OSCE

PC.JOUR/1573
16 July 2026

Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Permanent Council

Original: ENGLISH

Chairmanship: Switzerland

1573rd PLENARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

1. Date: Thursday, 16 July 2026 (in the Ratsaal)

   Opened: 10.10 a.m.
   Closed: 1.30 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador R. Nägeli
   Mr. F. Milan

   Russian Federation (Annex 1)

   During the course of the meeting, the Dean of the Permanent Council (Croatia) bade farewell to the Permanent Representative of Finland to the OSCE, Ambassador V. Häkkinen, the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the OSCE, Ambassador R. Sadigbayli and the Permanent Representative of the European Union to the OSCE, Ambassador R. Ostrauskaite.

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

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

   Chairperson, Ukraine (PC.DEL/755/26), Ireland-European Union (with Albania, Andorra, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, North Macedonia, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/753/26), United Kingdom, Canada (PC.DEL/766/26), Türkiye, Norway (PC.DEL/763/26), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/731/26)

   Agenda item 2: REVIEW OF CURRENT ISSUES

   (a) *The ongoing hybrid war waged by NATO and the European Union against Russia*: Russian Federation (PC.DEL/732/26)

   (b) *Thirty-first anniversary of the Srebrenica genocide*: Ireland-European Union (with Albania, Andorra, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, San Marino, Türkiye and

Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/754/26), Montenegro, Albania (PC.DEL/757/26 OSCE+), Türkiye (PC.DEL/762/26 OSCE+), Canada (PC.DEL/767/26 OSCE+), United Kingdom, Russian Federation (PC.DEL/740/26 OSCE+), Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina

(c) *Twelve years since the downing of Malaysia Airlines flight MH17 on 17 July 2014*: Netherlands (also on behalf of Australia, Belgium, Canada, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Romania and the United Kingdom) (PC.DEL/749/26 OSCE+), Ukraine (PC.DEL/756/26), Ireland-European Union, Russian Federation (PC.DEL/743/26), Australia (Partner for Co-operation), Netherlands (PC.DEL/750/26 OSCE+)

(d) *Hybrid threats in the OSCE region*: United Kingdom, Canada (PC.DEL/768/26 OSCE+), Ireland-European Union, Estonia (also on behalf of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden) (PC.DEL/758/26 OSCE+), Italy (also on behalf of Albania, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Montenegro, the Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Türkiye, the United Kingdom and the United States of America), Ukraine (PC.DEL/748/26), Romania, France (Annex 2), Poland (PC.DEL/770/26 OSCE+), Armenia (PC.DEL/761/26 OSCE+), Belarus (PC.DEL/759/26 OSCE+), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/745/26)

Agenda item 3: REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CHAIRMAN-IN-OFFICE

None

Agenda item 4: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

Announcement of the distribution of a written report of the Secretary General (SEC.GAL/87/26 OSCE+): Director of the Office of the Secretary General

Agenda item 5: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(a) *Outcomes of the virtual round table entitled "The 'Stolen Ukrainian Children' Hoax: Western Propaganda Unmasked", held on 13 July 2026*: Russian Federation (PC.DEL/751/26), Belarus (PC.DEL/760/26 OSCE+), Ukraine (Annex 3), France

(b) *Digitalization of electoral proceedings in Bosnia and Herzegovina*: Russian Federation (PC.DEL/741/26 OSCE+), Bosnia and Herzegovina

4. Next meeting:

Thursday, 23 July 2026, at 10 a.m., in the Ratsaal

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Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Permanent Council

PC.JOUR/1573
16 July 2026
Annex 1

ENGLISH
Original: RUSSIAN

1573rd Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 1573, 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.

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Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Permanent Council

PC.JOUR/1573
16 July 2026
Annex 2

ENGLISH
Original: FRENCH

1573rd Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 1573, Agenda item 2(d)

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF FRANCE

France would like to thank the United Kingdom for having placed an item on hybrid threats on the agenda and aligns itself with the statements by the European Union and NATO, but allow me to add a few comments in a national capacity.

France condemns in the strongest possible terms the cyberattacks carried out on French territory by Russia against French strategic interests.

