



PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA
TO THE OSCE

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STATEMENT

in response to the address by

H.E. Beate Meinl-Reisinger, Federal Minister for European and International Affairs of the
Republic of Austria

delivered by Ambassador Andranik Hovhannisyan

at the 1539th meeting of the Permanent Council

23 October 2025

Mr. Chairperson,

Armenia warmly welcomes H.E. Beate Meinl-Reisinger, Federal Minister for European and International Affairs of the Republic of Austria to the Permanent Council.

Armenia highly values Austria's consistent commitment to multilateralism. The Minister's presence at today's meeting is a clear demonstration of that dedication. We are convinced that multilateral diplomacy remains one of the most effective means to address the pressing challenges of our time, especially amid the turbulence currently affecting international relations.

We also believe that all true supporters of multilateralism have a vital role in strengthening an international order based on agreed principles and commitments. As the home of the Congress of Vienna, the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, and many other milestones in international diplomacy, Austria has a particularly important role to play in this regard.

Austria's longstanding commitment to hosting a number of United Nations agencies and bodies across the Danube and, of course, the OSCE here in the splendid Hofburg Palace, stands as another testament to its dedication to multilateralism. Madam Minister, allow me to express Armenia's sincere appreciation for Austria's invaluable contribution.

Mr. Chairperson,

On the walls of the Hofburg, near the OSCE premises at Heldenplatz, one can find a Latin inscription that translates: “Justice is the foundation of all kingdoms.” We firmly believe that justice must also serve as the foundation of international relations, upheld through the full and unwavering implementation of our core principles. Respect for the sovereignty, territorial integrity and the inviolability of borders, instead of the notion that might makes right; dialogue over confrontation; the peaceful settlement of disputes, and diplomacy instead of the use or threat of force. These principles have been at the heart of our Organization, since its very foundation. Armenia remains committed to these principles, which continue to guide our engagement within the OSCE and our contribution to regional peace and stability.

Yet, the OSCE has not been immune to the challenges confronting multilateralism today. We agree with you, madam Minister, that the OSCE faces the same threats to the international order that afflict other organizations. This is perhaps even more visible within the OSCE, as the European security architecture is crippling, directly impacting OSCE, as the largest regional security organization in the world.

Nevertheless, we believe the OSCE can be revitalized and reinvigorated if the commitment to peace prevails through the faithful implementation of the principles agreed upon fifty years ago in Helsinki. What was achieved then, can be achieved again.

For this to happen, the OSCE must remain credible and relevant to all participating States. It should continue to serve as an inclusive platform for dialogue and address all security concerns, without distinction. This shared commitment is the glue that can hold our Organization together, even through the most critical junctures.

Mr. Chairperson,

This year the OSCE area has not only faced serious security challenges but has also witnessed encouraging developments. The initialing of the Peace Agreement between Armenia and Azerbaijan, the adoption of the Joint Declaration in Washington D.C., and the agreement on the Trump Route for International Peace and Prosperity represent the establishment of peace and stability in our region. While Armenia strongly advocates for the timely signature and ratification of the Peace Treaty, we also sincerely hope that this positive momentum will extend beyond our region, contributing to a more peaceful and secure OSCE area as a whole.

Mr. Chairperson,

Armenia and Austria enjoy excellent bilateral relations rooted in mutual trust, respect, strong political dialogue, growing economic ties and vibrant people-to-people contacts, including through Austria’s historic and well-established Armenian community. We deeply value Austria’s contribution to Armenia’s democratic reforms, sustainable development, and steadfast support for peace in our region.

With this, Madam Minister, Armenia extends to you our best wishes for success in your endeavors.

Thank you.