



**PERMANENT DELEGATION OF NORWAY
TO THE OSCE**

STATEMENT ON RUSSIA'S ILLEGAL CONSCRIPTION IN CRIMEA

Delivered by Ambassador Steffen Kongstad at the Permanent Council
Vienna, 21 May 2020

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Mr. Chair,

Norway does not recognise the Russian Federation's illegal annexation of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and city of Sevastopol.

As an occupying power, Russia has the obligation to comply with international law, including international humanitarian law, and to protect human rights on the peninsula. According to the obligations of the IV Geneva Convention of 1949, the conscription of residents of the occupied peninsula for service in the Russian Federation's Armed Forces is prohibited. Norway calls on the Russian Federation to abandon any such illegal conscription, whether ongoing or planned.

Norway reiterates its consistent support for Ukraine's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity within its internationally recognised borders.

The OSCE Secretariat bears no responsibility for the content of this document and circulates it without altering its content. The distribution by OSCE Conference Services of this document is without prejudice to OSCE decisions, as set out in documents agreed by OSCE participating States.