



**Buantoscáireacht 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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Austria

Statement by Ireland in response to the address of the President of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Education and Sport of the Principality of Liechtenstein, Dominique Hasler

OSCE PC 1459, 1 February 2024

Thank you Madame Chair,

Ireland aligns with the statement of the EU and would like to add the following points.

Thank you to Minister Hasler for your leadership of the Council of Europe and for taking the time to present your priorities to the OSCE Permanent Council this morning.

Ireland welcomes the priorities that Liechtenstein has identified for its Presidency of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe.

The shared commitment of Ireland and Liechtenstein to advance human rights, democracy and the rule of law is more important than ever as we work to protect and strengthen multilateralism and the rules-based international order.

For this reason, we strongly support the emphasis placed by the Liechtenstein Presidency on strengthening the Court of Human Rights and the execution of judgements. The Convention and the Court are the ultimate guarantors of human rights across our continent, and the implementation of Court judgements is vital to ensure that those rights are protected and upheld.

The Council of Europe over 75 years and the OSCE over almost 50 years have played a crucial and complementary role in protecting the inherent dignity of every individual in our region.

This is a remarkable achievement of the multilateral system that we as States have built together.

At the Reykjavík Summit in May last year, the Member States of the Council of Europe came together to renew our deep and abiding commitment to this system and to our shared values, and to reaffirm our unity in the face of growing challenges to these principles.

Russia's brutal and illegal war of aggression against Ukraine, its violation of international humanitarian law and international human rights law, and its undermining of the principles and commitments that underpin our regional multilateral system, pose an unprecedented challenge.

Both the OSCE and the Council of Europe have responded to that challenge and will continue to do so, including by ensuring accountability for Russia's crimes against Ukraine, without which there can be no lasting peace.

Ireland commends the forward-looking perspective that Liechtenstein is bringing to its Council of Europe Presidency.

At this most challenging time, it is necessary to build on past achievements and look ahead with hope to a future in which all States in our region genuinely commit to the values and principles that are necessary for sustainable peace in our region.

Ireland stands ready to support you, Minister Hasler, and will be strongly supportive of initiatives to strengthen cooperation between the OSCE and the Council of Europe.