



**Permanent Mission of Ukraine**  
to the International  
Organizations in Vienna

## **STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF UKRAINE**

### **1104<sup>th</sup> FSC Plenary Meeting**

(09 April 2025)

Agenda Item 1, Closing Session

**Mr Chairperson,**

At the outset, let me express Ukraine's sincere appreciation to you, Ambassador Valdés, and your capable team for your committed leadership of the Forum for Security Co-operation over the past trimester.

We are also grateful for the closing remarks delivered by Minister Manuel Albares, (Minister for Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation of Spain).

Providing leadership over the OSCE's politico-military dimension amid the gravest security crisis in Europe since World War II is no small feat. Nevertheless, Spain has successfully steered the Forum's work in a focused and constructive manner, ensuring that it remains faithful to its mandate and responsive to current realities.

We commend the Spanish FSC Chairpersonship for maintaining the issue of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine at the core of the Forum's agenda. As Ukraine has consistently underscored, the OSCE – as the largest regional security organisation in Europe – cannot remain passive in the face of such an egregious and ongoing violation of the rules-based international order.

Until international law is fully restored, there can be no return to "business as usual" within the OSCE's politico-military structures and beyond. It is in our shared interest to uphold the principles we have all committed to, and to ensure that breaches of these norms are neither ignored nor rewarded.

**Esteemed colleagues,**

Throughout this trimester, we have heard repeated calls for peace from the Russian delegation. Yet these words have remained unaccompanied by concrete actions. On the contrary, we have witnessed continued disinformation, intimidation tactics, and a pattern of undiplomatic behaviour that undermines the integrity of this Forum.

Russia has deliberately sought to misuse the FSC as a platform for a war propaganda, disregarding both the spirit and the letter of the commitments undertaken by all participating States. Its rhetoric is consistently contradicted by its actions on the ground: the killing of civilians, destruction of critical infrastructure, relentless targeting of Ukrainian towns and cities, and even war against children in the playgrounds.

A particularly tragic example occurred on 4 April 2025, when a Russian ballistic missile strike on the city of Kryvyi Rih killed 20 civilians – including nine children –and wounded over 80 others. This atrocity stands as a devastating testament to the hypocrisy of Russia's so-called peace narrative.

Such acts of terror cannot be normalised or dismissed. War crimes must not be tolerated. The Russian Federation must not be permitted to distort international forums to justify its aggression, nor to blur the lines between lawful and good faith diplomacy and criminal violence.

We are deeply grateful to all participating States who continue to support Ukraine and stand in firm defence of our shared principles. If we are to preserve the legacy and relevance of the Helsinki Final Act, we must collectively ensure accountability and uphold the core tenets of international law.

**Mr Chairperson,**

In conclusion, we warmly welcome Estonia as the incoming FSC Chairpersonship, and extend our best wishes for a successful term. We also express our sincere appreciation to Denmark for its dedicated service as an outgoing member of the FSC Triyka, and welcome Finland as an incoming Triyka member.

Ukraine remains ready to work constructively with FSC Chairpersonships and other participating States to uphold the integrity of the OSCE and to ensure that this Forum continues to serve its purpose, even in the most challenging of times.

**Thank you, Mr Chairperson.**