



PERMANENT DELEGATION OF NORWAY  
TO THE OSCE

**STATEMENT ON THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION'S ONGOING AGGRESSION  
AGAINST UKRAINE**

As delivered by chargé d'affaires a.i. Knut Are Okstad at the Permanent Council,  
Vienna, 30 January 2024

**Mr. Chair,**

For nearly three years, the international community has stood in solidarity with Ukraine, providing unwavering support.

Russia's actions represent the most serious threat to Norwegian and European security, both now and in the foreseeable future. It is crucial to confront and counter Russia's aggressive behavior. The Kremlin's objectives remain unchanged: to exert full control over Ukraine and to reshape the European security architecture. This ambition extends beyond Ukraine's borders.

Russia, together with the Lukashenka regime in Belarus, continues to disregard OSCE principles by increasing repression at home, waging war, and spreading harmful influence across the region.

We are deeply concerned about the increasing malign activities throughout Europe, including the recent sabotage of undersea cables in the Baltic Sea. The emergence of the "shadow fleet," enabling Russia to circumvent the effects of the oil price cap and bolster its war economy, is alarming.

Norway reaffirms its steadfast support for Ukraine and its people as they exercise their inherent right to self-defense. We stand ready to support Ukraine in achieving a lasting and just peace.

Thank you.

The OSCE Secretariat bears no responsibility for the content of this document and circulates it without altering its content. The distribution by OSCE Conference Services of this document is without prejudice to OSCE decisions, as set out in documents agreed by OSCE participating States.