
Chairmanship: Montenegro**785th PLENARY MEETING OF THE FORUM**

1. Date: Wednesday, 22 April 2015

Opened: 11 a.m.

Closed: 1.25 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador S. Milačić
Ms. S. Andić

Prior to taking up the agenda, the Chairperson, Latvia-European Union and Serbia expressed condolences to the families of victims of the most recent Mediterranean boat disasters.

3. Subjects discussed – Statements – Decisions/documents adopted:

Agenda item 1: **OPENING STATEMENT OF THE MONTENEGRIN
FSC CHAIRMANSHIP BY H.E. DR. IGOR LUKŠIĆ,
DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF
FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND EUROPEAN INTEGRATION
OF MONTENEGRO**

Chairperson, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of Montenegro (Annex 1), Latvia-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland and Montenegro; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association countries Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Andorra, Georgia, Moldova, Monaco, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (FSC.DEL/63/15), Mongolia, United States of America, Serbia, Ukraine (FSC.DEL/65/15), Norway, Switzerland, Belarus (FSC.DEL/67/15/Corr.1 OSCE+), the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Armenia, Russian Federation, Germany, Canada

Agenda item 2: GENERAL STATEMENTS

- (a) *Situation in and around Ukraine*: Ukraine (Annex 2) (FSC.DEL/66/15), Latvia-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland and Montenegro; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association country Norway, member of the European Economic Area; as well as Georgia, Moldova, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (FSC.DEL/64/15), Russian Federation, United States of America, Canada, United Kingdom, France
- (b) *Recent military exercises*: Azerbaijan, Armenia

Agenda item 3: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Donors' visit to Kyrgyzstan from 8 to 11 June 2015: Chairperson of the Informal Group of Friends on Small Arms and Light Weapons (Spain) (on behalf of the FSC Co-ordinator for Projects on Small Arms and Light Weapons and Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition (United States of America))

4. Next meeting:

Wednesday, 29 April 2015, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Forum for Security Co-operation**

FSC.JOUR/791
22 April 2015
Annex 1

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785th Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 791, Agenda item 1

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF MONTENEGRO

Excellencies,
Dear Secretary General,
Ladies and gentlemen,

It is my distinct pleasure to address you on the occasion of the launch of the Montenegrin Chairmanship of the OSCE Forum for Security Co-operation. This is the first time that Montenegro, in its full capacity, chairs the Forum, which fills us with specific feelings: opportunity and also greater responsibility. As a small multi-ethnic, multicultural and multi-religious country, with Balkan, Mediterranean and European identities, and with pride for each of them, Montenegro has been cherishing the tradition of good neighbourly relations and has been recognized as an active and constructive player in the region and the wider community. With this spirit, we have prepared and will conduct our Chairmanship programme.

I would like to seize this opportunity to congratulate and express our heartfelt gratitude to the previous Mongolian and Monegasque Chairmanships for their excellent work and commitment. I would also like to welcome Norway as the new member of the Troika. We have already enjoyed productive co-operation with the FSC Troika of 2015, and we are confident that this dynamic will continue in the coming months.

Ladies and gentlemen,

It has now been more than a year that the crisis in and around Ukraine has continued to pose a serious threat to the security of the OSCE region, as to the European and global security. Montenegro reiterates its full support for the ongoing diplomatic efforts towards a sustainable political resolution of the crisis, based on the sovereignty, unity, independence and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders. In this regard, we replicate numerous appeals for swift, full and transparent implementation of the Minsk Agreements in their entirety, as a significant step forward and contribution to confidence-building.

As we take over the Chairmanship of the FSC, allow me to briefly present our priorities for the second trimester of 2015 that are based on the tentative FSC work programme agreed upon by the Troika of 2015. Developing our indicative schedule, we have

strived for maximum inclusiveness and transparency in the process, a spirit that we aim to maintain throughout our Chairmanship.

In this respect, the topics of security dialogues, among others, reflect our approach for the next four months to keep up the core work of the FSC, as well as to provide sufficient flexibility and focus on the most pressing current security issues in the OSCE region, in particular the ongoing crisis in and around Ukraine. The planned topical security dialogues will address issue areas that could significantly contribute to military transparency, stability and security in Europe.

We will approach the OSCE politico-military toolbox also from the point of its significance and contribution to the Organization's risk reduction, conflict prevention and crisis management capacities. In this regard, we find it important to organize a number of security dialogues with the aim to further promote the need for enhanced implementation and modernization of the OSCE politico-military commitments. With this overall objective, we also intend to highlight the importance of achieving increased coherence and complementarity of the relevant OSCE norms and procedures with commitments related to other competent international and regional organizations, primarily to the United Nations framework.

