



**REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS
PERMANENT MISSION
TO THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE**

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF CYPRUS
1447 Permanent Council Meeting
(19 October 2023)
Agenda Item 2
Report by the Head of the OSCE Mission in Kosovo

Mr. Chair,
Dear Colleagues,

The Republic of Cyprus subscribes to the statement made by the European Union, but would like to add some remarks in our national capacity.

We welcome the Head of the OSCE Mission in Kosovo¹, Ambassador Michael Davenport, back to the Permanent Council.

Thank you, Ambassador, for your statement and the comprehensive Report. We appreciate yours and the Mission's important work and commend you on your engagement.

We need at the same time to reiterate that the Republic of Cyprus does not recognize the 2008 Unilateral Declaration of Independence by Kosovo. In this context, we would like to stress that any action or initiative with regard to the OSCE Mission in Kosovo must be consistent with the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244(1999), which along with the Permanent Council Decision No. 305 of 1 July 1999 provides the Mission with its mandate.

The Republic of Cyprus strongly supports the EU-facilitated Dialogue between Belgrade and Pristina and encourages the sides to continue working constructively on all the principles governing this process. This is crucial for the stability of the region and the European perspective of the Western Balkans.

Mr. Chair,

In concluding, I would like to request, this statement to be attached to the Journal of the day.

Thank you.

¹ * This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.