



**Delegation of Ukraine  
to the OSCE**

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**Statement by the Delegation of Ukraine  
in response to the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of  
Albania, H.E. Edmond Haxhinasto**

As for delivery by Permanent Representative H.E. Mr. Ihor Prokopchuk  
to the Permanent Council, 14 June 2012

Mr. Chairman,

The delegation of Ukraine would like to join others in warmly welcoming the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Albania, H.E. Edmond Haxhinasto to the Permanent Council and thanks him for his statement.

We take this opportunity to congratulate Albania on assuming Presidency in the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe and wish success in implementation of its priorities.

I am pleased to note that when Ukraine was preparing to chair the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe in 2011 we agreed with the UK and Albania to introduce the concept of shared chairmanships' priorities in order to ensure continuity. We are glad that this idea has been implemented by the Ukrainian and the UK Chairmanships. For this reason we are particularly supportive of the efforts of the Albanian Chairmanship in implementing shared priorities of the three consecutive chairmanships in advancing the Council of Europe and the European Court of Human Rights reforms as well as developing local and regional democracy.

Ukraine supports close and mutually beneficial cooperation developed over the years between the Council of Europe and the OSCE. In the course of its Chairmanship in the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe last year Ukraine attached significant attention to enhancing forward-looking and constructive interaction between the two organizations. Regular dialogue helps to address pertinent challenges in a coordinated manner, thus increasing impact on strengthening democracy, security and stability in Europe.

We positively evaluate the activities jointly carried out by the Council of Europe and the OSCE in all four areas of cooperation. We see great value in joint Council of Europe and OSCE work with regard to election observation, development of election legislation and providing assistance in conducting free and fair elections, protection of national minorities.

As the OSCE Chairmanship in 2013, Ukraine will continue to support effective cooperation between the Council of Europe and the OSCE.

In conclusion, I would like to wish His Excellency every success in his future endeavours.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.