



Permanent Mission of Ukraine
to the International Organizations in
Vienna

Statement by the Delegation of Ukraine in response to the Report by the Director of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, Ms Maria Telalian

as delivered by Yurii Vitrenko, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Ukraine
to the International Organisations in Vienna
to the 1541st meeting of the Permanent Council,
6 November 2025

Mister Chairperson,

The Delegation of Ukraine warmly welcomes Director Maria Telalian to the Permanent Council, and thanks her for today's comprehensive briefing, including pertinent remarks on Russian strikes. We also commend Director Telalian's leadership since her appointment as the ODIHR's Director, at times when principled, professional human-rights monitoring and rule-of-law support are indispensable for our common security.

Madam Director,

We value ODIHR's continued, evidence-based monitoring of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, and the Office's public reporting, which helps close the accountability gap and amplifies the voices of victims and survivors. We note in particular ODIHR's Seventh Interim Report of 15 July 2025, which – on the basis of more than 600 interviews – documents the sharp rise in civilian casualties due to intensified Russian strikes; the systematic torture of Ukrainian civilians and prisoners of war; the increase in fabricated trials against Ukrainians; and additional testimonies of conflict-related sexual violence. According to the report, the number of verified civilian casualties in Government-controlled areas is more than 50 per cent higher in 2025 in comparison with the same period of 2024. These findings demand proper reaction.

ODIHR's focused Ukraine Monitoring Initiative (UMI) has now produced a series of interim reports on violations of international humanitarian and human rights law since 24 February 2022. We encourage ODIHR to continue and deepen this work, including by expanding trial-monitoring related to sham prosecutions of Ukrainian

civilians and POWs in temporarily occupied by the Russian authorities territories of Ukraine, and in the Russian Federation.

Distinguished colleagues,

We also appreciate the breadth of programmatic engagement of ODIHR in Ukraine apart from UMI: assistance to the Verkhovna Rada on integrity and parliamentary ethics; advice on legislative reforms and inclusive, transparent lawmaking; safeguarding electoral processes to prepare for future elections, including modalities that protect the voting rights of all Ukrainians; support to our network of gender advisers; disability-rights inclusion, including easy-to-read materials and participation tools; anti-trafficking training and a civil-society coordination platform; strengthened Roma participation and protection; and capacity-building for human-rights defenders. We also welcome ODIHR's efforts to develop practical guidance for Ukrainian judges on the adjudication of war-crimes cases.

Mister Chairperson,

Accountability remains our shared strategic imperative. The OSCE's own expert reporting under the Moscow Mechanism has already established, that torture and ill-treatment of Ukrainian POWs by the Russian Federation are widespread and systematic. Abuse occurs at every stage of captivity – from the moment of capture, through transfer to camps and during internment. We call on all participating States and OSCE institutions, including ODIHR, to continue operational follow-up on those findings, based on a victim-centred approach, and close coordination with national and international justice mechanisms, including proceedings under universal jurisdiction in third countries, and prosecution by the ICC.

Distinguished colleagues,

ODIHR's reporting data and Ukraine's own documentation demonstrate: Russia's ongoing aggression is accompanied by widespread, systematic violations of international humanitarian and human rights law. We therefore call on the Participating States to support the continued resourcing of ODIHR's UMI, and its public reporting, including unhindered safe access for monitors, and systematic sharing of information with competent accountability mechanisms.

We also invite participating States to provide voluntary contributions and gender-balanced secondments to ODIHR's work on Ukraine, in line with ODIHR's recent outreach.

We encourage ODIHR to expand monitoring of fabricated prosecutions and enforced disappearances, and to scale up the work on fair-trial guarantees, torture prevention and rehabilitation – areas highlighted in the July 2025 Interim report.

Mister Chairperson,

Ukraine remains fully committed to the OSCE acquis, including the human-dimension commitments that ODIHR helps us all to implement. We will continue to work closely with ODIHR to protect victims, support survivors, strengthen our institutions and prepare for a just peace – the one based on accountability, the rule of law and the restoration of Ukraine's territorial integrity within its internationally recognised borders.

Director Telalian,

We thank you and your team for your activity in the face of Russia's ongoing genocidal war. You can count on Ukraine's unwavering co-operation and support.