

**EUROPEAN UNION****OSCE Human Dimension Implementation Meeting
Warsaw, 16 - 27 September 2019**

EU Right of Reply – Working Session 10

Mr. Moderator,

In reply to the intervention questioning the EU sanctions policy, we recall our unwavering support to the sovereignty, territorial integrity, unity and independence of Ukraine within its internationally recognised borders and we remain committed to full implementation of our non-recognition policy, including through restrictive measures. Since March 2014, the EU has progressively imposed restrictive measures against Russia. The measures were adopted in response to the illegal annexation of Crimea and the deliberate destabilisation of Ukraine.

We take again issue with the intolerant statement that was made during the session today by *Salut et Misericorde*. To those who are calling here for unequal treatment and discrimination we say that the Universal Declaration on Human Rights is clear that “all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights” and “everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration”.

As we were asked why we did not address certain country situations, we reiterate our position, as stated in the statement delivered by Germany on behalf of the EU, that all Participating States should preserve judicial independence and counter any attempts to limit the ability of courts and judges to perform their duties free of influence or control by other actors.

Thank you.