

President's Conclusions on Ukraine

*Statement by OSCE Parliamentary Assembly President
Margareta Cederfelt (MP, Sweden)*

Warsaw, 25 November 2022

Nine months after Russia's expanded attack, the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly and its leadership remain strongly focused on ending the terrible Russian war in Ukraine. We reiterate our unwavering support for the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders. Each of our countries will continue to provide the necessary support to our Ukrainian sisters and brothers in this fight against the invaders.

In our work, we are guided by our consistent findings, most recently in the Birmingham Declaration, that Russia's war of aggression, undertaken with the support of Belarus, constitutes clear, gross, and uncorrected violations of Helsinki Principles.

We are shocked and express our horror at the mounting evidence of war crimes against civilians in Ukraine perpetrated by Russian forces, including murder, rape and forced deportation. This is a war on the Ukrainian people. It is also an affront to the core principles of the OSCE. In the face of this attack on the Organization, we are nonetheless determined to maintain the OSCE as an organization respectful of its founding principles.

We, as Members of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, resolutely condemn the heinous war by the Russian Federation against Ukraine, and the mounting atrocities carried out against the people and deliberate attacks on civilian infrastructure of Ukraine.

We urge OSCE Foreign Ministers to respond to our call to initiate a tribunal to investigate and prosecute all those responsible for Russian war crimes in Ukraine. We cannot tolerate impunity. We are also very concerned that Russia, the aggressor state, has been blocking actions by the OSCE that are necessary for the Organization to respond to the current situation.

I therefore call on the OSCE Ministerial Council to recognize the Russian Federation as having committed clear, gross and still uncorrected violations of relevant OSCE commitments. On this basis, and in line with President Volodymyr Zelenskiy's address to us yesterday, we call on the OSCE to disregard any dissent by the Russian Federation related to decisions with regard to Ukraine, in accordance with the 1992 OSCE Prague Document.

Russia has unleashed this unjustified war, and Russia must pay for it. In line with the spirit of the Birmingham Declaration, I call on the OSCE Ministerial Council to take steps in establishing a high-level body to examine the damages Russia has inflicted, and to assess the reparations that Russia should be accountable for.

We, OSCE parliamentarians, continue to stand side-by-side with the Ukrainian people in their fight against the Russian aggressors.