

Chairmanship: Poland

827th PLENARY MEETING OF THE FORUM

1. Date: Wednesday, 27 July 2016

Opened: 10.05 a.m.

Closed: 11.20 a.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador A. Bugajski

Prior to taking up the agenda, the Chairperson, on behalf of the FSC, and the United States of America, extended condolences to the families of the victims of the recent events in Germany and France. Germany thanked the Chairperson and delegations for these condolences and expressions of solidarity.

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

Agenda item 1: GENERAL STATEMENTS

Situation in and around Ukraine: Ukraine (Annex 1) (FSC.DEL/158/16), Slovakia-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Montenegro; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine, in alignment) (FSC.DEL/157/16), United States of America, Canada, Russian Federation (Annex 2)

Agenda item 2: CLOSING STATEMENT OF THE POLISH FSC
CHAIRMANSHIP BY AMBASSADOR ADAM BUGAJSKI,
CHAIRPERSON OF THE FORUM FOR SECURITY
CO-OPERATION

Chairperson (FSC.DEL/159/16 OSCE+), Portugal, Netherlands, Germany,
Romania, United States of America

Agenda item 3: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(a) *Matters of protocol:* United States of America, Chairperson

- (b) *Announcement of the co-sponsoring of a food-for-thought paper and proposal for a draft decision on observation thresholds (FSC.DEL/222/15/Rev.1 Restr.):*
Ukraine

4. Next meeting:

Wednesday, 14 September 2016, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Forum for Security Co-operation**

FSC.JOUR/833
27 July 2016
Annex 1

Original: ENGLISH

827th Plenary Meeting
FSC Journal No. 833, Agenda item 1

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF UKRAINE

Mr. Chairperson,

In connection with today's statement by the Russian delegation on the status of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea (ARC), the delegation of Ukraine wishes to emphasize the following.

International law prohibits the acquisition of part or all of another State's territory through coercion or force. The Autonomous Republic of Crimea, which remains an integral part of Ukraine, was illegally occupied by military force and annexed by the Russian Federation in violation of OSCE principles and commitments and norms of international law. Illegitimate actions on the part of the Russian Federation do not have any legal consequences with regard to the status of the ARC as an integral part of Ukraine. The territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders is safeguarded by international law and UN General Assembly resolution 68/262 of 27 March 2014, "Territorial integrity of Ukraine".

We call on the Russian Federation to return to the tenets of international law and reverse the illegal occupation and annexation of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.

The delegation of Ukraine requests that this statement be registered in the journal of the day.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Forum for Security Co-operation**

FSC.JOUR/833

27 July 2016

Annex 2

ENGLISH

Original: RUSSIAN

827th Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 833, Agenda item 1

**STATEMENT BY
THE DELEGATION OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

Dear Mr. Chairperson,

In connection with the reference to Crimea in the statements by a number of delegations today, the delegation of the Russian Federation feels obliged to make the following observations.

The proclamation of independence of the Republic of Crimea and its incorporation into the Russian Federation was a legal expression of the right of the people of Crimea to self-determination at a time when Ukraine, with outside support, was in the throes of a *coup d'état*, with radical nationalist elements exerting a forceful influence on the decisions adopted in the country, which in turn resulted in the interests of the Ukrainian regions and Russian-speaking population being ignored.

The multi-ethnic population of Crimea took the corresponding decisions by a huge majority in a free and fair expression of its will. The status of the Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol as constituent entities of the Russian Federation is not open to reconsideration or discussion. Crimea is and will remain Russian. This is a fact that our partners will have to come to terms with.

This position is based on and fully complies with international law.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. I request that this statement be attached to the journal of the day.