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Buantoscaireacht na hÉireann
don Eagraíocht um Comhoibriú agus Slándáil san Eoraip
Permanent Mission of Ireland to the
Organisation for Security and Co-Operation in Europe

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Statement by Ireland
1448th Meeting of the OSCE Permanent Council
Report by the Director of the Office for Democratic Institutions and
Human Rights (ODIHR)

Mr Chair

Ireland aligns with the statement made by the EU and would like to add the following remarks in our national capacity. We wish to welcome Director Matteo Mecacci back to the Permanent Council and to thank him and his team for the important work being undertaken in fulfilment of ODIHR's mandate at an unprecedented time for the OSCE Human Dimension.

ODIHR and Moscow Mechanism reports and, most recently, those from the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on Ukraine have documented appalling civilian casualties arising from Russia's illegal war of aggression in Ukraine including indiscriminate attacks, torture, sexual violence and the deportation of children to the Russian Federation.

We continue to hear harrowing testimonies from survivors and witnesses, including at the Warsaw Human Dimension Conference. Ireland is appalled by the loss of life, destruction and suffering inflicted on the people of Ukraine by the Russian Federation.

It is in this truly dark time for our region that Director Mecacci and his team are tasked with advancing the OSCE human dimension. Despite the unprecedented challenges, ODIHR has continued to uphold the highest standards of professionalism and integrity in fulfilling the mandate entrusted to it by participating States. This work has included monitoring of human rights abuses and whilst continuing to support participating States across the OSCE region to implement our human dimension commitments.

Ireland greatly appreciates the support that ODIHR experts provided to our security services earlier this year in relation to combatting anti-Semitism.

We will carefully read and learn from the forthcoming Status Report on the Implementation of the Action Plan on Roma and Sinti.

Ireland's parliament looks forward to hosting the next meeting of the ODIHR Advisory Panel on the Political Participation of Persons with Disabilities later this month.

These are just some of the ways in which ODIHR is supporting Ireland in implementing our human dimension commitments.

We know that ODIHR is doing this important work under significant budgetary pressure. ODIHR, and indeed the OSCE as a whole, delivers excellent value for money. Ireland calls on all participating States to provide the resources that ODIHR needs to implement its important mandate.

Finally, I would like to extend my personal thanks to Director Mecacci and his team for the invaluable support and contributions you have provided to the Human Dimension Committee this year. The meetings of the Committee are enriched by the knowledge and experience of ODIHR experts.

Please be assured of Ireland's steadfast support for the work of ODIHR and the OSCE human dimension.

Thank you Mr Chair