

Chairmanship: Portugal

835th PLENARY MEETING OF THE FORUM

1. Date: Wednesday, 16 November 2016

Opened: 10.05 a.m.

Closed: 12.40 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador M. da Graça Mira Gomes

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

Agenda item 1: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT ON
SUB-REGIONAL ARMS CONTROL (ARTICLE IV,
ANNEX 1-B, GENERAL FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT
FOR PEACE IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA)

Chairperson, Bosnia and Herzegovina (also on behalf of Croatia, Montenegro and Serbia) (FSC.DEL/209/16 OSCE+), Slovakia-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Andorra, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (FSC.DEL/212/16), United States of America, Russian Federation

Agenda item 2: GENERAL STATEMENTS

(a) *Situation in and around Ukraine*: Ukraine (Annex 1) (FSC.DEL/210/16), Slovakia-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Montenegro; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Georgia, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (FSC.DEL/211/16), Canada, United States of America, Russian Federation (Annex 2), Netherlands

- (b) *So-called agreement between the Russian Federation and Sokhumi de facto authorities on the creation of a joint group of military forces:* Georgia (FSC.DEL/214/16 OSCE+), Slovakia-European Union (FSC.DEL/215/16), United States of America, Ukraine, Canada, Russian Federation

Agenda item 3: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) *Food-for-thought paper on options for follow-up to the OSCE High-Level Military Doctrine Seminar (FSC.DEL/197/16 Restr.):* Romania, Netherlands
- (b) *Meeting of the Informal Group of Friends on Small Arms and Light Weapons, held on 3 November 2016:* Chairperson of the Informal Group of Friends on Small Arms and Light Weapons (Slovenia)

4. Next meeting:

Wednesday, 23 November 2016, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Forum for Security Co-operation**

FSC.JOUR/841
16 November 2016
Annex 1

Original: ENGLISH

835th Plenary Meeting
FSC Journal No. 841, Agenda item 2

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF UKRAINE

Madam Chairperson,

In connection with today's statement by the Russian delegation on the status of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea (ARC), the delegation of Ukraine wishes to emphasize the following.

International law prohibits the acquisition of part or all of another State's territory through coercion or force. The Autonomous Republic of Crimea, which remains an integral part of Ukraine, was illegally occupied by military force and annexed by the Russian Federation in violation of OSCE principles and commitments and norms of international law. Illegitimate actions on the part of the Russian Federation do not have any legal consequences with regard to the status of the ARC as an integral part of Ukraine. The territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders is safeguarded by international law and UN General Assembly resolution 68/262 of 27 March 2014, "Territorial integrity of Ukraine".

We call on the Russian Federation to return to the tenets of international law and reverse the illegal occupation and annexation of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.

The delegation of Ukraine requests that this statement be registered in the journal of the day.

Thank you, Madam Chairperson.



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Forum for Security Co-operation**

FSC.JOUR/841
16 November 2016
Annex 2

ENGLISH
Original: RUSSIAN

835th Plenary Meeting
FSC Journal No. 841, Agenda item 2

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

Dear Madam Chairperson,

In connection with the reference to Crimea in the statements by a number of delegations today, the delegation of the Russian Federation feels obliged to make the following observations.

The proclamation of independence of the Republic of Crimea and its incorporation into the Russian Federation was a legal expression of the right of the people of Crimea to self-determination at a time when Ukraine, with outside support, was in the throes of a *coup d'état*, with radical nationalist elements exerting a forceful influence on the decisions adopted in the country, which in turn resulted in the interests of the Ukrainian regions and Russian-speaking population being ignored.

The multi-ethnic population of Crimea took the corresponding decisions by a huge majority in a free and fair expression of its will. The status of the Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol as constituent entities of the Russian Federation is not open to reconsideration or discussion. Crimea is and will remain Russian. This is a fact that our partners will have to come to terms with.

This position is based on and fully complies with international law.

Thank you, Madam Chairperson. I request that this statement be attached to the journal of the day.