



PERMANENT DELEGATION
OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA
TO THE OSCE

PC.DEL/24/15
16 January 2015

ENGLISH only

STATEMENT

by the Republic of Moldova in response to the address delivered by H.E. Ivica Dacic,
First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Serbia
(*OSCE Special Permanent Council, January 15, 2015*)

Mr. Chairperson,

I would like to join previous speakers in warmly welcoming the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, the First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Serbia Ivica Dacic at the first meeting of the Permanent Council and thank him for the comprehensive outline of the Serbian Chairmanship's priorities. While aligning to the EU Statement, I would like to make some brief remarks in my national capacity.

The 2014 was one of the most challenging and difficult years for the entire European security system. While we will continue to deal with serious security challenges, it should be in our common interest to reconsolidate the security framework based on restoring respect of the Helsinki principles and OSCE commitments. In this context, the "Helsinki +40" Process remains a key mechanism which can generate ideas to foster the progress. We also hope that the Panel of Eminent Persons will bring a valuable contribution in solving the broader crisis in Europe and restoring confidence among participating States.

We are concerned by the recent deterioration of the situation in Eastern Ukraine. We support all OSCE efforts directed at de-escalation of the situation on the ground, in particular the activity of the SMM as well as monitoring of the Russian-Ukrainian border. We hope the Trilateral Contact Group will be able to contribute to the full implementation of the Minsk agreements. A lasting political settlement of the crisis in and around Ukraine should be based on the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders.

Mr. Chairperson,

We highly value the readiness of the Serbian Chairmanship to pay a special attention to the conflict resolution processes in the OSCE area. During the previous year the Moldovan authorities established good cooperation with the CiO Special Representative for the Transnistrian conflict resolution Ambassador R.Bogojevic and we are looking forward to receive him soon in Chisinau. The settlement of the Transnistrian conflict needs to be reenergized and the OSCE could play a leading role in this regard. Joint efforts should be undertaken to restore the proper functioning of the 5+2 negotiation format by ensuring regular meetings and substantive discussions. We share the importance of concrete steps aimed at restoring confidence and trust

between sides, but in parallel, we should prevent possible tensions in the Security Zone or deterioration of the situation around Latin-scripts schools in the Transnistrian region. We hope that during the current year we will move forward on opening the discussions on core political issues of the Transnistrian conflict, in particular on defining the special status of the Transnistrian region while respecting the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Moldova.

We would also like to reiterate our longstanding position on the need to finalize the withdrawal of the Russian military forces from the territory of the Republic of Moldova in accordance with international commitments and Constitution of my country.

Mr. Minister,

In conclusion, we would like to wish you and your able team every success in fulfilling a very challenging task of leading the Organization during this difficult period. You can count on our full support. We are also looking forward for your visit to Moldova at the earliest opportunity.

Thank you.