



EUROPEAN UNION

OSCE Human Dimension Implementation Meeting Warsaw, 16 - 27 September 2019

EU Right of Reply – Working Session 3

Mr. Moderator,

In reply to some remarks made by some participants in this working session, I would like to reiterate our well-known position on the illegal annexation of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the City of Sevastopol by the Russian Federation. We did not, do not and will not recognise it.

We reiterate our strong support for ODIHR's election observation methodology which is globally recognized and applied in the same manner in all pS. The methodology is based on the principles of independence, impartiality and professionalism as spelled out in the MC 19/06. It has been endorsed by all pS and has been used by other organizations, including the EU, as a basis for developing their own guidelines. There can be no artificial balance in this regard.

Thank you.