



Chairmanship: Finland

1519th PLENARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

1. Date: Thursday, 8 May 2025 (in the Neuer Saal and via video teleconference)

Opened: 10.05 a.m.
Suspended: 1.15 p.m.
Resumed: 3 p.m.
Closed: 5.10 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador V. Häkkinen
Ms. M. Neuvonen

Russian Federation (Annex 1)

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

Agenda item 1: ADDRESS BY THE DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER OF
UKRAINE, H.E. MS. MARIANA BETSA

Discussion under agenda item 2

Agenda item 2: THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION'S ONGOING AGGRESSION
AGAINST UKRAINE

Chairperson, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States of America (PC.DEL/458/25), Germany (also on behalf of Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and Ukraine) (PC.DEL/463/25 OSCE+), Türkiye (PC.DEL/479/25 OSCE+), Canada (PC.DEL/466/25 OSCE+), Norway, Switzerland (PC.DEL/474/25 OSCE+), Czechia (PC.DEL/473/25 OSCE+), Moldova, San Marino, Croatia, Germany, Japan (Partner for Co-operation), Russian Federation

Agenda item 3: REPORT BY THE HEAD OF THE OSCE MISSION TO
 MOLDOVA

Chairperson, Head of the OSCE Mission to Moldova (PC.FR/2/25), United States of America (PC.DEL/459/25), Ukraine (PC.DEL/492/25), Poland-European Union (with Albania, Andorra, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/484/25), Türkiye (PC.DEL/481/25 OSCE+), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/460/25 OSCE+), Canada (PC.DEL/461/25/Rev.1 OSCE+), United Kingdom, Norway (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania and Sweden), Switzerland (PC.DEL/475/25 OSCE+), Romania, Moldova (PC.DEL/495/25 OSCE+)

Agenda item 4: REVIEW OF CURRENT ISSUES

- (a) *Eightieth anniversary of the victory over Nazism in the Second World War:* Russian Federation (also on behalf of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Serbia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan) (Annex 2), Armenia (PC.DEL/487/25), Azerbaijan (PC.DEL/489/25 OSCE+)
- (b) *Increasing military involvement of certain NATO and EU member States in yet more confrontation in and around Ukraine:* Russian Federation (PC.DEL/465/25/Rev.1)
- (c) *Recent developments in Moldova:* Russian Federation (PC.DEL/467/25), Moldova
- (d) *World Press Freedom Day, observed on 3 May 2025:* Russian Federation (PC.DEL/471/25), Belarus (PC.DEL/472/25 OSCE+)
- (e) *On the occasion of World Press Freedom Day, observed on 3 May 2025:* Chairperson, Poland-European Union (with Albania, Andorra, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/485/25), Ukraine, Montenegro (PC.DEL/477/25 OSCE+), France (also on behalf of Austria, Canada, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Latvia, Lithuania, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and the United Kingdom) (Annex 3), Türkiye (PC.DEL/482/25 OSCE+), Azerbaijan (PC.DEL/490/25 OSCE+), Belarus, Russian Federation
- (f) *Europe Day, observed on 9 May 2025:* Poland-European Union (with Albania, Andorra, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Iceland, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/486/25), Albania (PC.DEL/480/25 OSCE+), Liechtenstein (also on behalf of Iceland, Norway and Switzerland) (PC.DEL/464/25 OSCE+), France (also on behalf of Germany) (PC.DEL/470/25 OSCE+), United States of America (PC.DEL/469/25), United Kingdom, Canada (PC.DEL/468/25 OSCE+)

Agenda item 5: REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE
CHAIRPERSON-IN-OFFICE

- (a) *Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting II (2025) on “Protecting Civic Space: The Role of Human Rights Defenders and Freedom of Peaceful Assembly”, held in Vienna on 5 and 6 May 2025:* Chairperson
- (b) *Chairmanship conference on gender equality entitled “Building Resilience through Inclusion and Empowerment”, held in Vienna on 6 and 7 May 2025:* Chairperson
- (c) *Announcement of the distribution of a written report on the activities of the Chairperson-in-Office:* Chairperson

Agenda item 6: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

- (a) *Announcement of the distribution of a written report of the Secretary General (SEC.GAL/47/25 OSCE+):* Director of the Office of the Secretary General
- (b) *Visits of the Secretary General to Armenia, Georgia and Azerbaijan from 20 to 26 April 2025:* Director of the Office of the Secretary General (SEC.GAL/49/25 OSCE+), Armenia (PC.DEL/488/25 OSCE+), Azerbaijan (PC.DEL/491/25 OSCE+)
- (c) *Meeting of the Secretary General with Ms. Margaryta Shabanova, spouse of the detained OSCE official Mr. Dmytro Shabanov on 6 May 2025:* Director of the Office of the Secretary General (SEC.GAL/47/25 OSCE+)
- (d) *Launch of a call to update the roster of first responders for rapid deployment:* Director of the Office of the Secretary General (SEC.GAL/47/25 OSCE+)

