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PERMANENT DELEGATION OF NORWAY
TO THE OSCE

STATEMENT ON THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION'S ONGOING AGGRESSION AGAINST UKRAINE

As delivered by Colonel Bjørn Gaute Herlyng at the 1150th Forum for Security Cooperation,
Vienna, 21 October 2026

Thank you, Chair.

Norway aligns with the statement delivered by the EU, but please allow me to make a few remarks in my national capacity.

Mr. Chair,

Russia continues its attacks across Ukraine, causing severe consequences for civilians and civilian infrastructure.

In recent weeks, we have witnessed repeated large-scale missile strikes, including the use of ballistic missiles against urban areas. These attacks have damaged residential buildings, energy facilities, transportation infrastructure and other civilian objects. Civilians continue to be killed and injured far from the front line.

Particularly concerning are the repeated attacks affecting Ukraine's energy infrastructure. As winter approaches, damage to electricity production and distribution systems increases the risk of power outages, loss of heating and disruptions to essential services. The combined effects of cold temperatures, reduced access to electricity and limited public services put additional and unnecessary strain on the civilian population.

Mr. Chair,

The protection of civilians and civilian infrastructure is a fundamental obligation under international humanitarian law. Civilian objects must not be targeted, and all parties must distinguish between military objectives and civilian persons and objects.

Norway strongly condemns attacks against civilians, humanitarian personnel and civilian infrastructure. We also condemn violations of the sovereignty and territorial

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integrity of other States, including incursions into and attacks affecting the territory or airspace of neighbouring countries.

Russia's war against Ukraine remains the largest threat to security and stability in the OSCE area. Russia bears the responsibility for the human suffering, destruction and insecurity resulting from its ongoing military actions in Ukraine and elsewhere.

Norway continue to stand with Ukraine. For 2027 the Norwegian government propose to at least maintain the 2026 level of support through the Nansen Programme. This confirms a broad political consensus and long-term commitment to Ukraine's sovereignty.

We support diplomatic efforts to end the war.

We reiterate our call on Russia to cease its attacks, withdraw its forces from the internationally recognised territory of Ukraine, and engage in genuine efforts towards a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in line with international law and the UN Charter.

Thank you.