

## **Second Parliamentary Summit of the Crimea Platform**

**Prague, Czechia | 24 October 2023**

**Remarks by OSCE PA President Pia Kauma**

*As delivered.*

Your Excellencies,

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly has been an outspoken supporter of Ukraine for the past decade.

We have never shied away from speaking our mind.

We have repeatedly condemned the clear and gross violations of the Helsinki Final Act by the Russian Federation.

We have always called for the full respect of Ukraine's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity within its internationally recognized borders.

All of this, we have stated without being affected by the continued membership of the Russian Federation in the OSCE.

We have used every occasion to confront the aggressor.

Our support for Ukraine has never wavered.

I am pleased to report that our latest Annual Declaration adopted in July fully supports President Volodymyr Zelenskyy's 10-point Peace Plan.

It also endorses the conclusions adopted by the participants of the First Parliamentary Summit of the International Crimea Platform.

The draft joint declaration presented today echoes the OSCE PA's political positions.

Let me highlight a few crucial points:

First, we must remain steadfast in our support to Ukraine and the defense of our common values.

With this in mind, the OSCE PA recently established the Parliamentary Support Team for Ukraine to be more responsive to the needs of our colleagues in Kyiv.

This can be a tool to engage with the Working Groups established to support the Peace Formula.

Tomorrow, I will report on the valuable discussions we have had in Prague to ensure that our joint conclusions inform future debates both within the OSCE PA and in our national parliaments.

Second, we must fully exploit the potential of international co-operation to achieve a comprehensive, just, and lasting peace in Ukraine.

Sitting next to other Heads of multilateral parliamentary organizations, let me express our steadfast commitment to fostering connections between parliamentarians and building political support for Ukraine in the long term.

Let me also highlight the valuable contributions of parliaments from Africa, Asia, and the Americas.

Lastly, let me thank your parliaments for actively engaging in our work.

Your strong support is needed to ensure that the OSCE PA can carry out its decades-long mission to consolidate support for international law and justice.

In conclusion, let me express the support of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly for the joint declaration presented today.

Thank you.

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