



**Statement by H.E. Cristian Istrate, Permanent Representative of Romania
To the 815th Plenary of the FSC**

13 April 2016

We would like to welcome Under-Secretary of State Marek Ziółkowski to the FSC and congratulate Poland for assumption of this prestigious function as FSC Chairmanship.

We thank Under-Secretary Ziółkowski for his comprehensive presentation on the security challenges we face within the OSCE, and for summarizing the Polish programme of activities for the second session of the Forum.

We fully align with the EU statement and we have few remarks on my national capacity:

Romania and Poland enjoy very good bilateral relations, characterized by a distinct dynamic and excellent cooperation, including in the EU and NATO frameworks. This is particularly based on common interests in implementing European policies, including those regarding the EU's eastern neighborhood, and pursuing security and stability within the Euro-Atlantic area.

Romania and Poland are strategic partners, since 7 October 2009 following the signature of the Joint Declaration on Strategic Partnership.

As a follow-up, in December 2015 the two foreign ministers signed in Bucharest the new Romanian-Polish Action Plan for the period 2016-2020, subsumed to the existing Strategic Partnership.

We express our support to the Polish agenda of the FSC and to the Polish Delegation during its Chairmanship.

Polish agenda includes topics of interest for OSCE and European security such as Security Architecture in the Central and Eastern Europe, the Baltic Sea Region or Central Asia.

We appreciate Polish Chair's bringing up the topic of protracted conflicts at the meeting of Security situation in Georgia. But also issues of interest, such as non-proliferation or International Criminal Court.

We believe that discussions on some distinct topics should be continued beyond this Session, in future FSC Chairmanships.

In this way, after a series of debates, taking forward and building upon what we have already discussed, we will be able to ensure a continuity of our dialog towards achieving progress and positive results.

As a future FSC Chair for the first Session in 2017, Romania intends to retrieve some of the Polish topics for deepening their consideration with a view of reaching a consolidated approach as a basis for progress on respective topics.

Thank you Mr. Chairperson.