

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



Right of Reply by Ireland at the 1511th Meeting of the Permanent Council
International Women's Day
6 March 2025

Mr Chair,

Let me make a right of reply in relation to the statement by the Russian Federation. I am shocked at the dehumanisation of Ukrainian women defending their country by comparing them to animals.

I would also like to address the insinuation that low rates of reporting of sexual violence are somehow evidence of participating States hiding statistics. They are often due to the trauma experienced by survivors. Survivors may feel that they cannot go through the medical and judicial processes required to bring a perpetrator to justice. Some are still living in fear of the perpetrator.

As OSCE participating States, we should focus on fostering the societal changes necessary to improve gender equality and not spreading misinformation.

Thank you.