For several years now, France has been the target of persistent malicious cyberactivities for espionage purposes conducted by the 16th Centre of the Federal Security Service of the Russian Federation (FSB), and more specifically by its Unit 61240, which is tasked with targeting France.

Building on the Turla intrusion set, the FSB has specifically targeted email accounts belonging to the Armed Forces Ministry since 2017, along with the network of the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs at the French Embassy in Moscow in 2018. In 2019, unauthorized access to a computer server belonging to a justice sector entity was detected. In February 2025, a research institute specialized in sensitive technologies and working for the French defence industry was also targeted by cyberattacks carried out by the FSB's 16th Centre, resulting in the exfiltration of a significant amount of data.

Many of our European partners are faced with a similar situation, as the European Union has pointed out on behalf of its 27 Member States. France is directly involved in European collective efforts to prevent or respond to cyberincidents, including those related to the activities of that specific actor.

In recent years, Russia has continuously intensified its malicious cyberactivities, targeting Ukraine and its supporters in particular. Russia is strengthening its own offensive cybercapabilities, while also relying on a diverse ecosystem of non-State actors, including so-called hacktivist groups, for destabilization purposes. In response to these actions, the European Union adopted a new package of sanctions on 13 July, under the EU cybersecurity framework, against nine individuals and four entities that are part of this malicious cyber ecosystem, including a group that has claimed responsibility for destabilization activities against the 2024 Paris Olympic and Paralympic Games.

These cyberactivities are one aspect of the growing hybrid threats targeting EU Member States in the context of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, which also encompass information manipulation campaigns, interference in democratic processes, airspace violations and other destabilizing activities.

Russia's malicious cyberactivities are unacceptable and unworthy of a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council. Furthermore, they are contrary to the principles of the United Nations normative framework for responsible State behaviour in cyberspace, which Russia has endorsed. France reaffirms its commitment to the United Nations normative framework and urges Russia to respect its undertakings in this regard.

Alongside its partners and in line with international law, France is determined to use all the means at its disposal to anticipate, deter and respond to destabilizing activities targeting it in cyberspace, including in the run-up to the forthcoming 2027 election.

The technical departments of the Cyber Crisis Coordination Centre (C4) – which brings together the French Cybersecurity Agency, the Directorate-General for External Security, the Directorate-General for Internal Security, the Directorate-General for Armaments and the Cyberdefence Command – are today publishing a joint report on malicious cyberactivities conducted by Russia against French interests using the Turla intrusion set; the report is based on cyberattack attribution work carried out within the C4.

Lastly, I should like to support Canada's call for the OSCE to play an active role in combating these malicious cyberactivities.

I would be grateful if the Chairmanship could kindly attach this statement to the journal of the day.

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PC.JOUR/1573
Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe 16 July 2026
Permanent Council Annex 3

Original: ENGLISH

1573rd Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 1573, Agenda item 5(a)

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF UKRAINE

Mr Chairperson,

I would like to exercise my right of reply in response to the statement by the Russian delegation.

First of all, we cannot leave unanswered yet another attempt by the Russian Federation to disguise its own crimes against Ukrainian children through propaganda.

Particularly cynical was Russia's decision to make the main speaker of this event Maria Lvova-Belova, who is subject to an International Criminal Court arrest warrant for the alleged war crime of unlawful deportation and transfer of Ukrainian children.

This event was also an attempt to discredit and divert attention from the findings of the sixth OSCE Moscow Mechanism report, presented just days earlier, which documented Russia's systematic policy of indoctrination, militarization, unlawful deportation and forced transfer of Ukrainian children, as well as other grave violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law.

The facts are clear. Russia's unlawful deportation and forced transfer of Ukrainian children have been documented by numerous independent international mechanisms, including the OSCE Moscow Mechanism, the United Nations Independent International Commission of Inquiry on Ukraine and other international bodies.

No propaganda event can erase the fact that the International Criminal Court has issued arrest warrants against Vladimir Putin and Maria Lvova-Belova in connection with these alleged war crimes.

Instead of spreading disinformation, Russia should disclose the whereabouts of all unlawfully transferred Ukrainian children, facilitate their safe return, grant international organizations unrestricted access and comply with its obligations under international law.

Ukraine will continue working with international partners to bring every Ukrainian child home and ensure accountability for these crimes.

Thank you, Mr Chairperson.