

**Chairmanship: Lithuania****721st PLENARY MEETING OF THE FORUM**

1. Date: Wednesday, 12 June 2013

Opened: 10.05 a.m.  
Closed: 12.15 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador G. Čekuolis

3. Subjects discussed – Statements – Decisions/documents adopted:

Agenda item 1: SECURITY DIALOGUE

*Presentations on women, peace and security, and the prevention of sexual violence in conflict by Dr. A. Long, Senior Policy Adviser, and Ms. J. Upton, Policy and Programme Manager, Prevention of Sexual Violence in Conflict Initiative, Foreign and Commonwealth Office of the United Kingdom Government; and on how we could advance FSC work and strengthen co-operation: assisting in the implementation of UNSCR 1325 by Ms. B. Koçyiğit, FSC Co-ordinator on Matters Relating to UNSCR 1325: Chairperson, Dr. A. Long (FSC.DEL/100/13 OSCE+), Ms. J. Upton (FSC.DEL/100/13 OSCE+), FSC Co-ordinator on Matters Relating to UNSCR 1325 (Turkey) (FSC.DEL/102/13 OSCE+), Ireland-European Union (with the acceding country Croatia; the candidate countries the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland, Montenegro and Serbia; the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate countries Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association countries Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Andorra, Georgia and Moldova, in alignment) (FSC.DEL/101/13), United States of America (Annex 1), Turkey, United Kingdom, FSC Co-ordinator for the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security (Germany), Croatia, Finland, Austria*

Agenda item 2: GENERAL STATEMENTS

(a) *Financial contribution to projects related to the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security: Germany (Annex 2)*

- (b) *2013 National Security Strategy approved by the Government of Spain on 31 May 2013: Spain (Annex 3)*

Agenda item 3: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) *Distribution of a paper by the FSC Chairperson's Co-ordinator on Non-Proliferation Issues, on the OSCE Principles Governing Non-Proliferation (FSC.DEL/99/13 OSCE+): Chairperson, FSC Chairperson's Co-ordinator on Non-Proliferation Issues (Ukraine), United Kingdom, United States of America, Ukraine, France, Belarus, Poland*
- (b) *Issuance on 5 June 2013 of two notifications concerning verification missions due to the flood situation in Germany: Germany*
- (c) *Matters of protocol: Romania, Chairperson*
- (d) *Informal meeting on the 2013 Meeting of the Heads of Verification Centres, to be held on 13 June: Chairperson*

4. Next meeting:

Wednesday, 26 June 2013, at 10 a.m., in the Ratsaal

**721st Plenary Meeting**

FSC Journal No. 727, Agenda item 1

**STATEMENT BY  
THE DELEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

Mr. Chairperson,

I first want to thank you and our distinguished speakers, Mr. Andrew Long and Ms. Jackie Upton from the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office's Prevention of Sexual Violence in Conflict Initiative, and my colleague, Ms. Bilge Koçyigit, the FSC Co-ordinator on Matters Relating to UNSCR 1325, for their excellent presentations.

Preventing sexual violence in conflict is a critical issue for everyone. Sexual violence has a profoundly negative impact on the vitality of civilians and national stability. The physical, mental, and psychological damage to the individual undermines the well-being of communities, families, and society at large. If incidents of rape and sexual assault go unaddressed by a country's political, legal, and judicial institutions, a culture of impunity will prevail and deny all persons, male and female – not only survivors – a dignified life. Ultimately, this robs nations of their chance for a stable and prosperous future.

In December 2011, the United States launched the US National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security, which lays out a comprehensive, whole-of-government approach that marshals the Government's expertise and capacity to emphasize the need for women's participation and protection, and for the prevention of violence. This initiative represents a fundamental change in the way the United States approaches its diplomatic, military, and development support to women in areas of conflict. Furthermore, in August 2012, the United States released its first-ever Strategy to Prevent and Respond to Gender-based Violence Globally. Both strategies were accompanied by presidential executive orders, directing their implementation.

Preventing gender-based violence, including sexual violence in conflict, is not just a question of women's rights; it is a matter of ensuring an effective foreign policy to promote stability, prosperity and peace. We applaud the UK's leadership on this issue and the Preventing Sexual Violence Initiative of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, which has galvanized support for the work among other G8 nations, the UN Security Council, and international organizations like the OSCE.

We must also acknowledge that this is not only a problem in conflict zones, but also an issue that it is crucial to address among our military services. How we address our own

problems is as vital as how we address the problems of our fellow human beings around the world. I am certain we are all aware that the United States is involved in tackling gender-based violence within its own military services. But the important point here is that we are taking full responsibility and holding ourselves accountable to the same standard as we hold others to. As President Obama said in addressing US Naval Academy graduates in May of this year: "We must acknowledge that even here, even in our military, we've seen how the misconduct of some can have effects that ripple far and wide...those who commit sexual assault are not only committing a crime, they threaten the trust and discipline that make our military strong." The next day, US Secretary of Defence Chuck Hagel underscored the point that everyone must be part of the solution in his speech to US Military Academy graduates at West Point, when he said: "Sexual harassment and sexual assault in the military are a profound betrayal of sacred oaths and sacred trusts. This scourge must be stamped out. We are all accountable and responsible for ensuring that this happens."

