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Delegation of France

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF FRANCE (ALSO ON BEHALF OF GERMANY AND POLAND), AT THE 1585th MEETING OF THE OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL

12 November 2026

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson,

Head of Mission, dear Chris Smith, welcome to the Permanent Council for your first report since taking up your post.

France, Germany and Poland align themselves with the statement by the European Union, but we wish to add a few words following our visit to Moldova from 18 to 20 October 2026.

The aim of this visit, organized in the Weimar Triangle format, was to take stock of the work carried out by the OSCE Mission to Moldova, shortly after its new Head had taken up his post; I should like to thank him once again, along with his team, for the competent manner in which we were hosted.

We held talks with representatives of the Moldovan Government, and with the chief negotiator in Tiraspol, where we also visited a Romanian-language school, and met with members of civil society.

This field visit with the OSCE team in Moldova enabled us to fully appreciate the excellent work performed by the Mission to promote dialogue and a settlement of the situation for the benefit of the local inhabitants.

For this reason, and in accordance with the decision establishing the Mission, which was adopted by consensus, we should like to reiterate that the Mission requires predictability and must, as a matter of priority, be granted an annual mandate.

We have also noted a worrying increase in illegal overflights and the crashing of Russian drones on Moldovan territory, including four in the Security Zone in recent weeks. In this context, the presentation of reports on the situation (“spot reports”) to the Permanent Council would be useful in preventing escalation.

Lastly, we reiterate the unwavering commitment of France, Germany and Poland to Moldova’s sovereignty within its internationally recognized borders, and their full support for the people and authorities of Moldova in their European aspirations.

I would be grateful if you could kindly attach this statement to the journal of the day.