



**PERMANENT MISSION OF GREECE
TO THE O.S.C.E.**

**ΜΟΝΙΜΗ ΑΝΤΙΠΡΟΣΩΠΕΙΑ ΤΗΣ
ΕΛΛΑΔΑΣ ΣΤΟΝ Ο.Α.Σ.Ε.**

**1391st Reinforced Meeting of the OSCE Permanent Council
Statement by the Director General for International Organizations
& International Security and Cooperation of the
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Greece,
H.E. Ambassador Dimitris YANNAKAKIS
Vienna, 29 September 2022**

Thank you Mr Chair,
Excellencies,
Dear colleagues,

Greece fully aligns with the statement made by the European Union and would further like to stress the following points in its national capacity.

Greece condemns in the strongest possible terms the illegal so-called “referenda” conducted by Russia and its proxies in occupied Ukrainian territories with the aim of changing the status of Ukrainian sovereign territory.

They constitute yet another blatant violation of the United Nations Charter and of international law and as such they are null and void. Their outcome has no legitimacy and will not be recognized. Their orchestration also puts in further peril the presence of the centuries-long established Greek community in eastern Ukraine.

It is imperative that the international community remains united in its condemnation and non-recognition of such illegal “referenda”. Otherwise, a negative precedent will be created, which may embolden potential aggressors globally to unfold their revisionist agenda, putting the rules – based international order at risk.

Responding to revisionism, which disputes international borders and treaties is thus a common challenge for all and must be dealt with in unity and solidarity. The use or the threat of the use of force can never be tolerated.

As a staunch proponent of international law and the UN Charter, Greece remains firm in its support to the principle of non-intervention and inviolability of borders and committed to supporting Ukraine's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity.

We kindly request that this statement is attached to the journal of today's meeting.