

**OSCE Permanent Council N° 1179
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ENGLISH only

**Denmark on the nerve agent attack in
Salisbury, United Kingdom**

Statement by H.E. Ambassador Liselotte Plesner to the Permanent Council, 15 March 2018.

Mr. Chairperson,

Denmark fully subscribes to the statement delivered by the European Union about the murderous, military-grade, chemical agent attack against Sergey Skripal and his daughter Yulia on British soil.

Nationally, we would like to add that Denmark fully stands by the United Kingdom, a close ally of ours. As my Prime minister said yesterday: “Denmark stands in full solidarity with the United Kingdom after the atrocious attack in Salisbury. The act is a clear breach of international norms and agreements and should be condemned in the strongest possible terms.” Our foreign minister has expressed himself along the same lines.

The use of chemical weapons is prohibited under international law. The Chemical Weapons Convention prohibits the development, transfer and use of chemical weapons. State Parties to the Convention take on a duty to uphold and enforce its fundamental tenets. State Parties commit not to develop, produce or otherwise acquire, stockpile or retain chemical weapons, nor to transfer, directly or indirectly, chemical weapons to anyone. State Parties also undertake not to engage in any military preparations to use chemical weapons, nor to assist, encourage or induce anyone to engage in prohibited activity. Denmark strongly condemns any – any – use of chemical weapons.

Furthermore, we underline the importance of upholding the OSCE principles enshrined in the Helsinki Final Act.

We have confidence in the UK Government's assessment that it is highly likely that the Russian Federation carries responsibility for the attack. In this respect, we call on the Russian Federation to respond swiftly to the British Government's legitimate questions and to co-operate with the competent international agencies.

Thank you.