

Chairmanship: Switzerland**1564th PLENARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**

1. Date: Thursday, 14 May 2026 (in the Ratsaal)

Opened: 10.05 a.m.
Suspended: 10.10 a.m.
Resumed: 10.25 a.m.
Closed: 12.50 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Mr. N. Plattner

Russian Federation (Annex 1)

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

Agenda item 1: THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION'S ONGOING AGGRESSION
AGAINST UKRAINE

Chairperson, Ukraine (PC.DEL/457/26), United Kingdom, Canada
(PC.DEL/463/26), Cyprus-European Union (with Albania, Andorra, Bosnia
and Herzegovina, Georgia, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Moldova, Montenegro,
North Macedonia, Norway and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/475/26),
Türkiye, Norway, Hungary (PC.DEL/471/26 OSCE+), Russian Federation
(PC.DEL/451/26/Rev.1)

Agenda item 2: REPORT BY THE OSCE PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR IN
UZBEKISTAN

Chairperson, OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan (PC.FR/3/26 OSCE+),
Cyprus-European Union (with Albania, Andorra, Bosnia and Herzegovina,
Iceland, Liechtenstein, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway,
Serbia and Ukraine, in alignment), United States of America
(PC.DEL/470/26), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/452/26), Turkmenistan (also
on behalf of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan) (PC.DEL/468/26
OSCE+), Türkiye, United Kingdom, Finland, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan

Agenda item 3: DECISION ON THE APPOINTMENT OF THE EXTERNAL
AUDITOR

Chairperson

Decision: The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 1528 (PC.DEC/1528) on the appointment of the External Auditor, the text of which is appended to this journal.

Cyprus (also on behalf of Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain and Sweden) (interpretative statement, see attachment to the decision), Chairperson

Agenda item 4: REVIEW OF CURRENT ISSUES

Ongoing attempts by some participating States to undermine efforts at finding a long-term and sustainable peaceful solution to the Ukrainian crisis: Russian Federation (PC.DEL/453/26)

Agenda item 5: REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE
CHAIRMAN-IN-OFFICE

- (a) *Visit of the OSCE Chairman-in-Office, Mr. I. Cassis, to Moldova on 14 and 15 May 2026: Chairperson*
- (b) *Address by the Special Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office on Civil Society, Ms. A. Juvonen, to the second Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting on “Safeguarding Civic Space in the Digital Age”, held in Vienna on 11 and 12 May 2026: Chairperson*
- (c) *Visit of the Special Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office on Civil Society, Ms. A. Juvonen, to Slovakia on 14 May 2026: Chairperson*
- (d) *Participation of the Personal Representative of the Chairperson-in-Office on Combating Anti-Semitism, Rabbi A. Baker, in a meeting of the Special Envoys & Coordinators Combating Antisemitism (SECCA) network, held in Geneva on 12 May 2026: Chairperson*
- (e) *Participation of the Special Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office for the South Caucasus, Mr. C. Späti, in the 132nd Incident Prevention and Response Mechanism (IPRM), being held in Ergneti, Georgia, on 14 May 2026: Chairperson*
- (f) *Recent meeting of the advisory group on future OSCE Chairmanships: Chairperson*

Agenda item 6: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

Announcement of the distribution of a written report of the Secretary General (SEC.GAL/58/26 OSCE+): Director of the Office of the Secretary General

Agenda item 7: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) *Invocation of the Moscow Mechanism in relation to the militarization and indoctrination of Ukrainian children by the Russian Federation:* France (also on behalf of Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom) (Annex 2), Holy See (PC.DEL/454/26 OSCE+), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/466/26 OSCE+), Ukraine (PC.DEL/458/26), Belarus (PC.DEL/461/26 OSCE+), Cyprus-European Union
- (b) *2026 Asian Conference, to be held in Bangkok on 28 and 29 May 2026:* Russian Federation (PC.DEL/456/26), Belarus (PC.DEL/462/26 OSCE+)
- (c) *Reminder concerning registration for the 2026 Asian Conference, to be held in Bangkok on 28 and 29 May 2026:* Finland
- (d) *Reply to a statement delivered by the delegation of Moldova at the 1562nd meeting of the Permanent Council, held on 30 April 2026:* Russian Federation (PC.DEL/464/26), Moldova

4. Next meeting:

Thursday, 21 May 2026, at 10 a.m., in the Ratsaal



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Permanent Council**

PC.JOUR/1564
14 May 2026
Annex 1

ENGLISH
Original: RUSSIAN

1564th Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 1564, Point 2

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

Mr. Chairperson,

It is disappointing that the Swiss Chairmanship-in-Office, bending to the political climate, continues to include a confrontational item on “Russian aggression against Ukraine” in the Permanent Council’s agenda.

