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Permanent Mission OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN

> 1361st (Special) Meeting of the Permanent Council Statement by Ambassador Maria-Pia Kothbauer, Permanent Representative of the Principality of Liechtenstein to the OSCE, Agenda item 1: The Russian Federation's ongoing aggression against Ukraine 7 March 2022

Mr. Chairman,

Liechtenstein has aligned itself with the statement of the European Union, but would like to make some additional remarks.

In particular, we would like to underline the gravity of the humanitarian situation, which is heart-breaking. We join other in reiterating our calls on the Russian Federation to immediately stop the hostilities and withdraw its armed forces. Furthermore, we call for urgent compliance with international humanitarian law and for the protection of civilians.

The Liechtenstein Government, already on 25 February, released an emergency assistance contribution of half a million Swiss Francs. This contribution was used to support the activities of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in connection with the war in Ukraine. In addition, the Government has decided to apply to the Parliament for a supplementary loan of 1.8 million Swiss Francs in reaction to the growing humanitarian needs. This request will be dealt with by the Parliament in the coming days.

Liechtenstein, in line with its humanitarian tradition, therefore stands ready to play its part in solidarity with Ukraine. This includes the reception of refugees from Ukraine that need protection. The first refugees arrived in Liechtenstein last week.

We are in full admiration for Poland and other countries, who have welcomed very large numbers of refugees from Ukraine.

Thank you.