



**Delegation of Ukraine  
to the OSCE**

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13 January 2011

ENGLISH only

**Statement**  
**in response to the address by the Chairman-in-Office, Minister for Foreign  
Affairs of Lithuania, H.E. Mr. Audronius Azubalis**

As delivered by Permanent Representative Ihor Prokopchuk  
to the 846<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Permanent Council,  
13 January 2011

Mr. Chairman,

The Delegation of Ukraine congratulates Minister for Foreign Affairs of Lithuania, H.E. Audronius Azubalis on the assumption of the functions of Chairman-in-Office of our Organization and joins other delegations in welcoming the distinguished Minister to the Permanent Council in this new capacity.

Please be assured, Mr. Minister, that Ukraine stands ready to provide all necessary support and to contribute to the activities of the Lithuanian OSCE Chairmanship in the spirit of friendship and partnership that exists between our countries.

Ukraine shares the vision of the Lithuanian Chairmanship of the areas, where the OSCE should focus its activities in 2011 in all three dimensions.

We highly appreciate the Chairmanship's determination to seek progress in the resolution of protracted conflicts, which remain the greatest threat to security and stability and a serious challenge for our Organization. Ukraine views the OSCE as a unique platform for dialogue on the creation of a common space of equal and indivisible security, where conflicts are resolved only by peaceful means and on the basis of international law.

As it was stressed by the President of Ukraine at the Astana OSCE Summit, increased efforts are needed to achieve a new quality of the OSCE activities. In this context, the Delegation of Ukraine will actively support the Lithuanian Chairmanship's efforts aimed at strengthening and modernizing the OSCE.

We attach great importance to effective implementation of the tasks given by the leaders of the OSCE participating States in Astana, in particular concerning the development of an action plan towards the realization of the vision of a

comprehensive, cooperative and indivisible security community across the OSCE area.

As the Lithuanian Chairmanship takes the lead in organizing this process, we offer our full support and assistance in your endeavours.

We believe that success of this exercise should be measured by its quality, rather than by its pace. In addition, this process should be inclusive and not divisive, since we are all equal participants of the process and carry equal responsibility for its outcome. Our search for compromise should by no means lower the OSCE standards and undermine our commitments.

Let me assure you that as a future OSCE Chair Ukraine stands ready to actively engage in this process and to work closely with the Lithuanian OSCE Chairmanship, future Irish Chairmanship and all OSCE participating States towards achieving tangible results.

In conclusion, I would like to wish Minister Azubalis every success in his future activities at the helm of the OSCE. We also extend these wishes to the Lithuanian delegation here in Vienna, so ably led by my colleague and friend Ambassador Renatas Norkus.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.