



**STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR HATUN DEMİRER
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Forum for Security Cooperation
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Mme. Chairperson,

We thank the U.S. FSC Chairmanship for devoting today's Security Dialogue to "Confidence and Security Building Amid Strategic Ambiguity" issue.

We also thank to the guest speakers and the moderator for their valuable contributions to today's interactive discussions.

Mme. Chairperson,

Since we are talking about confidence and security building amid strategic ambiguity, we would like to underline that the "CFE Treaty", "Vienna Document" and "Treaty on Open Skies" remain the main pillars of the Euro-Atlantic conventional security architecture.

All three instruments are mutually reinforcing. Their full implementation in good faith is essential. They are the principal tools to prevent ambiguities.

We must continue to make full use of existing mechanisms in order to achieve a strengthened security community, which is in our collective interest.

Mme Chairperson,

Hybrid threats are at the forefront of among the challenges facing us today. They are not new. They are not unknown. The new part is the speed and intensity of the hybrid tactics, supported with the technological developments and innovations.

Hybrid threats including cyber-attacks, disinformation campaigns as well as political and economic pressure have been typically posed by the states.

Yet, we also witness that the non-state actors, such as terrorist organizations, can also utilize hybrid tactics for their malign activities.

Turkey has long been combating against hybrid activities of the terrorist organisations such as PKK/YPG/PYD, DEASH and FETO.

Their façade organizations and extensions unfortunately exploit the legal loopholes by hybrid tactics in several countries and continue their recruitment, propaganda and finance activities.

Mme Chairperson,

It is well known that the hybrid activities target democratic states' and institutions' vulnerabilities. We should eliminate the factors that make our institutions more vulnerable against such risks.

We should also discuss how we can better defend and build resilience against such hybrid threats in the OSCE region.

FSC should play a major role in countering and defending against these threats in the politico-military dimension.

In this very challenging environment, no organisation or country can counter hybrid threats alone. Therefore cooperation between international organizations and countries is important and more necessary than ever.

The OSCE must help the participating States to foster a whole of society approach to countering hybrid threats.

If we are willing to be more resilient, we need to fully implement our acquis, before considering new mechanisms.

In facing these threats, it is vital that we strive for consistent implementation of our agreed commitments.

As the main OSCE instrument in the field of military transparency and predictability aiming at rebuilding trust and confidence among the participating States, we very much value the Vienna Document. In this regard we support full and improved implementation, as well as its modernization.

Thank you.