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# BIRMINGHAM DECLARATION

## AND

## **RESOLUTIONS**

### ADOPTED BY THE OSCE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

AT THE TWENTY-NINTH ANNUAL SESSION

BIRMINGHAM, 2 – 6 JULY 2022

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#### PREAMBLE

We, Parliamentarians of the OSCE participating States, have met in annual session in Birmingham from 2 to 6 July 2022 as the Parliamentary dimension of the OSCE to assess developments and challenges relating to security and co-operation, and we offer the following views to the OSCE Ministers.

We wish every success to the next OSCE Ministerial Council and bring to its attention the following declaration and recommendations.

#### CHAPTER I

#### POLITICAL AFFAIRS AND SECURITY

- 1. <u>Alarmed</u> by the unprovoked Russian war of aggression against Ukraine, facilitated by Belarus as co-aggressor, which constitutes a gross violation of the fundamentals of international law, including a severe breach of the OSCE's commitments and principles, the Charter of the United Nations (UN), and the Geneva Conventions, and thus poses a great threat to the civilian population and infrastructure of Ukraine and jeopardizes the security architecture of Europe and the whole OSCE region,
- 2. <u>Recalling</u> the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly's Resolution on Clear, Gross and Uncorrected Violations of Helsinki Principles by the Russian Federation, adopted at its 23rd Annual Session in 2014, and the Resolution on The Continuation of Clear, Gross and Uncorrected Violations of OSCE Commitments and International Norms by the Russian Federation, adopted in 2015, whereby in the former it is underscored that "the Russian Federation has, since February 2014, violated every one of the ten Helsinki principles in its relations with Ukraine, some in a clear, gross and thus far uncorrected manner, and is in violation with the commitments it undertook in the Budapest Memorandum, as well as other international obligations," and <u>welcoming</u> the adoption of the UN General Assembly Resolution on Aggression against Ukraine and the order of the International Court of Justice on the Russian Federation to immediately suspend the military operations that commenced on 24 February 2022,
- 3. <u>Welcoming</u> the fact that 45 OSCE participating States, supported by Ukraine, initiated the OSCE Moscow Mechanism in order to collect evidence of the alleged massive atrocities and war crimes and crimes against humanity in Ukraine committed by the Russian Federation with the help of Belarus as co-aggressor,
- 4. <u>Acknowledging</u> the value of the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission's rigorous work, which delivered its mandate under a heightened level of volatility and security uncertainties, and <u>expressing regret</u> over the lack of international unity and consensus over the mandate renewal for the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission due to the Russian Federation's uncompromising stance,

- 5. <u>Recalling</u> the OSCE PA report "The Nemtsov Murder and Rule of Law in Russia" of 20 February 2020, and <u>determined to ensure</u> all those responsible for this murder are brought to account,
- 6. <u>Underlining</u> its unwavering support and solidarity with all those in the Russian Federation and Belarus who are persecuted by the regimes in Moscow and in Minsk for protesting against the Russian Federation's war of aggression against Ukraine, perpetrated with the complicit participation of Belarus,
- 7. <u>Seriously concerned</u> about the attempts to destabilize the situation in the Transdniestrian region of the Republic of Moldova,
- 8. <u>Noting</u> the final decision and declarations of the 28th Ministerial Council in Stockholm, including the Statement on the negotiations on the Transdniestrian settlement process in the "5+2" format,
- 9. <u>Underscoring</u> the importance of security and stability and the related establishment of good-neighbourly relations between Armenia and Azerbaijan, aimed at sustainable peace and development throughout the South Caucasus, and <u>supporting</u> the continued engagement of the OSCE in this context, while <u>encouraging</u> the wider international community to support multilateral efforts in assisting the parties to that end by facilitating direct talks, and promoting confidence-building measures and abstention from the use of force,
- 10. <u>Expressing deep regret</u> over the unresolved conflict between the Russian Federation and Georgia since 2008, and <u>underscoring</u> the necessity of full implementation by the Russian Federation of the EU-mediated 12 August 2008 Ceasefire Agreement, as well as the decision by the European Court of Human Rights of January 2021,
- 11. <u>Emphasizing</u> the deteriorating situation in Afghanistan, which has paved the way for cross-border threats, organized crime, the spread of radicalization and violent extremism, terrorism, the illicit trafficking of drugs and weapons, and a spill-over effect on the security of the bordering Central Asia States,
- 12. <u>Noting</u> with concern the deteriorating situation in Belarus, in particular the violation of international human rights obligations, attempts to instrumentalize illegal migrants, mass repression and oppression of opposing voices, and the overall lack of commitment to OSCE principles and values,
- 13. <u>Acknowledging</u> the undeniable repercussions of the emerging digital realm, which require prioritizing the cybersecurity agenda and protecting critical and civilian infrastructure from cyber threats emanating against and across the OSCE region,
- 14. <u>Reiterating</u> full support for the initiatives of the Polish Chair-in-Office, including the Renewed OSCE European Security Dialogue and the prioritization of the human-centred security approach,

