

Chairmanship: Poland**818th PLENARY MEETING OF THE FORUM**

1. Date: Wednesday, 4 May 2016

Opened: 10.05 a.m.

Closed: 1 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador A. Bugajski

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

Agenda item 1: SECURITY DIALOGUE:
NON-PROLIFERATION/UNSCR 1540 (2004)

- *Mr. J. Sanabria, Director General for the United Nations and Human Rights at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Co-operation of Spain*
- *Mr. J. Gutiérrez, Assistant to the Chair of the United Nations Security Council 1540 Committee*
- *Ambassador B. Pełka, Non-Proliferation Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Poland*

Chairperson, Mr. J. Sanabria, Mr. J. Gutiérrez (FSC.DEL/85/16 OSCE+), Ambassador B. Pełka (FSC.DEL/83/16 OSCE+), Netherlands-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Andorra, Georgia, Moldova, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (FSC.DEL/79/16), Belarus (FSC.DEL/84/16 OSCE+), Romania (FSC.DEL/81/16 OSCE+), Kazakhstan, United States of America, Canada, Russian Federation, FSC Chairperson's Co-ordinator on Non-Proliferation Issues (Belarus)

Agenda item 2: GENERAL STATEMENTS

Situation in and around Ukraine: Ukraine (Annex 1) (FSC.DEL/82/16), Netherlands-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Montenegro; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Georgia, Moldova, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (FSC.DEL/80/16), United States of America, Russian Federation (Annex 2)

Agenda item 3: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) *Planned assessment visit to Ukraine in connection with the project on explosive ordnance disposal units:* FSC Co-ordinator for Projects on Small Arms and Light Weapons and Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition (United States of America)
- (b) *Military exercises to be held on the territory of Latvia in 2016:* Latvia (Annex 3)
- (c) *Fifth Moscow Conference on International Security, held on 27 and 28 April 2016:* Russian Federation

4. Next meeting:

Wednesday, 11 May 2016, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal



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

FSC.JOUR/824

4 May 2016

Annex 1

Original: ENGLISH

818th Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 824, Agenda item 2

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF UKRAINE

Mr. 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 by military force 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".

We call on the Russian Federation to return to the tenets of international law and reverse the illegal occupation and 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, Mr. Chairperson.



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

FSC.JOUR/824

4 May 2016

Annex 2

ENGLISH

Original: RUSSIAN

818th Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 824, Agenda item 2

**STATEMENT BY
THE DELEGATION OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

Dear Mr. Chairperson,

In connection with the reference to Crimea in the statements by a number of delegations today, the delegation of the Russian Federation feels obliged to make the following observations.

The proclamation of independence of the Republic of Crimea and its incorporation into the Russian Federation was a legal expression of the right of the people of Crimea to self-determination at a time when Ukraine, with outside support, was in the throes of a *coup d'état*, with radical nationalist elements exerting a forceful influence on the decisions adopted in the country, which in turn resulted in the interests of the Ukrainian regions and Russian-speaking population being ignored.

The multi-ethnic population of Crimea took the corresponding decisions by a huge majority in a free and fair expression of its will. The status of the Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol as constituent entities of the Russian Federation is not open to reconsideration or discussion. Crimea is and will remain Russian. This is a fact that our partners will have to come to terms with.

This position is based on and fully complies with international law.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. I request that this statement be attached to the journal of the day.



818th Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 824, Agenda item 3(b)

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF LATVIA

The Republic of Latvia, wishing to contribute to the further development and strengthening of confidence and security within the region and striving to increase transparency, wishes to inform the OSCE participating States about significant exercises on the territory of the Republic of Latvia in the year 2016.

Saber Strike 2016 (11–26 June 2016):

- Saber Strike is a long-standing U.S. Army Europe-led co-operative training exercise that has been conducted annually since 2010;
- The aim of the exercise is to improve co-operation between the nations participating and their capabilities for future contingency operations;
- The number of Latvian and foreign troops involved is about 2,000.

Zobens W (West) 2016 (12–14 August 2016) and Zobens E (East) 2016 (23–25 October 2016):

- Zobens 2016 is an annual Latvian National Guard exercise which takes place in two different regions of Latvia;
- The number of National Guard troops involved in each exercise is about 1,000.

Silver Arrow 2016 (17–30 October 2016):

- Silver Arrow 2016 is a joint military exercise conducted by the Latvian National Armed Forces and foreign army units;
- The exercise is intended to improve co-operation between the armies of NATO member countries. It also aims to prepare and improve skills in conventional operations, and improve the performance of attack and defence training;
- The number of Latvian and foreign troops involved is about 2,000.