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Delegation of France

**STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR CHRISTINE FAGES,  
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF FRANCE TO THE OSCE,  
AT THE 1295th MEETING OF THE OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

10 December 2020

The Normandy format summit, which was held in Paris on 9 December 2019, relaunched the negotiation process for the settlement of the conflict in eastern Ukraine after nearly three years of deadlock. The conclusions agreed on that occasion constitute an ambitious document that defines the main guidelines for progressing towards the restoration of full Ukrainian sovereignty over Donbas, on the basis of the Minsk agreements, which, as recalled by the Heads of State or Government, continue to underpin the Normandy format's work.

One year after the summit, significant progress has been noted. For the first time since the signing of the Package of Measures in 2015, the ceasefire in the region has been generally respected, which has led to a significant reduction in the number of casualties. Likewise, several prisoner exchanges have taken place, as provided for in the summit conclusions. However, several provisions have still not been implemented, in part owing to the health situation. We call on all the parties to honour in good faith the commitments they have undertaken and to continue constructive discussions on the agenda agreed at the summit.

France, together with Germany, is continuing its efforts within the Normandy format with a view to achieving a fair and lasting peace in eastern Ukraine.