



**Delegation of Ukraine
to the OSCE**

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ENGLISH only

**Statement by the Delegation of Ukraine
in response to the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media
Ms. Dunja Mijatović**

As for delivery by Permanent Representative H.E. Mr. Ihor Prokopchuk
to the Permanent Council, 29 March 2012

Mr. Chairperson,

The Delegation of Ukraine is pleased to warmly welcome the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media Ms. Dunja Mijatović, whose important mandate we strongly support and will continue to do so during Ukraine's Chairmanship in OSCE in 2013.

We thank Dunja Mijatović and her Office for a comprehensive and detailed regular report. We take note with appreciation that the topic of the recent report is focused on the issues of Internet freedom which is one of the priorities of the Irish Chairmanship and a matter of relevance to all participating States.

We commend the Office for the first OSCE-wide study on Internet regulation and take note of its findings that deserve our careful consideration.

We look forward to the OSCE Chairmanship's event to be organised in June this year in Dublin dedicated to Internet freedom. We see its significance in identifying challenges, sharing good practices and bringing the OSCE region closer to the highest international standards in the field of media freedom.

Ukraine welcomes the fact that media freedom continues to be among priority issues of the OSCE human dimension.

We view the discussions that took place last year on the issues of freedom of the media as a positive development, and regret that consensus was not reached on the Ministerial draft decisions on safety of journalists and pluralism in digital media. We deem it important to continue our work aiming at finding common ground in this area.

As to the concrete cases mentioned in Ms. Mijatović's report concerning Ukraine, I wish to mention that the Ukrainian delegation has informed RFoM's Office on 28 March about the recent developments with regard to their investigation.

In conclusion, let me reiterate our strong support of the Representative's mandate and activities as well as readiness to look closer into possibilities to strengthen the human capacities of the Office. We appreciate our open and active dialogue with Ms. Mijatović and wish her every success in her future endeavours.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.