Such actions by the Chairmanship are directly incompatible with standing agenda items as established by the Rules of Procedure of the OSCE (chapter IV.1(C)). This precludes the possibility of equal and non-discriminatory participation in a discussion of the developments in and around Ukraine.

The convening of Permanent Council meetings must be fully in line with the Rules of Procedure of the OSCE as regards consultations with all the participating States (paragraphs IV.1(C)1 and IV.1(C)3) and may not run counter to the provisions of the mandate of the Chairmanship-in-Office, which unambiguously obligates the Chairmanship to take the whole spectrum of opinions into account in its actions (Porto Ministerial Council Decision No. 8 of 2002).

We request that this formal reservation be reflected in the journal of today’s meeting of the Permanent Council in accordance with paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the Rules of Procedure of the OSCE.

Thank you for your attention.



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Permanent Council**

PC.JOUR/1564
14 May 2026
Annex 2

ENGLISH
Original: FRENCH

1564th Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 1564, Agenda item 7(a)

**STATEMENT BY
THE DELEGATION OF FRANCE
(ALSO ON BEHALF OF ALBANIA, ANDORRA, AUSTRIA BELGIUM,
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, BULGARIA, CANADA, CROATIA,
CYPRUS, CZECHIA, DENMARK, ESTONIA, FINLAND, GEORGIA,
GERMANY, GREECE, HUNGARY, ICELAND, IRELAND, ITALY,
LATVIA, LIECHTENSTEIN, LITHUANIA, LUXEMBOURG, MALTA,
MOLDOVA, MONACO, MONTENEGRO, THE NETHERLANDS,
NORTH MACEDONIA, NORWAY, POLAND, PORTUGAL,
ROMANIA, SAN MARINO, SLOVAKIA, SLOVENIA,
SPAIN, SWEDEN AND THE UNITED KINGDOM)**

I have the honour of speaking on behalf of 41 OSCE participating States:

Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom and my own country, France.

These participating States have co-signed the letter invoking the Moscow Mechanism, which I shall read out to you in full before forwarding it to the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR).

The Russian Federation's full-scale war of aggression against Ukraine is in its fifth year. Russia's illegal occupation of parts of the Zaporizhzhia and Kherson regions is now in its fifth year, while its illegal occupation of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, the city of Sevastopol and parts of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions is in its thirteenth year. There continue to be reports of large-scale violations and abuses of international human rights law and international humanitarian law, many of which may amount to the most serious international crimes.

Against this backdrop, we are profoundly alarmed by credible and mounting reports that the Russian Federation is systematically subjecting Ukrainian children – especially those

staying in temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine and those forcibly transferred to such territories or unlawfully deported to Russia – to militarization, indoctrination, coercion and other repressive practices aimed at, *inter alia*, erasing Ukrainian identity and compelling loyalty to the occupying power.

The signatories recall that OSCE participating States, following bilateral consultations with Ukraine under the Vienna Mechanism, have invoked paragraph 8 of the Moscow Mechanism five times in response to Russia’s aggression. Since 2022, Moscow Mechanism missions have documented violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law and identified patterns of serious international crimes. Notably, in 2023, a dedicated Moscow Mechanism mission reported on the forcible transfer and/or unlawful deportation of Ukrainian children to the Russian Federation, including their exposure to assimilationist policies and “military education”.

We note, *inter alia*, that Ukraine, the United Nations and civil society organizations continue to document the unlawful deportation and/or forcible transfer of children and the severe harm inflicted on them. As of 23 March 2026, Ukraine’s official Children of War platform reports, among other figures, 20,000 children “deported and/or forcibly displaced” (a figure provided by Bring Kids Back UA), alongside other verified child-casualty and missing-person data.

In its latest report, the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on Ukraine concluded that the Russian authorities had committed acts “amount[ing] to crimes against humanity and war crimes of deportation and forcible transfer of children” on the basis of compelling evidence concerning the deportation and transfer of a total of 1,205 children from five oblasts in Ukraine.

Building upon findings by previous Moscow Mechanism missions, as well as other credible reports, we are now confronted with a distinct and urgent human dimension question: the protection of Ukrainian children under occupation and/or in armed conflict against unlawful deportation, forced assimilation, re-education, militarization, indoctrination, coercive propaganda, intimidation and violence. Credible open-source research has mapped an extensive infrastructure supporting these practices. For example, the Yale School of Public Health Humanitarian Research Lab reported in September 2025 that children from Ukraine have been taken to at least 210 facilities in Russia and temporarily occupied territory of Ukraine, describing patterns of “re-education and militarization”.

