



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

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

### **1110<sup>th</sup> FSC Plenary Meeting**

(18 June 2025)

Agenda Item 1, Security Dialogue on Women, Peace and Security: “The Role of Women in Strengthening Defence and Ensuring Resilience”

**Madam Chairperson,**

Ukraine aligns itself with the statement delivered by the EU Delegation. In addition, I would like to add some remarks in my national capacity.

Let me begin by expressing Ukraine’s sincere gratitude to the Estonian FSC Chairpersonship for organizing today’s Security Dialogue focused on the Women, Peace and Security agenda – an issue of critical and timely importance. We also thank today’s panellists for their insightful contributions and for bringing renewed attention to this vital topic.

Ukraine has consistently prioritized the full, equal, and meaningful participation of women in security and defence. Today, this issue carries even greater urgency as our country faces the consequences of Russia’s full-scale, unprovoked war of aggression. For Ukraine, women’s involvement in defence and crisis response is not just about equality – It is a matter of national resilience and strategic necessity.

**Madam Chairperson,**

As today’s concept note rightly emphasizes, harnessing the full potential of women in defence is essential not only for equity, but also for achieving durable security. This is especially true for Ukraine.

Currently, over 70,000 women serve in Ukraine's Armed Forces in both military and civilian capacities, marking a 20% increase since 2022. In addition, more than 11,000 women serve in the State Border Guard Service and over 5,500 in the National Guard. This growing presence reflects not just a wartime necessity but a lasting transformation – especially evident in the rising number of female cadets in military education, shaping a new generation of leadership and institutional change.

Beyond the military, Ukrainian women are central to building national resilience. Across the country, they have stepped forward as first responders, humanitarian workers, civil society leaders, and entrepreneurs, taking on key roles in response, recovery, and reconstruction. They are coordinating evacuations, delivering aid, rebuilding communities. Thousands have joined grassroots volunteer networks, playing a vital role in preserving social cohesion and supporting veterans and displaced families.

**Madam Chairperson,**

Despite the enormous strain of war, Ukraine remains committed to gender equality as a matter of state policy and international obligation. Our work to implement the Women, Peace and Security agenda has not stopped – It has evolved.

Our current National Action Plan on WPS (2020–2025) has been adapted to the realities of full-scale war. A new plan extending to 2030 is in development, focused on: equal participation in decision-making; gender-responsive security policy; post-conflict recovery; and strengthened protection for survivors of conflict-related violence.

This approach reflects Ukraine's vision for a just recovery and lasting peace. We are grateful for the support of our international partners, including within the OSCE, in promoting the WPS agenda and helping build institutional resilience.

Ukraine firmly believes that security and peace are only sustainable when women are fully involved – not just as beneficiaries, but as decision-makers and agents of change. The WPS agenda must translate into concrete action, particularly in times of conflict.

**Thank you, Madam Chairperson.**