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Permanent Mission of Ukraine

to the International Organizations in Vienna

Statement in response to the President of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Education and Sport of the Principality of Liechtenstein, H.E. Ms Dominique Hasler

As delivered by the delegation of Ukraine to the 1459th meeting of the Permanent Council, 01 February 2024

Madam Chairperson,

On behalf of the delegation of Ukraine, I warmly welcome H.E. Ms Dominique Hasler, the President of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe at the Permanent Council meeting today.

I would like to take this opportunity to express Ukraine's sincere gratitude for Liechtenstein's support for our country in the most difficult times.

Our discussions are still taking place against the backdrop of the ongoing russia's full-scale war against Ukraine, and we appreciate the clear focus on this war and unwavering support for Ukraine that Minister Hasler has highlighted in her statement.

The priorities of Liechtenstein's Presidency of the Council of Europe completely resonate with Ukraine.

We are convinced that restoring the rules-based order and trust in multilateralism, which were severely undermined by russia, is an important task for the entire international community.

Even though the international mechanisms do not function properly amidst russia's brutal invasion, the OSCE and the Council of Europe are based on indisputable values that need to be safeguarded and preserved for the future.

The motto of Liechtenstein's Presidency of the Council of Europe is "United by our values towards a future for the needs of all". We also believe that for the democratic community to remain united by values is the strength.

The actions that the OSCE and Council of Europe are taking now, will shape the role of these organizations in the future.

Your Excellency,

We strongly welcome and support Liechtenstein's focus on following up on the outcomes of the Reykjavik Summit that took place in May last year. In particular, the establishment of the Register of Damage Caused by Aggression of the russian federation against Ukraine is a truly historic decision.

Ensuring accountability for russia's crimes is a direct contribution of the Council of Europe to the future restoration of peace and security.

In this regard, the full and comprehensive launch of the record of evidence and claims for damage, loss or injury caused by the russian war is a matter of priority for

us. We are grateful for Liechtenstein's attention to this issue and we count on your further support to this end.

In the very same way, Liechtenstein can fully rely on our country regarding all other priorities of its Presidency, including reinforcing the Council of Europe's basic values of human rights, democracy and the rule of law.

Dear colleagues,

Ukraine remains committed to its international commitments and obligations as we have always been a responsible member of the international community.

We strongly support the existing format of cooperation between the OSCE and Council of Europe, including in four main areas (fighting against terrorism, combatting trafficking in human beings, promoting tolerance and non-discrimination and protection of persons belonging to national minorities).

However, this productive cooperation will always remain at risk until we have feasible tools how to protect it. The OSCE and the Council of Europe are not only based on the same goals and values, but also share the common challenges and threats. To this end, these organizations should closely coordinate their actions in response to russia's war.

In conclusion, I wish you, Excellency, all the success in your capacity as the President of the Committee of Ministers and you can always count on Ukraine's support.

Thank you, Madam Chairperson