



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

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

**1079<sup>th</sup> FSC Plenary Meeting**  
(29 May 2024)

Agenda Item 1, Security Dialogue:  
“Military education and the changing roles of military academies”

Mr Chairperson,

Ukraine aligns itself with the statement by the European Union. In addition, I would like to make some points in my national capacity.

The Delegation of Ukraine welcomes today’s Security Dialogue on the military education in the current geopolitical context. We are grateful to Croatian FSC Chairpersonship for organising it. We would also like to thank distinguished panellists for their valuable contributions to today's discussion.

Ukraine, whose Armed Forces daily fight back brutal aggression launched by the Russian Federation, very well understands the important role of military education in ensuring national security and the effective functioning of the defence sector. Military education is an integral part of wider efforts to ensure that the Armed Forces are staffed with qualified personnel capable of professionally performing all their tasks on the modern battlefield.

Today, the Ministry of Defence of Ukraine is actively working to improve military education, ensuring that the modern generation of military leaders is engaged in the exchange of best practices in the areas of troop training, operational manoeuvre, command and control and logistics.

Based on the experience gained during the war, the Ministry of Defence prepared and began to implement the Concept of Transformation of the System of Military Education. This document, adopted by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine in December 2022 after the start of the full-scale invasion, is consistent with Ukraine's strategic goal of EU and NATO membership and provides for further steps to improve education based on the principle of “education throughout the entire military career.”

Esteemed colleagues,

The brutality, non-selectivity, and complete disregard for the law of armed conflict demonstrated daily by the Russian forces in Ukraine clearly underline the paramount importance of International Humanitarian Law (IHL).

Ukraine pays significant attention to ensuring proper integration of IHL requirements at all stages of military education. As envisaged by the Instruction on the Implementation of Norms of International Humanitarian Law in the Armed Forces of Ukraine, IHL is integrated into curricula at all levels of education – from cadets who are trained as future tactical-level officers to representatives of senior leadership who obtain strategic-level educational degrees.

As diversity in all spheres of public life is becoming an increasingly important objective, gender issues are gaining greater attention in the Armed Forces as well. The full, equal, and meaningful participation of women in the Armed Forces, including within the framework of military education, remains a top priority for the Government of Ukraine, in particular the Ministry of Defence, as is clearly emphasized in the current version of the Concept of Personnel Policy until 2028, adopted by the Minister of Defence on 27 October 2023.

Today, Ukrainian military educational institutions have no restrictions regarding admitting women. All citizens of Ukraine who meet the requirements for admission may apply for military education at all existing levels regardless of their gender. As of November 2023, female cadets make up more than 18% of all cadets at military educational institutions of Ukraine.

Military educational institutions are also actively involved in the process of gender mainstreaming in the armed forces and throughout the entire career of military personnel. Since 2018, a special training course on gender equality and non-discrimination has been introduced

for personnel of the Armed Forces of Ukraine. In close cooperation with international partners, Ukrainian experts are working to ensure the regular updating of the curriculum of this training course.

Thank you, Mr Chairperson.