



**Delegation of Ukraine  
to the OSCE**

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**Statement by the Delegation of Ukraine  
in response to the Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers and Minister  
for Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan, H.E. Rashid Meredov**

As for delivery by the Permanent Representative H.E. Mr. Ihor Prokopchuk  
to the 985<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Permanent Council, 27 February 2014

Mr. Chairman,

The delegation of Ukraine joins previous speakers in warmly welcoming the Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan, H.E. Rashid Meredov to the Permanent Council and thanks him for his comprehensive and informative address, which contains constructive and forward-looking suggestions on improving of the OSCE activities in all three dimensions.

Ukraine and Turkmenistan enjoy close friendly relations and have a rich history of mutually beneficial bilateral cooperation. I am glad to note that we intensively develop and expand our cooperation in energy sector, trade and economy, infrastructure and transport which is reflected in a constant growth of bilateral turnover. Our two countries also have dynamic and meaningful high-level political dialogue as well as close cooperation in international organizations, including in the framework of OSCE.

We welcome the intention of Turkmenistan to make an active contribution to the Helsinki +40 process in the context of strengthening trust and confidence between the OSCE participating States. As OSCE Foreign Ministers underlined in Kyiv, our deliberations in the Helsinki +40 process contribute to this goal by reconfirming and advancing those agreed principles on which the OSCE is based and reaffirming the OSCE's comprehensive and co-operative approach to security. We look forward to meaningful and result-oriented discussions, including on the topics raised in Minister's statement.

We are pleased to note that you, Mr. Minister, have acknowledged the important role of the OSCE Forum for Security Cooperation in implementation and update of the OSCE commitments from the politico-military toolbox, including Vienna document 2011.

Ukraine has always emphasized the importance of the second dimension of the OSCE concept of comprehensive and indivisible security, as well as the need to enhance efforts in increasing its relevance to the OSCE participating States.

In our view, the dialogue on energy security continues to remain among the most important issues in the Economic and Environmental Dimension's agenda. We remain committed to further support the OSCE's continued efforts aimed at promoting the energy security dialogue within the OSCE region.

The last year's High-level International Conference "Energy Security and Sustainability – the OSCE Perspective" held in Ashgabat, and organized by the 2013 OSCE Ukrainian Chairmanship and the Government of Turkmenistan allowed us to take a tangible step towards enhancing energy security in the OSCE region.

By hosting this conference, Turkmenistan demonstrated, in our view, its strong commitment to promoting energy cooperation and encourages others to meet the challenges associated with energy in a sustainable way.

This event served to advance the energy security dialogue within the OSCE and provided valuable impetus on energy issues which resulted in adoption of two Ministerial Council decisions in Kyiv – "on improving the environmental footprint of energy-related activities in the OSCE region" and "on protection of energy networks from natural and man-made disasters".

In our view, your proposal on establishing the Sustainable energy Council within the OSCE, which would be dealing with the issues of energy security, energy savings and energy efficiency could be further explored and discussed within the Economic and Environmental Committee of the OSCE Permanent Council in 2014.

Mr. Minister,

In conclusion I would like to thank again for the presentation and wish you, dear Rashid Ovezgeldiyevich, every success in your demanding activities.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.