Intrinsically, we deem that conventional arms control and confidence- and security-building measures, as amongst the first developed by our Organization and ones that form the basis of military co-operation in the OSCE area, should be highlighted. The Ukrainian crisis has proven the continued relevance of these existing measures, particularly of the Vienna Document 2011. Indeed, the Vienna Document has been used extensively by participating States during the last year to address the crisis in and around Ukraine, demonstrating its relevance and the need to improve its capacity to enhance military transparency, predictability and stability. The work on the modernization of the Vienna Document continues, although perhaps not as quickly as some of us would like, and the participating States have clearly shown their interest through the numerous Vienna Document Plus proposals on the table. This is why we see merit in taking stock of the current state of play of existing arms control and CSBMs and in discussing the lessons learnt so far from their use in crisis situations.

Just a few months ago, I had the honour to sign, along with my colleagues from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and Serbia, at the 21st Ministerial Council in Basel, the "Amendments to the Agreement on Subregional Arms Control", a valuable subregional arms control model which has contributed to restoring mutual trust and confidence and continues to promote security and stability in South-East Europe. As the Agreement offers a potential model to be followed, as appropriate, we have invited Major General Michele Torres, former Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office for Article IV, Annex 1-B, to speak to Forum on lessons learnt from this process.

The Code of Conduct on politico-military aspect of security is one of the OSCE's most significant normative documents used widely by all participating States. We have celebrated the 20th anniversary of this milestone at the Ministerial Council in Basel, which was marked by the adoption of a Commemorative Declaration. The Code of Conduct is yet another instrument in the OSCE toolbox that is designed "to enhance security co-operation, including through the further encouragement of norms and responsible and co-operative

behaviour in the field of security”, and hence its implementation should also be assessed in the context of the current security environment. The Forum has already adopted the decision on the agenda, timetable and modalities of the fourth Annual Discussion on the Implementation of the Code of Conduct, to be held 8 July 2015, and we look forward to work with our Co-ordinator, the participating States and the FSC Support Section to maximise the value of this Annual Discussion.

Ladies and gentlemen,

As a regional security organization under Chapter VIII of the United Nations Charter, the OSCE has at its disposal numerous valuable tools in the politico-military area that can effectively contribute to peace and security in Europe. Several Ministerial Council decisions highlighted the importance of co-operation and greater synergies with other international and regional organizations, as a means towards continuing to strengthen OSCE commitments and their implementation. At this stage, it is important to take note of the compatibility of OSCE norms and procedures in the politico-military dimension with those of other international organizations, in particular the UN, especially where compatible norms may further contribute to transparency, predictability and efficiency. Such areas include conventional arms transfers, and small arms and light weapons (SALW) and stockpiles of conventional ammunition (SCA), where the OSCE has already established itself as a leading organization.

Montenegro has experienced at first hand the importance of OSCE SALW and SCA projects and developed the solid record in this area. We consider that this work should continue across the OSCE region and remain an important OSCE contribution to European security. Likewise, we are of firm belief that the OSCE should extend SALW and SCA project assistance to its Partners for Co-operation, in line with the proposal for draft decision on the table, which has already gained significant support. Consequently, we have put forward a proposal for a draft decision on the OSCE Meeting to Review the Implementation of OSCE Practical Assistance Projects on Small Arms and Light Weapons and Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition, and we look forward, with your support, to the organization of this two-day meeting on 14 and 15 July 2015.

Ladies and gentlemen,

This year we are witnessing several important anniversaries. We mark the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II, a lesson we must remember and continue learning from.

We are also reflecting on the 70th anniversary of the use of nuclear weapons in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. As such, and in the context of the upcoming 2015 NPT review conference, we deem it important to continue dialogue on issues of non-proliferation within the FSC. We have planned to address the challenges and prospects in the implementation of UNSCR 1540, with a view to the comprehensive review of the resolution before December 2016, as well as a long-term vision and strategy. Montenegro is fully committed to the implementation of its international obligations in this area, demonstrated, *inter alia*, by the adoption of a National Action Plan for the Implementation of the UN Security Council resolution 1540 last year.

This year also marks the 15th anniversary of the UN Security Council resolution 1325 on women, peace and security. This is why we firmly believe it is important to focus on the implementation of this cornerstone document, hoping to provide further impetus to the deliberations of the OSCE-wide Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security.

