



STATEMENT IN RESPONSE TO THE RUSSIAN AGGRESSION AGAINST UKRAINE

As delivered by Military Adviser Colonel Bjørn Gaute Herlyng at the
FSC, Vienna,
4 June 2025

Thank you, Mrs. Chair,

Norway fully aligns with the joint statement delivered by Poland, but I would like to make some additional remarks in my national capacity.

The continued targeting of civilians and critical services is a stark reminder of the war's widening toll. It reinforces the urgency of restoring respect for the fundamental norms of international humanitarian and international law, including the principles enshrined in the Code of Conduct and the Vienna Document.

Yet even amid these conditions, steps toward reducing human suffering are possible. Norway takes note of the recent developments in Istanbul. Of particular importance is a commitment to establish a mechanism for the return of all Ukrainian children unlawfully removed from their country. We call for this process to proceed without delay and under credible international monitoring, including that of the ICRC.

The broader route to stability is equally clear: A halt to the attacks, full withdrawal from occupied territories, the release of all detainees – including the three detained OSCE staff.

Until those conditions are met, Norway remains steadfast in its support for Ukraine's sovereignty and right to self-defence.

Thank you.

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