

Permanent Mission of Ukraine

to the International Organizations in Vienna

ENGLISH only

Statement on the regular elections of the President of Ukraine

As delivered by the Delegation of Ukraine to the 1212th meeting of the Permanent Council, 17 January 2019

Mr. Chairman,

We wish to inform the Permanent Council that in accordance with the Constitution of Ukraine and the Law of Ukraine "On Elections of the President of Ukraine" regular elections of the President of Ukraine will be held on 31 March 2019.

Recognizing the relevance of the OSCE observation for enhancing electoral and democratic processes, demonstrating openness and pursuant to the 1990 OSCE Copenhagen Document and the 1999 OSCE Istanbul Document, on 02 January 2019 Ukraine extended an official invitation to the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights to observe the aforementioned elections.

Ukraine is ready to provide all necessary assistance to the work of the OSCE ODIHR election observation mission.

Ukraine remains fully committed to the implementation of the provisions of 1990 Copenhagen Document, including those of paragraph 8 related to the invitation of observers from OSCE participating states to the extent, permitted by law. In this regard, the Ukrainian side drew attention of the ODIHR to the legislation of Ukraine, which recognizes Russia as an aggressor state and an occupying power, and that, consequently, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine will not accept applications from the holders of Russian passports or other individuals seconded by the Russian side for accreditation as official observers from foreign states or international organizations.

We also underline the need to adhere to the provisions of the UN General Assembly resolutions "Territorial integrity of Ukraine" of 2014, "Situation of human rights in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine" of 2016, 2017 and 2018 as well as to the provisions of the relevant Ukrainian legislation during the organization and conduct of election observation activities.

The Government of Ukraine is committed to make every effort to ensure free, fair and transparent elections in accordance with the national legislation and internationally recognized standards for democratic elections while facing the ongoing Russia's aggression against Ukraine and temporary illegal occupation of parts of Ukraine's territory by the Russian Federation.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.