It is important to note that efforts to prevent sexual violence in conflict and in our military services complement other elements of the comprehensive approach to women, peace and security under UNSCR 1325. Addressing sexual violence is only one important element in our approach to women, peace and security, which includes efforts to advance women's inclusion in peace negotiations, peace-building activities, conflict prevention, and decision-making institutions. This also includes efforts to protect women from gender-based violence in conflict and post-conflict situations, and to ensure equal access to relief and recovery assistance. We support the efforts aimed at achieving an OSCE-wide action plan on UNSCR 1325 which would guide our work to improve implementation in each of these areas across the OSCE.

Most importantly, we should not just call attention to the issue of UNSCR 1325. The FSC has been tasked by ministers to take action to promote its implementation in the OSCE area. Our commitment to the issue of women, peace and security is only as good as our implementation. For its part, the US Department of State's Implementation Plan for the National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security provides guidance on how the Department of State, both in Washington and at US embassies and consulates, can advance the cause of women, peace and security. The Plan contains several practical examples of its implementation (found online on the Department of State website: <http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/196726.pdf>). Just last month, you heard one practical example from Mike Smith, the Program Director of our US Department of State Global Peace Operations Initiative. In his presentation to the FSC on 8 May, he shared lessons learned from the US experience in implementing the US National Action Plan in the area of peacekeeping training.

We are at a stage now where we need to build on these useful Security Dialogue discussions with concrete ideas for FSC action on women, peace and security. As evidenced by the speakers today, these challenges cannot wait. They require urgent action on the part of all the OSCE participating States.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

I respectfully request that this statement be attached to the journal of the day.

**721st Plenary Meeting**

FSC Journal No. 727, Agenda item 2(a)

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF GERMANY**

Mr. Chairperson,

As you surely remember, several participating States have already made a financial contribution in 2013 to projects connected with the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security, namely sponsoring seminars, inviting high-ranking speakers and also ensuring that our annual discussion here in Vienna can take place. Recently Germany, together with Switzerland, sponsored the translation of that important document into Arabic.

It is my pleasure to inform you today that the Federal Republic of Germany will now support Code of Conduct measures in 2013 with an additional 36,000 euros.

This money can be used both for the forthcoming seminars in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Malta and for additional measures.

We are convinced of the usefulness of all projects relating to the Code of Conduct and would be happy if other participating States could assist in raising awareness of this important topic.

I thank you for your attention and ask that this statement be attached to the journal of the day.

**721st Plenary Meeting**

FSC Journal No. 727, Agenda item 2(b)

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF SPAIN**

Mr. Chairperson,

The delegation of Spain would like to inform the Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC) that on Friday, 31 May, the Spanish Government approved the 2013 National Security Strategy along with a Royal Decree establishing a National Security Council with the status of a government executive committee for national security. The National Security Council, the establishment of which will not cost anything, will include several ministers and high-level government officials concerned with security and will be chaired by the President of the Government.

The Strategy is a continuation of the comprehensive approach to national security. As an instrument of its time, it reflects the risks and threats that need to be addressed in a world that is changing profoundly and constantly. In this respect, it considers a broad concept of security consistent with the global changes that affect the State and the citizen's everyday life. Security comprises many different areas and the fundamentally transnational and cross-cutting nature of the risks and threats that jeopardize security nowadays means that comprehensive responses are necessary.

This new framework thus updates how Spain and the Spanish people approach security, in line with the nations that are the most advanced in this respect and have similar procedures and bodies. Furthermore, it structures and reinforces the national security approach.

Mr. Chairperson,

The 2013 National Security Strategy takes a broad and global view of national security in that it covers very diverse areas for action. Traditionally, the concept of national security was confined to defence and public safety. Now, however, it extends to new actors and threats, and this means that national security is faced with new risks such as cyberthreats.

Overall, the Strategy considers a total of 12 risks to our security: armed conflicts, terrorism, cyberthreats, organized crime, economic and financial instability, energy vulnerability, irregular migration flows, weapons of mass destruction, espionage, natural

emergencies and catastrophes, maritime vulnerability and vulnerability of critical infrastructure and essential services.

The 2013 National Security Strategy, co-ordinated by the National Security Department of the Presidency of the Government, is a revised version of the Strategy adopted in 2011 by the previous administration. The Spanish delegation also informed the FSC of that document on 6 July 2011 through a statement that exists as an annex to the journal of that day's meeting under FSC.JOUR/657 of the same date.

Mr. Chairperson,

The goal of the Government in the 2013 Strategy, which enjoys the political backing of the main opposition party, is to strengthen this social and political consensus and make it universally inclusive, as it is truly a State policy.

The document, which is currently available in Spanish on the Presidency's website (<http://www.lamoncloa.gob.es/home.htm>), consists of five chapters:

- Chapter 1 offers a comprehensive national security concept in line with current risks and threats;
- Chapter 2 situates Spain's security in a global context and presents Spain's main strategic priorities as a diverse and plural State;
- Chapter 3 identifies the main risks and threats to national security;
- Chapter 4 defines priority policy areas for national security in light of the risks and threats that affect us;
- Chapter 5 defines the National Security System that will enable co-ordinated efforts by the authorities to make efficient and sound use of available resources.

Mr. Chairperson,

I ask that this statement be attached to the journal of the day.

Thank you for your attention.