

ДЕЛЕГАЦИЯ  
РОССИЙСКОЙ ФЕДЕРАЦИИ

DELEGATION OF  
THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

OSCE MINISTERIAL COUNCIL  
(Stockholm, 2-3 December 2021)

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**Side event on “Elements of the Conflict Cycle”**  
(3 December 2021, 09.15 – 10.00, meeting room “Amaryllis”)

Dear colleagues,

First of all, I would like to extend my words of gratitude to the OSCE Secretary General and distinguished panellists for sharing their views on the topic which remains one of the most important in our Organization. Indeed, much has been done since the Ministerial decision 3/11 on “Elements of the Conflict Cycle” was adopted back in 2011. A lot of experience has been accumulated in the Secretariat and the Conflict Prevention Center (CPC).

Nevertheless, theoretical knowledge in this sphere becomes relevant only when proved to be successful in practice. We have sufficient agreed formats of conflicts resolution. The goal is to make them work more effective. Here the key is the political will of the sides of a conflict.

There have been already 54 rounds of the **Geneva International Discussions**. For sure, we observe certain stability in the region but the sides – Georgia and South Ossetia, Georgia and Abkhazia – are still far from reaching the agreement.

The **“5+2” talks** on the Transdniestrian settlement with stops and pauses keep going for nearly two decades now. And yet Chisinau and Tiraspol are facing serious contradictions on the settlement track. The last meeting in “5+2” format took place in 2019.

We do not see any significant positive changes dealing with the internal **conflict in the east of Ukraine**. Sabotage of the Minsk Agreements by Kiev is the main obstacle. The only way of settlement are direct talks between the sides – Kiev, Donetsk and Lugansk – in the Minsk Contact Group.

And you all know what the Minsk Process on **Nagorno-Karabakh settlement** has so far resulted in.

The main task of our Organization is to prevent degradation of the situation at each phase of the conflict cycle. We need to use more our well-designed tools of early warning and prevention, like HCNM. At the same time, one should avoid imposing neo-liberal agenda which definitely does not represent a key element in conflict resolution and diverts the attention and resources. To achieve tangible results the work should be concentrated in agreed formats on specific traits of each conflict. This pledge was made at the Astana Summit in 2010 and then clearly reaffirmed at the Ministerial Council in Vilnius in 2011.

Thank you.