



**PERMANENT DELEGATION
OF NORWAY TO THE OSCE**

**STATEMENT IN RESPONSE TO THE PROJECT COORDINATOR IN
UKRAINE**

As delivered by Ambassador Robert Kvile
to the Permanent Council,
Vienna, 10 September 2015

Mr Chairman,

I thank Ambassador Verba and the PCU for their assistance to Ukraine's reform efforts. These reforms must continue. We contribute where we can, bilaterally and through international organizations, including the Council of Europe and the OSCE.

Ambassador Verba and his team have our full support. They do a commendable job, they focus their efforts where the OSCE has added value, they ensure local ownership and they are appreciated by their Ukrainian partners. We hope this will continue.

Mr Chairman,

Ambassador Verba devoted much attention to dialogue facilitation in his presentation. We are convinced that these dialogues are vital to ensure broad ownership and understanding for the far-reaching and perhaps painful reform process Ukraine is going through.

Mr Chairman,

We are very pleased to hear that the Project Coordinator's cooperation with the host country is improving. The PCU is a key vehicle for the international community's support to Ukraine's reforms.

The country is facing the immense challenge of active destabilisation by pro-Russian separatists backed by the Russian military. Ukraine should therefore make full use of the international community's assistance, including by harnessing the PCU's full potential.

We commend the improving cooperation between the PCU and the SMM and the OSCE Institutions, the ODIHR, the RFoM and the HCNM. It is positive that both the ODIHR and HCNM will use PCU premises for their Kyiv based staff. We hope this will further deepen the cooperation.

We will continue to pay close attention to the cooperation and coordination between the PCU and other national and international actors. We are pleased to hear that this is also a priority for the PCU.

Finally, Mr Chairman, a point you have heard me make before: We must give the Project Coordinator in Ukraine the resources he needs to effectively carry out his mandate.

Thank you, Mr Chariman