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PC.DEL/1406/19  
13 December 2019

ENGLISH  
Original: FRENCH

Delegation of France

**STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR CHRISTINE FAGES,  
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF FRANCE TO THE OSCE,  
AT THE 1252nd MEETING OF THE OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

12 December 2019

**Franco-German declaration regarding the “Normandy format” summit in Paris on  
9 December 2019**

France and Germany align themselves with the statement by the representative of the European Union.

Emmanuel Macron, President of the French Republic, Angela Merkel, Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany, Vladimir Putin, President of the Russian Federation, and Volodymyr Zelenskyi, President of Ukraine, met in Paris on 9 December.

They reaffirmed their commitment to the full implementation of the Minsk agreements and decided as follows:

The sides commit to a full and comprehensive implementation of the ceasefire, strengthened by the implementation of all necessary ceasefire support measures, before the end of the year 2019.

They will support the development and implementation of an updated demining plan, on the basis of the decision of the Trilateral Contact Group on demining activities, dated 3 March 2016.

They will support an agreement within the Trilateral Contact Group on three additional disengagement areas, with the aim of disengaging forces and equipment by the end of March 2020.

They encourage the Trilateral Contact Group to facilitate the release and exchange of conflict-related detainees by the end of the year, based on the principle of “all for all”, starting with “all identified for all identified”, with the understanding that international organizations, including the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), will be granted full and unconditional access to all detained persons.

They will support an agreement within the Trilateral Contact Group within 30 days, on new crossing points along the line of contact, based primarily on humanitarian criteria.

They recall that the Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine (SMM) of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe should be able to use all possibilities of the 21 March 2014 mandate, and have safe and secure access throughout Ukraine in order to fully implement its mandate.

The sides express their interest in reaching agreements within the Normandy format (N4) and the Trilateral Contact Group on all the legal aspects of the special order of local self-government – special status – of certain areas of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions – as outlined in the Package of Measures for the Implementation of the Minsk Agreements of 2015 – in order to ensure its functioning on a permanent basis.

They consider it necessary to incorporate the “Steinmeier formula” into the Ukrainian legislation in accordance with the version agreed upon within the N4 and the Trilateral Contact Group.

Finally, they ask their ministers for foreign affairs and political advisers to ensure the implementation of the agreements reached and they agree to have another meeting in this format within four months on the political and security conditions, *inter alia*, for the organization of local elections.

France and Germany take this opportunity to welcome the extension of the law on the legal aspects of the special order of local self-government of certain areas of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions, known as the law on special status, adopted by the Ukrainian Parliament this morning.

I thank you.