
Chairmanship: Finland**1506th PLENARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**

1. Date: Thursday, 30 January 2025 (in the Neuer Saal and via video teleconference)

Opened: 9.05 a.m.
Suspended: 1 p.m.
Resumed: 3.05 p.m.
Closed: 6 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador V. Häkkinen
Ms. M. Neuvonen
Mr. K. Laukkanen

Prior to taking up the agenda, the Chairperson and a number of participating States offered their condolences to the United States of America in connection with the aviation accident that occurred in Washington, D.C., on 29 January 2025. The United States of America thanked them for their expression of sympathy.

Chairperson, Russian Federation (Annex 1)

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

Agenda item 1: THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION'S ONGOING AGGRESSION AGAINST UKRAINE

Chairperson, Ukraine, Poland-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Ukraine; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland and Liechtenstein, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Andorra and Monaco, in alignment) (PC.DEL/68/25), United States of America, United Kingdom, Canada, Türkiye (PC.DEL/49/25 OSCE+), Switzerland (PC.DEL/59/25 OSCE+), Norway (PC.DEL/80/25), Lithuania, Russian Federation

Agenda item 2: INAUGURAL REMARKS BY THE OSCE SECRETARY
GENERAL, H.E. MR. FERİDUN H. SİNİRLİOĞLU

Chairperson, OSCE Secretary General (SEC.GAL/12/25 OSCE+), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/28/25), Poland-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Ukraine; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland and Liechtenstein, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Andorra, Monaco and San Marino, in alignment) (PC.DEL/69/25), Kazakhstan (PC.DEL/73/25 OSCE+), Canada, Belarus (PC.DEL/43/25 OSCE+), Azerbaijan (PC.DEL/54/25 OSCE+), Türkiye (PC.DEL/50/25 OSCE+), North Macedonia, Ukraine, United States of America (PC.DEL/29/25), Armenia (PC.DEL/75/25 OSCE+), Kyrgyzstan, Switzerland (PC.DEL/61/25 OSCE+), Uzbekistan, United Kingdom (PC.DEL/30/25 OSCE+), Montenegro (PC.DEL/63/25 OSCE+), Turkmenistan, Malta (PC.DEL/47/25 OSCE+), Holy See (PC.DEL/32/25 OSCE+), Georgia (PC.DEL/65/25 OSCE+), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Moldova, Norway (PC.DEL/78/25), Tajikistan (PC.DEL/62/25 OSCE+), Israel (Partner for Co-operation)

Agenda item 3: ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE OSCE
PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY, H.E. MS. PIA KAUMA

Chairperson, President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, Poland-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Ukraine; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Andorra and San Marino, in alignment) (PC.DEL/70/25 OSCE+), United States of America (PC.DEL/37/25), United Kingdom, Kazakhstan (PC.DEL/74/25 OSCE+), Belarus (PC.DEL/44/25 OSCE+), Azerbaijan (PC.DEL/56/25 OSCE+), Türkiye (PC.DEL/52/25 OSCE+), Ukraine, Armenia (PC.DEL/77/25 OSCE+), Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Malta (PC.DEL/33/25 OSCE+), Georgia (PC.DEL/66/25 OSCE+), Moldova, Ireland (PC.DEL/72/25) Russian Federation

Agenda item 4: ADDRESS BY THE CHAIR OF THE INTERNATIONAL
HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE ALLIANCE

Chairperson, Chair of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance, Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office on Combating Anti-Semitism, Poland-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Ukraine; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland and Liechtenstein, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Andorra, Monaco and San Marino, in alignment) (PC.DEL/71/25 OSCE+), United States of America (PC.DEL/36/25), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/35/25), Canada, Azerbaijan (PC.DEL/57/25 OSCE+), Ukraine, Armenia (PC.DEL/76/25 OSCE+), Albania (PC.DEL/55/25 OSCE+), Switzerland (PC.DEL/60/25 OSCE+), Norway (PC.DEL/79/25), Holy See (PC.DEL/38/25)

OSCE+), Germany (Annex 2), Serbia (PC.DEL/53/25 OSCE+), Moldova, North Macedonia, Belarus (PC.DEL/45/25 OSCE+), Georgia (PC.DEL/67/25 OSCE+), Romania, Spain (PC.DEL/51/25 OSCE+), Israel (Partner for Co-operation)

