



PERMANENT DELEGATION  
OF NORWAY TO THE OSCE

STATEMENT ON UKRAINE

As delivered by Ambassador Robert Kvile  
to the Permanent Council,  
Vienna, 22 January 2014

Mr Chairman,

I would like to add Norway's voice to previous speakers who have expressed concern over the situation in Ukraine. We consider the recent developments to be alarming, and the situation is followed closely in Oslo. I would like to draw the Council's attention to the press statement issued by the Norwegian Minister of Foreign Affairs yesterday, in which he said the following:

"It is crucial that the authorities enter into genuine dialogue with the opposition at once to seek a way out of this crisis. The new laws that were passed last week, without any discussion and in violation of parliamentary procedure, are cause for concern. Ukraine must fulfil its international obligations. I urge the Ukrainian authorities to immediately reverse these laws. They tarnish Ukraine's international reputation and lead the country down a dangerous path, away from democracy and freedom of expression." End of quote.

Thank you Mr Chairman.