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Delegation of Andorra

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF ANDORRA AT THE 937th MEETING OF THE OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL

17 January 2013

In response to the statement by His Excellency Leonid Kozhara, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ukraine

Mr. Chairperson,

Andorra joins the previous delegations in congratulating the Minister for Foreign Affairs, His Excellency Mr. Kozhara, as the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, and thanks him for his statement.

We associate ourselves with the European Union statement and should also like to comment briefly in a national capacity. We note with great satisfaction that one of Ukraine's priorities throughout this year will be to promote tolerance and non-discrimination by educating young people about human rights.

Andorra is currently chairing the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe and we are also prioritizing education and the promotion of activities aimed at young people, our societies' valuable asset.

Education on tolerance is a conflict prevention instrument and the basis for establishing a community of values that respects diversity and ensures inclusion and equality of opportunity.

In the Council of Europe, Andorra has launched a debate on education as an instrument for promoting democratic values, respect for human rights, tolerance and intercultural dialogue. Indeed, a high-level conference on this subject will be held in Andorra from 6 to 8 February, and we hope to identify indicators and skills that can serve as guidance for educators in promoting respect for democracy and human rights.

My delegation stands ready to inform you on the outcomes of the conference and to look into possible joint activities in this area.

In conclusion, we wish you, Minister, every success at the helm of the OSCE and reiterate that you can count on the support of Andorra in implementing the programme of work presented.