

Buantoscáireacht na hÉireann
don Eagraíocht um Shlándáil agus Comhar san Eoraip
Permanent Mission of Ireland to the
Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe



Statement by Ireland at the 1576th (Special) Meeting of the Permanent Council
The Russian Federation's ongoing aggression against Ukraine
24 August 2026

Thank you Chair,

While Ireland fully aligns with the statement just delivered by the EU, with your permission, Chair, I would also like to make some brief remarks in my national capacity.

First, as we join others in congratulating our Ukrainian colleagues on this important day, we pay tribute to the remarkable resilience, courage and sacrifices of the Ukrainian people as they fight each day to defend their freedom, sovereignty and democratic future. But they are also defending our common values, security, and freedom. That's why we need to ensure that support for Ukraine remains our top priority here in Vienna.

Second, Russia started this war and can stop it at any point. Instead, it chooses escalation, attacking civilians and critical infrastructure, demonstrating its total disregard for international law, as well as the commitments it freely undertook as an OSCE participating State. It is essential that we continue to use this platform to hold Russia to account, including through tools such as the Moscow Mechanism. As we have said many times, we call on Russia to agree to a full, immediate and unconditional ceasefire and engage seriously in efforts to achieve a just, lasting and comprehensive peace in Ukraine. We also reiterate our demand for the immediate and unconditional release of all those arbitrarily detained, including the three OSCE officials Dmytro Shabanov, Maxim Petrov and Vadym Golda.

Finally Chair,

Ireland and the EU remain steadfast in our support for Ukraine. During the Irish Presidency of the Council of the European Union, we will ensure that Ukraine remains at the top of the agenda, including by:

- Ensuring that Ukraine has access to the finance it needs to defend itself against Russia
- Pursuing sanctions which target Russia's revenue streams, impede its shadow fleet and disrupt its supply-chains; and
- Supporting Ukraine's path to EU membership.

Thank you Chair.