



STATEMENT ON THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION'S ONGOING AGGRESSION AGAINST UKRAINE

As delivered by Ambassador Ellen Svendsen at the Permanent Council,

Vienna, 30 April 2026

We align with the statement of the European Union. Allow me however a few brief remarks in my national capacity.

Five years into its war of aggression against Ukraine, with relentless massive attacks against civilians and infrastructure, Russia continues its attempts to reshape the security order in Europe by force. We cannot let this happen.

In defending its sovereignty and independence, Ukraine is fighting not only for its own survival, but also for European security, and for the fundamental principles that we have all committed to: respect for sovereignty, territorial integrity, and human dignity.

Ukrainians did not choose nor want to fight this war. They are forced to, because Russia invaded their sovereign territory.

It is deeply impressive to see the innovation, resilience and combat readiness of the Ukrainian people; including how women contribute to this fight, also at the forefront of the armed forces, reflecting the broad societal commitment to defending their territories and identity.

Awe alone, however, does not bring peace. Steadfast and increased support, military and civilian, are the building blocks for a future just and lasting peace.

Norway stands fully and firmly behind Ukraine. We reaffirm our unwavering support for Ukraine's sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity within its internationally recognized borders, and we call upon Russia to engage meaningfully in peace efforts.

Russia chose to start this war. Russia can at any time end it.

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Lastly, we reiterate our calls to Russia to release the three unlawfully detained OSCE colleagues, Vadym Golda, Maxim Petrov, and Dmytro Shabanov. Thank you.

I thank you.