



Delegation of Canada
to the OSCE

Délégation du Canada
auprès de l'OSCE

**STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR VÉRONIQUE PEPIN-HALLÉ
UNDER AGENDA ITEM:**

The Russian Federation's ongoing aggression against Ukraine

1572nd MEETING OF THE PERMANENT COUNCIL

9 July 2026

Monsieur le Président,

Le 7 juin dernier, à la suite d'une rencontre avec son homologue ukrainien, le premier Ministre du Canada a annoncé une aide militaire de plus de 900 millions de dollars dans le cadre de l'engagement de 2,8 milliards de dollars en appui à la défense de l'Ukraine.

Il a également souligné la décision prise en début d'année de prolonger jusqu'en 2029 l'opération UNIFIER, la mission canadienne de formation et de renforcement des capacités en Ukraine.

Les dirigeants ont discuté du renforcement des partenariats industriels dans le domaine de la défense. Nous remercions l'Ukraine pour son soutien à la Banque de la défense, de la sécurité et de la résilience promue par le Canada et saluons également la décision des pays suivants de soutenir ces : l'Albanie, la Belgique, la Grèce, la Lettonie, le Luxembourg, la Roumanie, la Türkiye.

Le premier ministre Carney a réaffirmé l'appui du Canada à la reconstruction de l'Ukraine et a souligné les efforts en cours afin que les responsables répondent de leurs actes, notamment par le biais de sanctions.

Mister Chair,

Canada condemns, in the strongest possible terms, the Russian Federation's illegal, unprovoked and unjustifiable aggression against Ukraine, which has been ongoing since 2014 and constitutes a violation of international law, the Charter of the United Nations, and runs counter to the Helsinki Final Act.

We affirm Ukraine's right of self-defence, as enshrined in Article 51 of the UN Charter, and remain committed to supporting Ukraine in exercising this right through appropriate assistance, including military assistance and training through Operation UNIFIER.

The Russian Federation is responsible for starting this war of aggression and for its devastating consequences. The immense human suffering and civilian casualties, including in Russia, are a direct result of this unilateral decision.

We remain committed to ensuring accountability for the crime of aggression and other violations of international law committed by the Russian Federation, and to supporting relevant international investigative and judicial mechanisms in doing so.

We reaffirm our steadfast support for the security of our Allies subject to the Russian Federation's destabilizing and escalatory actions, including hybrid threats and other malign activities, and reiterate our commitment to collective defence and transatlantic security through NATO, recalling that NATO is a defensive Alliance.

Mr. Chair,

We reiterate the following calls upon the Russian Federation:

To immediately and unconditionally release the unlawfully detained officials of the OSCE, Vadym Golda, Maksym Petrov and Dmytro Shabanov, and request the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office and Secretary General to prioritize their release.

To release all unlawfully detained civilians and to ensure the safe return of thousands of Ukrainian children unlawfully deported or forcibly transferred from Ukraine or within its temporarily occupied territories.

And finally, to cease its aggression immediately, to withdraw all its armed forces, proxies and military equipment from the internationally recognized territory of Ukraine, and to engage in good-faith diplomatic efforts consistent with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and international law.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.