In addition to indoctrination and militarization, we underline our deep concern that Russia’s conduct towards Ukrainian children includes pressure, repression, illegal adoptions and exposure to psychological and physical violence, especially in the temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine and during forcible transfer or unlawful deportation.

These acts strike at the very core of OSCE commitments and the international legal framework protecting children, including participating States’ obligations under international human rights law and international humanitarian law.

Gravely concerned by these developments, and following consultations with Ukraine under the Vienna Mechanism, the delegations of 41 participating States today hereby invoke the OSCE Moscow Mechanism under paragraph 8 of that document.

We request that the ODIHR inquire of Ukraine whether it would invite a mission of experts to build upon previous findings and to:

1. Establish the facts and circumstances surrounding possible contraventions of relevant OSCE commitments, and violations and abuses of international human rights law and international humanitarian law, related to the militarization and indoctrination of Ukrainian children by the Russian Federation, including in the temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine and including in the context of forcible transfer and/or unlawful deportation;
2. Collect, consolidate and analyse information on these practices, including patterns of coercion, intimidation, repression, unlawful deprivation of liberty, illegal adoptions, ill-treatment and other forms of violence affecting children;
3. Further collect, consolidate and analyse information on the legislative framework adopted by Russia for this purpose, and the school curricula imposed on Ukrainian children in the temporarily occupied territories;
4. Assess whether such practices indicate a co-ordinated and systematic policy aimed, *inter alia*, at erasing the Ukrainian identity of children, including through illegal adoptions as well as alteration of their nationality, and conditioning children for service to the occupying power;
5. Assess the impact of these practices on the rights of Ukrainian children, including the rights to life and development, health, education, family life, equality and non-discrimination, and protection from all forms of violence, and provide recommendations on urgent protective measures, prevention, and accountability pathways;
6. Offer recommendations on relevant accountability mechanisms, including how OSCE participating States and OSCE institutions can support documentation efforts and child protection, return and reintegration efforts, and international co-operation to end impunity for crimes against children.

We also invite the ODIHR to provide any relevant information or documentation derived from any new expert mission to other appropriate accountability mechanisms, as well as to national, regional or international courts or tribunals that have, or may in future have, jurisdiction.

Russia's refusal to co-operate with OSCE human dimension mechanisms in relation to Ukraine has been a persistent feature of previous missions. We nevertheless affirm that the Moscow Mechanism was adopted by consensus by all the participating States and remains a vital OSCE instrument to establish facts, identify patterns and issue recommendations to participating States when serious human dimension concerns arise.

I request that this statement be attached to the journal of the meeting.

Thank you.



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Permanent Council**

PC.DEC/1528
14 May 2026

Original: ENGLISH

1564th Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 1564, Agenda item 3

**DECISION No. 1528
APPOINTMENT OF THE EXTERNAL AUDITOR**

The Permanent Council,

Recalling Article VIII of the Financial Regulations of 27 June 1996 (DOC.PC/1/96) concerning the OSCE External Auditors,

Taking note of the offer of the State Audit Institution of the Republic of Serbia to provide external audit services to the OSCE (document CIO.GAL/30/26 of 22 April 2026),

Recalling Financial Regulation 8.01 on the appointment and tenure of office of the External Auditor,

Accepts the kind offer of the Republic of Serbia and appoints the State Audit Institution of the Republic of Serbia as OSCE External Auditor for a period of three years covering the 2026, 2027 and 2028 Financial Statements, starting on 2 July 2026 and expiring on 1 July 2029.

Pursuant to Financial Regulation 8.01, the costs for travel and daily subsistence allowance (DSA) will be reimbursed from the OSCE Unified Budget.

PC.DEC/1528

14 May 2026

Attachment

ENGLISH

Original: FRENCH

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND
CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE**

By the delegation of Cyprus (also on behalf of Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain and Sweden):

“With regard to the Permanent Council decision on the appointment of the External Auditor, the Member States of the European Union would like to make the following interpretative statement under paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the Rules of Procedure of the OSCE.

We thank the State Audit Institution of the Republic of Serbia for having offered to serve as OSCE External Auditor for the next three years. The external audit of an international organization is a complex task that should be supported by a long-term vision. A tenure of office of three years is, therefore, essential for adequate monitoring of the Organization’s financial stability as provided for by the Financial Regulations.

We also wish to take this opportunity to express our gratitude once again to the Austrian Court of Audit, which served as External Auditor over the past three years. We remember all the circumstances in which the Austrian Court of Audit was willing to submit its candidacy at a late stage in 2023 after several months during which the role had remained vacant owing to a lack of consensus.

Accordingly, the EU Member States welcome the return to the practice of appointing the Organization’s External Auditor on the basis of the normal tenure of three years in line with the Financial Regulations.

We request that this interpretative statement be attached to the decision and included in the journal of the day.”