



**PERMANENT DELEGATION
OF NORWAY TO THE OSCE**

STATEMENT ON THE SITUATION IN UKRAINE

As delivered by Ambassador Robert Kvile
to the Permanent Council,
Vienna, 9 October 2014

Madam Chair,

I aligned myself with the statement made by Italy on behalf of the European Union, but I would like to make one additional comment in my national capacity.

Madam Chair,

In connection with the Norwegian government's presentation yesterday of its 2015 budget proposal Foreign Minister Brende said that Russia's illegal annexation of Crimea and their persistent destabilization of eastern Ukraine have led to a new security situation in Europe.

The positive development of European cooperation and integration is being reversed. Due to the developments in Ukraine, the Minister continued, the situation for several countries has been affected. He also noted that human rights and democracy are under heavy pressure in parts of the region.

Brende went on to say that Ukraine – as well as Moldova and Georgia – need assistance for stabilization and reform within a number of sectors.

Madam Chair,

Norway wants to be a substantial cooperation partner for these countries. The government has therefore proposed that Parliament approve an allocation of 200 million Norwegian kroner – around 25 million Euros – to projects in support of Ukraine in 2015. The corresponding figure for Moldova is 6 million Euros and for Georgia 5 million Euros.

Thank you.