



EUROPEAN UNION

OSCE Human Dimension Implementation Meeting Warsaw, 16 - 27 September 2019

EU Right of Reply – Working Session 18

Madam Moderator,

In reply made to the statement by the Russian Federation, let me reiterate our support for the work and for the mandates of the autonomous institutions. We also reiterate our support for the way the mandates are executed and we do not share the concerns raised by the Russian Federation in this regard.

The European Union recognizes and welcomes the indispensable role played by ODIHR in monitoring elections. We regret that resourcing issues mean that it is not always possible for ODIHR to carry out monitoring missions. Is us, the participating States, who endowed ODIHR with its mandate; its implementation depends both on our determination to respect our commitments, as well as on ensuring ODIHR's adequate funding (including to undertake all election observation demands, be it expected or unexpected) and secondment of observers.

We must ensure that all OSCE institutions are adequately resourced to play their indispensable role.

We reiterate our strong support for ODIHR's election observation methodology which is globally recognized and applied in the same manner in all participating States. The methodology is based on the principles of independence, impartiality and professionalism as spelled out in the MC 19/06. It has been endorsed by all participating States and has been used by other organizations, including the EU, as a basis for developing their own guidelines. There can be no artificial balance in this regard.

Thank you.