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Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the International Organizations in Vienna

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF UKRAINE 1113th FSC Plenary Meeting

(23 July 2025)

Agenda Item 1, Closing Session

Madam Chairperson,

Ukraine aligns itself with the statement by the EU Delegation. In addition I would like to make some remarks in my national capacity.

Let me begin by expressing our gratitude to His Excellency Mr Martin Roger, Deputy Minister for Political Affairs of the MFA of Estonia, for his closing statement on the results of the outgoing trimester.

I would also like to extend our appreciation to you, Ambassador Tael, and your able team for the dedicated work and true professionalism. Over the past months, Estonia has demonstrated strong leadership in steering the work of the FSC.

We commend Estonia for keeping the issue of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine at the forefront of the FSC's agenda. Despite all efforts by Ukraine and its partners to achieve peace, this war continues to undermine the very foundations of our security architecture. And it is only natural that a war marked by grave violations of international law, including deliberate attacks on civilians, forcible passportisation, deportations, and the abduction of children, has been addressed at every meeting of the FSC during this trimester.

Allow me also to highlight the explicitly successful Security Dialogues held during this period. We commend Estonia for its carefully chosen topics, which were both timely and relevant. For us it was particularly important that the topics enabled the consideration of specific aspects of the Russia's aggression.

We particularly appreciate the invitation extended to Ukrainian panellists to participate in the Security Dialogue on the Code of Conduct, as well as in the joint FSC-PC meeting on the protection of children. The opportunity for them to share their first-hand experiences with the Forum is deeply valued.

Esteemed colleagues,

Our Forum was established to strengthen security by advancing arms control, enhancing military transparency, and promoting effective cooperation, grounded in a shared understanding of the need to prevent wars that have so often devastated our continent.

Regrettably, the decades of this work were ruined by one participating State. By launching its war of aggression against Ukraine, the Russian Federation did not attack one country, it attacked the entire European security architecture, including one of its core institutions: the OSCE. Against this backdrop, it is difficult to imagine constructive dialogue on mutual politico-military commitments while sitting at the same table with a state whose every action reflects a blatant disregard for the most fundamental principles of the UN Charter and the Helsinki Final Act.

Instead, we must focus all our efforts on ending the bloodshed, holding the aggressor state to account, and restoring the rules-based international order. There is no alternative but to demonstrate that aggression suffers consequences. States that initiate wars, kill civilians, and spread destruction cannot be regarded as equal or trustworthy partners.

If we wish to see this Organisation remain effective and resilient, we must unequivocally uphold respect for international law and the principles of the Helsinki Final Act. These are the foundations of the international order and our shared security. And these principles are not negotiable.

Ukraine expresses its gratitude to all participating States that share this understanding, and we hope that Russia's war against Ukraine, Europe, and the broader system of international norms will remain at the top of the FSC's priorities.

We appreciate the steadfast support of participating States for Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity within its internationally recognised borders, and we thank all of them for their practical assistance.

In conclusion, allow me to welcome the upcoming FSC Chairpersonship of Finland and to wish our colleagues every success in carrying out this important responsibility. Let me assure our colleagues that the Delegation of Ukraine stands ready for constructive and fruitful cooperation.

We also extend our sincere thanks to the delegation of Spain, the outgoing FSC Troika member, for its dedicated work, and we warmly welcome France as the new Troika member.

Thank you, Madam Chairperson.