

**OSCE Human Dimension Implementation Meeting
Warsaw, 21 September – 2 October 2015**

**Polish Statement in response to Russian Delegation's remarks - Working Session 10
(September, 28)**

Thank you Mr Moderator.

Ladies and gentlemen,

The comments regarding Mr Muradow case, made by the distinguished Russian delegation, are not connected with our topic today. However, the obligations of Poland as the ODIHR host country were mentioned, therefore we would like to exercise our right of reply.

Polish MFA received an official information that Mr Georgij Muradow, who had been added to the EU sanctions list, as one of "persons responsible for actions, which undermine or threaten the territorial integrity, sovereignty and Independence of Ukraine", was going to take part in the HDIM this year.

The Russian Embassy in Warsaw expressed an expectation that Poland as the ODIHR host country would grant an exemption from EU sanctions on Mr Muradow because of his wish to participate the Human Dimension Implementation Meeting.

Let me present the position of the Polish MFA in this regard.

Firstly, Mr Muradow was incorrectly named as the Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Crimea.

Sharing the values of the Helsinki Final Act and following the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, we do not recognize an annexation, that is a forcible, illegal acquisition of a sovereign state's territory. Consequently, we do not recognize any international activity of people, who on the basis of illegal military action claim to govern such territory.

Secondly, making an exemption from EU sanctions in Georgij Muradow case would not correspond with Poland's obligations to the OSCE, on the contrary - it would be some kind of consenting to the violence of the OSCE fundamental rules.

Moreover, this case is irrelevant to ensuring participation to the HIDM of the States delegations and other stakeholders acting in the field of human rights, democracy or rule of law.

I would like to underline that Poland is very proud to be the host country to the ODIHR and also to the HDIM. As an OSCE participating State we take our commitments very seriously and we have always demonstrated our full commitment to the values of the Helsinki Final Act, in particular the territorial integrity of States, inviolability of frontiers and peaceful settlement of disputes.

I would like to end by highlighting that the Polish government's decision in the case of Mr Muradow is not against anybody, is just for the principles of international law.

We also draw the attention of the Russian delegation to the fact that the information regarding EU sanctions is public and all concerned are entitled to appeal.

Thank you.