



**Delegation of Ukraine
to the OSCE**

Statement in response to the statements by the European Union, the United States, Canada and the Russian Federation on the situation in Ukraine

As for delivery by Ambassador Ihor Prokopchuk
to the 983th meeting of the Permanent Council,
6 February 2014

The Delegation of Ukraine takes note of the statements made by the delegations of the European Union, the United States, Canada and the Russian Federation. Their content will be duly communicated to the capital.

In connection with the current discussion on the situation in Ukraine I wish to inform the Permanent Council of the following.

Resolving peacefully the crisis situation in Ukraine and preventing further violent clashes in the streets of Ukrainian cities remain the key objective for the Ukrainian authorities at the present stage.

After resuming the plenary work this week, the Ukrainian Parliament has become a center of political dialogue aimed at seeking peaceful solution to current crisis. Speaking at the opening session on Tuesday the leaders of all parliamentary political factions as well as non-aligned MPs clearly declared their determination to work in a compromise spirit on a number of pertinent issues, including constitutional reform.

The President of Ukraine signed the laws adopted last week on repealing the legislative amendments of 16 January and on amnesty.

Adequate legal assessment of all cases of human rights violations, including on the side of law-enforcement officers, will be carried out as this will not be affected by adoption of the amnesty law. Those suspected in murders, torturing, kidnapping and violations against journalists will not be exempt from liability.

The law-enforcement agencies of Ukraine are now investigating all cases of unlawful actions regardless of the political or government affiliation of suspected persons.

While all sides are now engaged in political dialogue, there are ongoing attempts to aggravate the situation through, in particular, circulating unfounded rumours which appear in the social networks and are further echoed by the media. For instance, over the last week the Ministry of Interior checked information posted by social networks and the media on about 60 protesters missing. At the same time, the law enforcement agencies note that they have received reports on nine missing persons. Five people from the list were already found.

As regards the case of Dmytro Bulatov, mentioned today, the investigation is underway. Unfortunately, the law-enforcement has not received substantial details of kidnapping from Mr. Bulatov, when he was questioned in a hospital. Presently Mr. Bulatov has left the country for Lithuania to undertake treatment there.

The Ukrainian Government continues to maintain a constant dialogue with our international partners, providing them with the latest update on the situation in resolving the crisis. President of Ukraine Viktor Yanukovich met Baroness Ashton, the EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, who was yesterday on a visit to Ukraine. This Friday the President of Ukraine will meet with his Russian counterpart.

On the margins of the Munich Security Conference last week acting Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ukraine Leonid Kozhara met the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, where they had a thorough exchange of views on situation in Ukraine and efforts to normalize it. Minister Kozhara also met with the EU Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy, the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Russia, France and Sweden, as well as with the US Secretary of State.

In relation to the point made by my distinguished US colleague on the visit to Kyiv by the Head of the OSCE Chairmanship Task Force and the Director of the Conflict Prevention Center I would add my regret that the proposal to have a meeting with Director-General of the International Organizations Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine remained unanswered from the Swiss organizers of the visit. Thus, it became a missed opportunity for contacts and useful dialogue with representatives of the Ukrainian authorities.

The Ukrainian Government values support from our international partners of the persistent efforts taken inside Ukraine to resolve the current political crisis through peaceful means based on dialogue.

Thank you!