce, also in this framework, the **Conference *Mediation in the OSCE area*** that will take place in Bucharest on 15-16 July this year, organised by the Romanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in cooperation with the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of the Swiss Confederation and the OSCE Secretariat, Centre for Conflict Prevention. The event aims at raising awareness about the essential role of mediation in all phases of the conflict cycle, the challenges faced in this domain and to explore ways to strengthen mediation efforts within the OSCE area, as part of the endeavours at global level to maintain peace and security through mediation. The Conference is destined to practitioners in the area of mediation and representatives of OSCE participating States, international organizations and civil society.

More attention has to be given, also, to the phase of **conflict resolution** in the conflict cycle. We look forward to the implementation of the provisions of the Decision on organizing thematic debates on specific conflicts, as well as to the Security Day dedicated to this topic. Also, we believe there is more room for the OSCE to show the concrete benefits of peace, also based on its involvement in past peace processes.

Post-conflict rehabilitation remains one of the key areas in which the OSCE has been involved successfully. A concrete instrument of OSCE involvement in post-conflict situations is that of teams of experts, as well as other forms of temporary presence on the ground, provided for in the MC Decision. We would welcome a systematic account of the areas in which the OSCE could make a contribution.

We should also look at the contributions from and interaction with civil society throughout the conflict cycle.

Mr. Moderator,

The ASRC has long been a framework of interaction of many valuable ideas and lessons learned. We also hope that it will contribute to the much needed impetus to solve remaining security challenges in our region and to enhance the OSCE capacity to act on them.

Thank you for your attention!