



Permanent Mission of Ukraine
to the International Organizations in Vienna

**Statement by the Delegation of Ukraine
in connection with statement of the Russian Federation on NGOs
participation in the OSCE human dimension events**

As delivered by Ambassador Yevhenii Tsymbaliuk,
Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the International Organizations in Vienna,
to the 1374th meeting of the Permanent Council,
19 May 2022

Mr. Chairperson,

In connection with the statement made by the delegation of the Russian Federation, I would like to express our full support to the decision of the Polish Chairpersonship regarding the ban on participation of two Russian organizations in the SHDM.

In our view, the OSCE Chairpersonship acted strictly in line with its mandate as a guardian of the OSCE principles and commitments, and ensured proper conduct of the human dimension meeting in compliance with the OSCE commitments.

We believe that the issue of registration and participation of the Civic Chamber of the Russian Federation and Democracy Research Foundation in the human dimension events clearly fall under the provisions of the paragraph 16, Chapter IV, of the 1992 Helsinki Document, which prohibits the participation in the OSCE events or activities of “persons or organizations which resort to the use of violence or publicly condone terrorism or the use of violence.”

In this context it is important to remind that the UN General Assembly in its Resolution “Aggression against Ukraine” of 02 March 2022 recognized that the Russian Federation is committing an act of aggression against Ukraine in violation of Article 2 (4) of the UN Charter.

According to the UN GA Resolution 3314 “Definition of Aggression”, “Aggression is the use of armed force by a State against the sovereignty, territorial integrity or political independence of another State, or in any other manner inconsistent with the Charter of the United Nations”.

Numerous statements and pieces of information published at the official web-pages of the Civic Chamber of the Russian Federation and the Democracy Research Foundation contain clear and irrefutable evidence of support expressed by those two actors for Russia’s ongoing war of aggression against Ukraine and illegal occupation of Ukraine’s territories, which constitute public condonation of the use of violence and

ongoing mass atrocities against civilian population by the Russian armed forces in Ukraine.

It was manifested, in particular, in their public support and justification of Russia's "special military operation" in Ukraine, numerous calls for "denazification" and "demilitarization" of Ukraine, recognition of independence of "Donetsk people's republic" and "Luhansk people's republic", as well as description of Ukrainian territories invaded and occupied by Russian armed forces after 24 February 2022 as "liberated territories". Moreover, both organizations advocate for the illegal occupation by Russia of Ukraine's Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol through Russia's armed aggression against Ukraine.

We appreciate swift reaction of the Polish Chairpersonship to this utterly unacceptable attempt to violate the OSCE documents and bring to the OSCE events those who explicitly propagate war, atrocities and extermination of the population of Ukraine.

As it was stated by the Polish Chairpersonship on 16 May "OSCE can't serve as a forum for pro-war activists", and we fully align with this conclusion.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.