



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Permanent Council**

PC.DOC/1/17
27 April 2017

Original: ENGLISH

1143rd Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 1143, Agenda item 2

**DECLARATION OF
SUPPORT FOR THE SPECIAL MONITORING MISSION TO
UKRAINE FOLLOWING THE TRAGIC INCIDENT THAT
OCCURRED ON 23 APRIL 2017**

The Permanent Council,

Expresses its sorrow and offers its deepest condolences to the family and friends of the member of the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine killed by an explosion in the line of duty near Pryshib, in certain areas of the Luhansk region of Ukraine, on 23 April, and wishes a speedy and full recovery to the monitors injured in the incident;

Calls for a swift, thorough and impartial investigation into this tragic incident and demands that all those responsible be held to account;

Conveys its full, unwavering support to the brave women and men of the Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine;

Reaffirms that the Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine is mandated to have safe and secure access throughout Ukraine and calls for this to be fully respected;

Condemns any threats against SMM monitors and damage of SMM assets.

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND
CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE**

By the delegation of Ukraine:

“Mr. Chairperson,

In connection with the adoption of the Permanent Council Declaration of Support for the Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine following the tragic incident that occurred on 23 April, the delegation of Ukraine would like to make the following interpretative statement under paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the Rules of Procedure of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe.

The delegation of Ukraine joined consensus on the text of this Declaration. We expected and worked for a significantly stronger message of support for the activities of the SMM as expressed in the Rev.1 draft text of the Declaration, prepared by the Chairmanship. We regret that one delegation – of the Russian Federation – obstructed consensus on that draft text.

Ukraine reiterates that in accordance with the Permanent Council Decision No. 1117 the Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine must have safe and secure access throughout Ukraine to fulfill its mandate. The territory of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders includes the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol as integral parts of Ukraine.

We call upon the Russian Federation as an occupying Power in the Crimean peninsula to remove any restrictions or other impediments that affect the freedom of movement of the Special Monitoring Mission and its ability to fulfill the mandate in the temporarily occupied Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol.

The delegation of Ukraine requests that this statement be attached to the decision and recorded in the journal of the day.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.”

PC.DOC/1/17
27 April 2017
Attachment 2

ENGLISH
Original: RUSSIAN

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND
CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE**

By the delegation of the Russian Federation:

“The Russian Federation has joined the consensus on the declaration by the OSCE Permanent Council in support of the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine (SMM) in connection with the tragic incident that occurred on 23 April 2017, which resulted in the death of a member of an SMM patrol team and injured two other members.

We roundly condemn the explosion involving an SMM vehicle. We express our heartfelt condolences to the family of the deceased and wish the injured a speedy recovery. A swift, thorough, impartial and objective investigation of the incident is required, with the involvement of the OSCE, the Trilateral Contact Group, the authorities in Kyiv and Luhansk, and the Joint Centre for Control and Co-ordination.

What happened confirms the need to ensure the safety of the OSCE monitors and intensify direct negotiations between the parties to the conflict – Kyiv, Donetsk and Luhansk – within the Trilateral Contact Group with a view to fully implementing the Package of Measures, which is the only framework for a settlement in Donbas.

We take the position that the geographical area of deployment and the activities of the SMM are defined by the parameters of the mandate approved by Permanent Council Decision No. 1117 of 21 March 2014, which reflects the political and legal realities existing at the time of its adoption as a result of the fact that the Republic of Crimea and Sevastopol are an integral part of the Russian Federation.

I request that this statement be included in the journal of the day as an attachment and appended to the Permanent Council declaration adopted.”

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND
CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE**

By the delegation of the United States of America:

“The United States welcomes the adoption by the Permanent Council of the Declaration of Support for the Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine Following the Tragic Incident That Occurred on 23 April 2017. We make the following interpretative statement under paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the Rules of Procedure:

The United States reaffirms its firm commitment to Ukraine’s sovereignty and territorial integrity within its internationally recognized borders. We note that the Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine has a mandate to work throughout Ukraine, including Crimea.

We note that all participating States must co-operate with the Special Monitoring Mission and must take no action to obstruct its access to Crimea or any other region of Ukraine.

We offer our gratitude to all monitors, staff, and leadership of the Special Monitoring Mission for their dedicated service under difficult and at times dangerous conditions.

We call on Ukraine, Russia, and the Russia-backed separatists to ensure that the Special Monitoring Mission has unfettered movement throughout the entire territory of Ukraine, and to guarantee the safety and security of SMM monitors as they carry out their duties.

We stress, once again, that attacks, threats, and intimidation of any kind against SMM monitors are unacceptable, inconsistent with this mandate, and must end. Attempts to interfere with SMM operations, including SMM UAV flights and other technical monitoring means, are also inconsistent with this mandate and must end as well. Such acts undermine Minsk implementation.

We regret that the Russian Federation would not agree to include in the Declaration of Support for the Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine a demand that the SMM’s access throughout Ukraine be guaranteed on the ground and be provided without reservations, hindrance or delay. We likewise regret that the Russian Federation would not agree to include in the Declaration condemnation of attempts to harass or intimidate SMM monitors or to prevent them from carrying out their duties.

I request that this interpretative statement be attached to the decision and to the journal of the day.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.”

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND
CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE**

The delegation of Malta, in its capacity as EU Presidency, passed the floor to the representative of the European Union, who delivered the following statement:

“In connection with the PC declaration of support for the Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine following the tragic incident that occurred on 23 April, the European Union and its Member States would like to make the following interpretative statement under the relevant provisions of the Rules of Procedure:

The European Union welcomes the adoption of the declaration. We thank the Austrian Chairmanship for its efforts in facilitating consensus. We welcome the strong support expressed for the SMM. As we underlined during the discussions on the text, the European Union calls for safe and secure access to be provided without reservation, hindrance or delay. We condemn any attempt to threaten, harass or intimidate SMM monitors or prevent them from carrying out their duties or to destroy or disable OSCE assets.

We reiterate our unwavering support to Ukraine’s independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity within its internationally recognized borders. We will not recognize the illegal annexation of Crimea and Sevastopol to the Russian Federation. We reiterate that the SMM mandate covers the whole of Ukraine, including Crimea.

I request that this interpretative statement be attached to the declaration and to the journal of the day.”

The candidate countries the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia¹, Montenegro¹ and Albania¹, the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as the Republic of Moldova and Georgia align themselves with this statement.

1 The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Albania continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.