Last, but not least, this year we are celebrating the 40th anniversary of the Helsinki Final Act. Montenegro stands ready to engage in endeavours to facilitate the Forum's contribution to the Helsinki+40 process, taking fully into consideration evolving security challenges and threats to the OSCE region. It goes without saying that we will continue to support and work with the Serbian Chairmanship-in-Office and its Troika partners, Switzerland and Germany, on their commendable efforts within the Helsinki+40 process.

Ladies and gentlemen,

One of the most significant events this trimester will be the 2015 Annual Security Review Conference, which will "provide a framework for enhancing security dialogue and for reviewing security work undertaken by the OSCE and its participating States", as is set out in the Porto Ministerial Council decision. We will work closely with the Serbian Chairmanship-in-Office, our *chef de file* and the participating States, to ensure the FSC's meaningful and effective contribution to this event.

As a Mediterranean country, Montenegro attaches great importance to strengthening the Mediterranean dimension of the OSCE. Given that European security cannot be addressed separately from adjacent regions, we plan to organize with the Serbian Chairmanship-in-Office a joint FSC-PC on the "Regional Dynamics of Arms Trafficking through the Prism of Border Security in the Mediterranean Region", a topic that remains of utmost importance for European security. In this regard, I would like to thank Serbian Chairmanship for the close co-operation and support we have mutually enjoyed from the beginning.

In line with the OSCE multidimensional concept of common, comprehensive, co-operative and indivisible security and our view that the OSCE has an important role to play in reconsolidating European security, we look forward to continue the established practice of also engaging the Partners for Co-operation in the work of the Forum.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Following our consultations with the FSC Troika and the Conflict Prevention Centre, I am pleased to reconfirm the mandate of the current Co-ordinators of the FSC Chairperson, namely:

- Dr. Pierre von Arx – FSC Chairperson's Co-ordinator for the Vienna Document;
- Colonel Ivan Dvořák – FSC Co-ordinator for the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security;
- Ms. Neval Orbay – FSC Co-ordinator on Matters Relating to UNSCR 1325;

- Lieutenant Colonel Michael P. Cullinane – FSC Co-ordinator for Projects on Small Arms and Light Weapons and Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition;
- Mr. Raimonds Oškālns – FSC Chairperson’s Co-ordinator on Non-Proliferation Issues;
- Major Magín Álvarez Arribas – Chairperson of the Informal Group of Friends on Small Arms and Light Weapons; and
- Colonel Anton Eischer – *Chef de file* of the FSC for the 2015 Annual Security Review Conference.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Co-ordinators for taking up these demanding and important positions and for their expressed readiness to assist our Chairmanship. We are grateful to the Conflict Prevention Centre, especially the FSC Support Section, as well as the Conference Services, for helping us with their valuable experience to prepare our Chairmanship.

Ladies and gentlemen,

In closing, I would like to reiterate our intention to conduct the Chairmanship in the spirit of inclusiveness and transparency, and to provide a platform for genuine dialogue in the framework of the FSC. Likewise, Montenegro remains committed to continue contributing towards the full implementation and further strengthening of the OSCE commitments and principles.

Thank you for your attention.



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STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF UKRAINE

Madam Chairperson,

In connection with today's statement by the Russian delegation on the status of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea (ARC), the delegation of Ukraine wishes to emphasize the following.

International law prohibits the acquisition of part or all of another State's territory through coercion or force. The Autonomous Republic of Crimea, which remains an integral part of Ukraine, was illegally occupied and annexed by the Russian Federation in violation of OSCE principles and commitments and norms of international law. Illegitimate actions on the part of the Russian Federation do not have any legal consequences with regard to the status of the ARC as an integral part of Ukraine. The territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders is safeguarded by international law and UN General Assembly resolution 68/262 of 27 March 2014, "Territorial integrity of Ukraine".

The Russian Federation is now in breach of such fundamental principles of the Helsinki Final Act as sovereign equality and respect for the rights inherent in sovereignty, refraining from the threat or use of force, inviolability of frontiers, territorial integrity of States, peaceful settlement of disputes, non-intervention in internal affairs, and fulfilment in good faith of obligations in international law.

We call on the Russian Federation to return to the tenets of international law and reverse the annexation of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.

The delegation of Ukraine requests that this statement be registered in the journal of the day.

Thank you, Madam Chairperson.