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**ENGLISH** only



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

## STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF UKRAINE

1095<sup>th</sup> FSC Plenary Meeting (29 January 2025)

Agenda Item 1, Opening Session

Mr Chairperson,

Ukraine has aligned itself with the statement delivered by the European Union. However, I would like to make some additional remarks in my national capacity.

At the outset, I would like to extend Ukraine's sincere appreciation to the outgoing Danish FSC Chairpersonship for their dedicated efforts during the third trimester of last year. Despite the significant challenges faced during that period, it became evident that the existing FSC tools can be effectively utilized to uphold our shared principles and values. These valuable practices must be duly considered and built upon in the future.

Ukraine warmly welcomes Spain as the new FSC Chairpersonship and congratulates our Spanish colleagues on assuming this important role with dedication and commitment. Ambassador Valdés y Valentín-Gamaz, we wish you and your team every success in steering the Forum's work in the months ahead. Please count on the full support and readiness for cooperation from the Ukrainian delegation.

We are grateful for the presentation of Spain's FSC priorities, as outlined by Spain's Minister for Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation HE Mr José Manuel Albares in his video address.

Ukraine highly appreciates that Russia's ongoing war against Ukraine and support for Ukraine are the Chairpersonship's priorities. Russia's unprovoked and unjustified war of

aggression represents one of the gravest security challenges within the OSCE area, and it must remain central to the FSC's deliberations.

Esteemed colleagues,

Until the Russian Federation halts its illegal aggression and adheres to the fundamental principles of international law, it is impossible to engage in substantive discussions on our politico-military commitments under the pretense that the aggressor state can be treated as an equal or trustworthy partner. Instead, our collective focus must remain on holding the perpetrator accountable.

Earlier this month, Ukraine's Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr Andrii Sybiha, emphasized this critical point, stating: "The OSCE should continue to be a platform for keeping Russia accountable for its ongoing armed aggression against Ukraine and hybrid war against Europe."

Indeed, Russia's war of aggression, along with its hostile activities against other nations and attempts to undermine the international security architecture, must remain a top priority for our organization, particularly within its politico-military dimension.

Reflecting on the Forum's working programme under the Spanish Chairpersonship for this trimester, we also commend the upcoming joint FSC-PC Security Dialogue on the Women, Peace, and Security Agenda. Advancing gender equality is an essential element of the OSCE's comprehensive security concept. For Ukraine, this topic holds particular relevance, given the devastating impact of the ongoing war and the indispensable role of Ukrainian women in resisting Russian aggression. We look forward to contributing our experiences and lessons learned in this vital area.

In conclusion, allow me once again to express our best wishes of success to Spain, extend our gratitude to Croatia as it leaves the Troika, and warmly welcome Estonia as a new Troika member.

Thank you, Mr Chairperson.