Agenda item 5: REVIEW OF CURRENT ISSUES

- (a) *Increasing military involvement of certain NATO and EU member States in yet more confrontation in and around Ukraine: Russian Federation* (PC.DEL/39/25)
- (b) *Concerns related to human dimension commitments in Belarus: Germany* (also on behalf of Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine and the United Kingdom) (PC.DEL/58/25 OSCE+), United States of America (PC.DEL/40/25), Poland-European Union
- (c) *Presidential election in Belarus, held on 26 January 2025: Belarus* (PC.DEL/46/25 OSCE+), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/42/25), Uzbekistan, Tajikistan (PC.DEL/64/25 OSCE+), Azerbaijan, Turkmenistan

Agenda item 6: REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE
CHAIRPERSON-IN-OFFICE

- (a) *Visit by the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, H.E. Ms. E. Valtonen, to Ukraine on 8 January 2025: Chairperson*
- (b) *Visit by the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, H.E. Ms. E. Valtonen, to Moldova on 9 January 2025: Chairperson*
- (c) *Meeting between the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, H.E. Ms. E. Valtonen, and the OSCE Secretary General, Mr. Feridun H. Sinirlioğlu, held in Helsinki on 16 January 2025: Chairperson*
- (d) *Address by the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, H.E. Ms. E. Valtonen, at the 1505th (Special) Plenary Meeting of the Permanent Council, held on 23 January 2025: Chairperson*
- (e) *Meeting between the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, H.E. Ms. E. Valtonen, and the elected leadership of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, held in Helsinki on 24 January 2025: Chairperson*
- (f) *Participation of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, H.E. Ms. E. Valtonen, in a meeting of the NATO North Atlantic Council, to be held in Brussels: Chairperson*

- (g) *Participation of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, H.E. Ms. E. Valtonen, in the national opening event of the Finnish 2025 OSCE Chairmanship, to be held in Helsinki on 3 February 2025: Chairperson*

Agenda item 7: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

Announcement of the distribution of a written report of the Secretary General (SEC.GAL/11/25 OSCE+): Director of the Conflict Prevention Centre

Agenda item 8: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Language conforming of translations of the documents adopted by the OSCE Ministerial Council in 2024, to be held on 17 February 2025: Malta (PC.DEL/48/25 OSCE+)

4. Next meeting:

Thursday, 6 February 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/1506
30 January 2025
Annex 1

ENGLISH
Original: RUSSIAN

1506th Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 1506, Point 2

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

Mr. Chairperson,

It is deeply disappointing that again, just like its predecessors, the Finnish Chairmanship is flagrantly violating the rules of our Organization and is wilfully intent on continuing the fruitless discussions of the Ukraine topic at an OSCE decision-making body. Today's meeting is no exception. 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, non-discriminatory basis in a discussion of the developments in and around Ukraine.

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/1506
30 January 2025
Annex 2

ENGLISH
Original: GERMAN

1506th Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 1506, Agenda item 4

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF GERMANY

Mr. Chairperson,

Germany aligns itself fully with the statement by the European Union. Allow me, however, to add a few comments in a national capacity.

Lord Pickles, thank you very much for your report as Chair of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) and for your ever so important work.

On 27 January, the day on which Auschwitz was liberated 80 years ago, we commemorated the millions of victims of Nazi Germany's crimes of violence, in particular the systematic murder on a massive scale of millions of Jews, but also of Sinti and Roma, people with disabilities, homosexuals and many other people who were persecuted and murdered.

Germany abides by its historical responsibility. What happened in Auschwitz and other German concentration camps is part of our history and our identity. As Federal President Frank-Walter Steinmeier put it at the commemoration event in Auschwitz a few days ago: "There is no end to remembrance and thus no line that can be drawn under our responsibility!"

Remembering these crimes is more important today than ever. At a time when knowledge of the Holocaust is fading, when many people doubt or deny that the Holocaust against the Jews took place, we must keep the memory of these brutal crimes alive. All the more so as, eighty years on, anti-Semitism is again growing stronger today and has increased dramatically and alarmingly since 7 October 2023. We cannot but be saddened that so many young people, also in Germany, know less and less about the Holocaust. As an alliance of 35 countries, the IHRA carries out important work for Holocaust remembrance, for Holocaust education, against the denial, relativization and falsification of the Holocaust, and against anti-Semitism and anti-Gypsyism.

As early as April 2004, the OSCE participating States, convening in Berlin, set out in the Berlin Declaration measures and commitments to combat anti-Semitism. Since then, the OSCE, including the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, has carried out

important work. The forthcoming conference in Helsinki on combating anti-Semitism again provides us with an important forum for an exchange on further steps.

Thank you.

I kindly ask you, Mr. Chairperson, to attach this statement to the journal of the day.