Agenda item 7: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Farewell to the Permanent Representative of Kyrgyzstan to the OSCE, Ambassador T. Makeyev: Chairperson, Dean of the Permanent Council (Liechtenstein), Kyrgyzstan

4. Next meeting:

Thursday, 15 May 2025, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal and via video teleconference



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Permanent Council**

PC.JOUR/1519

8 May 2025

Annex 1

ENGLISH

Original: RUSSIAN

1519th Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 1519, Point 2

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

Mr. Chairperson,

It remains deeply disappointing that the Finnish Chairmanship is openly violating the rules of our Organization and wilfully continuing the fruitless discussions of the Ukraine topic at an OSCE decision-making body. The inclusion of a separate confrontational item on “Russian aggression against Ukraine” in the Permanent Council’s agenda is quite unacceptable. Such actions are directly incompatible with standing agenda items as established by the Rules of Procedure of the OSCE (chapter IV.1(C)) and must stop. The agenda circulated by the Chairmanship for today’s meeting has an overtly aggressive thrust as regards the Ukraine issue, is incompatible with the principles of the OSCE and does not give all participating States the opportunity to take part on an equal and non-discriminatory basis in a discussion of the developments in and around Ukraine. The inclusion in the Permanent Council’s agenda of a separate duplicative statement by a representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine in addition to the aforementioned issue also seems extremely strange. We urge the Chairmanship to stop trying to turn the regular meetings of an OSCE decision-making body into a propagandistic political show.

The convening of Permanent Council meetings must be fully in line with the Rules of Procedure of the OSCE by involving consultations with all the participating States (paragraphs IV.1(C)1 and IV.1(C)3) and may not run counter to the provisions of the mandate of the Chairmanship-in-Office, which unambiguously obligates the Chairmanship to take the whole spectrum of opinions into account in its actions (Porto Ministerial Council Decision No. 8 of 2002).

This is clearly an abuse of authority by the Chairmanship, which is obliged to act for all 57 participating States and not for a group of countries that are aggressively imposing their views on everyone else.

We request that this formal reservation be reflected in the journal of today’s meeting of the OSCE Permanent Council in accordance with paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the Rules of Procedure of the OSCE.

Thank you for your attention.



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Permanent Council**

PC.JOUR/1519

8 May 2025

Annex 2

ENGLISH

Original: RUSSIAN

1519th Plenary Meeting

PC Journal No. 1519, Agenda item 4(a)

**STATEMENT BY
THE DELEGATION OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION
(ALSO ON BEHALF OF ARMENIA, AZERBAIJAN, BELARUS,
KAZAKHSTAN, KYRGYZSTAN, SERBIA, TAJIKISTAN,
TURKMENISTAN AND UZBEKISTAN)**

Eighty years ago, Nazism was defeated in the Second World War. We honour and commemorate this sacred date.

The triumph over the ideas of racial superiority and misanthropy, achieved by the coalition of allies through military means, determined the fate of civilization on a global scale and must not be forgotten. It is our common duty to preserve the historical memory of the tragic events of those years and of the feat accomplished by millions of people who fought and perished in the cause of peace and for the prosperity of future generations.

We categorically refuse to accept attempts to revise or distort the outcome of the Second World War and to downplay the role of the peoples of the Soviet Union and participants in the liberation movements of European countries in the defeat of Nazism.

Efforts to rehabilitate and glorify the Nazis and their accomplices and to deny the war crimes and crimes against humanity that they committed are unacceptable. In accordance with the Nuremberg Tribunal's judgments, which gave legal underpinning to what was achieved through the victory in the Second World War, the crimes of the Nazis and their accomplices have no statute of limitations.

We strongly condemn the destruction and desecration of monuments to, and burial places of, the soldier-liberators of any nationality who laid down their lives on the altar of victory, regardless of where those memorials may be located. We mourn for the victims of National Socialism.

The victory over Nazism in 1945 laid the foundations for the CSCE Helsinki Final Act, signed in August 1975.

We note the resolve of the overwhelming majority of the international community not to repeat the tragic mistakes of the past and to build the future on the basis of unifying

principles. In this context, we welcome the United Nations General Assembly resolution adopted on 17 December 2024 on combating glorification of Nazism, neo-Nazism and other practices that contribute to fuelling contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance.

