



Permanent Mission of Ukraine
to the International
Organizations in Vienna

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF UKRAINE

As delivered by Ms Viktoriya Kuvshynnykova, Deputy Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the International Organizations in Vienna

1564th meeting of the OSCE Permanent Council

Agenda Item 6, "Any Other Business"

"Invocation of the Moscow Mechanism in relation to the militarization and indoctrination of Ukrainian children by the Russian Federation"

(14 May 2026)

Mr Chairperson,

Ukraine welcomes and strongly supports the invocation by 41 participating States of the OSCE Moscow Mechanism.

We express our gratitude to the Delegation of France for delivering the joint statement on this matter.

The Mechanism have already made a significant contribution to global efforts to document serious violations of international humanitarian law, as well as human rights abuses committed in the course of Russia's aggression.

Now it is high time to address one of the most cynical dimensions of Russia's war of aggression: the systematic indoctrination and militarisation of Ukrainian children.

This decision is both timely and highly relevant, as Russia continues to pursue a state policy of forced assimilation and ideological coercion aimed at turning children against their own motherland.

As underlined in the recent Co-Chairs' Summary Document of the International Coalition for the Return of Ukrainian Children, issued following the high-level meeting on 11 May 2026, the return of these children is both a humanitarian imperative and a central element in achieving a just and sustainable peace in Ukraine.

Ukraine is grateful to all participating States that supported this invocation.

In doing so, they defend not only Ukrainian children, but also the fundamental principle that no state may erase a child's identity as an instrument of war.

The Russian Federation must immediately stop these criminal practices, provide full information on all Ukrainian children under its control, and ensure their safe and unconditional return to Ukraine.

Thank you, Mr Chairperson.