We call upon all countries and peoples to honour the memory of those who forged victory in the Second World War, not to forget the lessons of shared history, and to fully support efforts to combat all manifestations of neo-Nazism and the glorification thereof. Having been defeated, Nazism must not be allowed to raise its head again.



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Permanent Council**

PC.JOUR/1519
8 May 2025
Annex 3

Original: ENGLISH

1519th Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 1519, Agenda item 4(e)

**STATEMENT BY
THE DELEGATION OF FRANCE
(ALSO ON BEHALF OF AUSTRIA, CANADA, DENMARK, ESTONIA,
FINLAND, GERMANY, GREECE, LATVIA, LITHUANIA,
MONTENEGRO, THE NETHERLANDS, NORWAY, SWEDEN
AND THE UNITED KINGDOM)**

Madam Chairperson,

I am delivering this statement on behalf of the following participating States that are members of the informal Group of Friends on Safety of Journalists: Austria, Canada, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Latvia, Lithuania, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

Last week, on 3 May, we marked World Press Freedom Day. This day serves as a reminder for States to respect their commitments and obligations regarding press freedom. It is also an opportunity for us all to show our support for media that are affected by restrictions of press freedom, and a day of remembrance of journalists and media actors who lost their lives in the line of duty.

As the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media has consistently highlighted: there is no security without media freedom. There can be no media freedom if journalists and other media actors cannot work safely and freely. Despite ample commitments and obligations in the field of human rights, media freedom and the safety of journalists, the challenges in the OSCE area are manifold. Journalists and media actors are being harassed, threatened, imprisoned or even killed. Legislation seeking to restrict the space for civil society, journalists and media actors is being implemented in several participating States. Challenges in the digital sphere, such as disinformation, information manipulation and smear campaigns, adverse impacts of AI, and online violence and harassment spurring physical attacks, pose additional pressure on the safety of journalists and media freedom in the OSCE area. As highlighted by the Representative on Freedom of the Media, female journalists face a double burden as they are being attacked as journalists and as women.

More than three years into Russia's unprovoked and unjustifiable war of aggression against Ukraine, with the complicity of Belarus, media freedom and the safety of journalists

continue to be severely affected. According to Reporters Without Borders, 13 journalists have been killed by Russian forces, and at least 47 Ukrainian and foreign journalists have been injured while reporting due to attacks by Russian armed forces. According to the International Press Institute, at least 20 Ukrainian journalists are currently in Russian captivity. The Moscow Mechanism report of April 2024 also found that journalists are among the thousands of Ukrainian civilians arbitrarily detained by Russia. We continue to be deeply concerned about the treatment of Ukrainian journalist Viktoriia Roshchyna. Russia continues attacking media facilities in Ukraine. On 13 April 2025, several media offices in Sumy were damaged as a result of a Russian strike. On the night of 6 April 2025, an office building in Kyiv used by Inomovlennya, Ukraine's State service for foreign broadcasting, was damaged as a result of Russian strikes on the city.

In Russia, the systematic, State-sponsored repression is intensifying, including through the silencing of dissenting voices, civil society and independent media. Also in Belarus, the systematic and widespread repression continues unabated and intensifies. At least 38 journalists and media actors are currently detained in Russia, and 45 in Belarus. We call on Russia and Belarus to immediately and unconditionally release all those arbitrarily detained and imprisoned, including journalists and media actors.

We are following with deep concern the developments regarding media freedom and how it is affected by the spread of so-called "foreign agent" laws and other legislation restricting the possibilities for journalists and media actors to operate. In Georgia, the rushed adoption of repressive legislation is fundamentally incompatible with core democratic principles. We repeat our call on Georgia to immediately and unconditionally release all journalists and media actors arbitrarily detained or arrested, and to engage in genuine dialogue with the Representative on Freedom of the Media and the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights. In Azerbaijan, there has been a concerning increase in cases against independent journalists and free media outlets. We call on Azerbaijan to honour its OSCE commitments and ensure all its citizens due legal process and access to free and independent media. All those detained for exercising their fundamental rights should be released. Regarding Türkiye, we echo the statement by the Representative on Freedom of the Media calling for the swift release of journalists arrested while covering recent demonstrations.

Madam Chairperson,

Let us take the opportunity of World Press Freedom Day to honour those journalists and media actors that risk their lives and safety to keep us informed, and to reiterate our commitment to implementing our joint commitments and international obligations in the field of human rights and media freedom.

I thank you.