- 15. <u>Noting</u> the indispensable and valuable role of women and youth in preventing, managing and resolving conflicts, as well as enhancing durable stability and security across all OSCE participating States,
- 16. <u>Emphasizing</u> that transparent and accountable arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation, and control of armed forces remain indispensable components of the common military and political stability within the OSCE area,
- 17. <u>Recalling</u> the importance of the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security adopted on 3 December 1994 as a key document for the democratic oversight of the security sector and for the application of the provisions of international humanitarian law and the law of armed conflict, and <u>reiterating</u> the guiding norms and principles prompting armed forces to operate with full respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, including during armed conflicts,
- 18. <u>Recognizing</u> that the unprecedented security risks stemming from the Russian Federation's war of aggression against Ukraine, heightened tensions, protracted conflicts, terrorism and violent extremism, the instrumentalization of migrants, use of destabilizing cyberwarfare, and unprecedented distrust and diminishing confidence in multilateralism and co-operation in the OSCE region require all participating States to recommit to OSCE principles; namely, in the dimension of political affairs and security, in order to uphold the security architecture built on the premises of the Helsinki Final Act and the Charter of Paris in full conformity with international law,
- 19. <u>Reiterating</u> the role of the OSCE as an effective all-inclusive platform where, through the facilitation of diplomatic efforts and co-operation, participating States can rebuild basic trust and confidence, de-escalate long-standing hostilities, enhance sustainable peace, comprehensive security and democracy, and revitalize the shared values and principles of the OSCE region,

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

- 20. <u>Condemns in the strongest terms</u> the Russian Federation's ongoing war of aggression against Ukraine, facilitated by Belarus as co-aggressor, the Russian Federation's illegal occupation and annexation of Crimea and illegitimate "recognition" and occupation of Luhansk and Donetsk regions, <u>calls upon</u> the Russian Federation to establish an immediate ceasefire and withdraw Russian troops from the whole of Ukraine, and <u>urges</u> all sides to engage in negotiations aimed at peaceful resolution of the crisis, with full respect for Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity;
- 21. <u>Reaffirms</u> the Reagan–Gorbachev dictum that a nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought, and <u>urges</u> all nuclear-armed and allied States to implement this through no-first-use declarations and agreements, and by further reducing the role of nuclear weapons in security doctrines;
- 22. <u>Expresses deep regret</u> over the casualties in Ukraine, sympathy for all those affected by the war, including displaced persons and refugees, and grave concern over credible and mounting evidence of war crimes against civilians in Ukraine, including murder, rape and forced deportation, and <u>urges</u> the OSCE

participating States to support international humanitarian organizations and authorities of Ukraine and neighbouring countries in their efforts to ensure unhindered evacuation, humanitarian assistance and overall safety for all internally displaced people and refugees;

- 23. <u>Welcomes</u> the re-invocation of the Moscow Mechanism by 45 OSCE participating States, gravely concerned about the continuing humanitarian and human rights impact of the Russian Federation's war of aggression, and <u>expresses support</u> for the work of the independent international commission of inquiry mandated by the UN Human Rights Council and the ongoing proceedings at the International Criminal Court, which is conducting an investigation into alleged war crimes committed by any party to the conflict on any part of the territory of Ukraine;
- 24. <u>Demands</u> the immediate release of all those in the Russian Federation and Belarus who are persecuted by the regimes in Moscow and in Minsk for protesting against the Russian Federation's war of aggression against Ukraine, perpetrated with the complicit participation of Belarus, including prominent Russian opposition leader Vladimir Kara-Murza, and <u>encourages</u> OSCE participating States to intensify their efforts to ensure that those responsible for the murder of Boris Nemtsov are brought to justice;
- 25. <u>Reiterates</u> full support for the work of OSCE field missions, which play a key role in providing fact-based and valuable intelligence necessary for all aspects of the OSCE's comprehensive security dimensions, especially within the first dimension, and thus <u>calls for</u> the restoration of the mandate of the OSCE's Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine;
- 26. <u>Encourages</u> the intensification of results-oriented mediation efforts and negotiations in the framework of the existing platforms for conflict resolution, and <u>calls on</u> the parties to conflicts to immediately cease all hostilities and engage in dialogue to achieve comprehensive and long-lasting peace in full respect for the sovereignty, territorial integrity and inviolability of the internationally recognized borders of Ukraine, Georgia and the Republic of Moldova;
- 27. <u>Emphasizes</u> the necessity of maintaining consistent dialogue and resultsoriented engagement for the comprehensive, peaceful, and viable settlement of the Transdniestrian conflict in the "5+2" format based on the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Moldova within its internationally recognized borders, with a special status for Transdniestria that fully guarantees the human, political, economic and social rights of its population;
- 28. <u>Calls on</u> the Russian Federation to end its occupation of the Georgian territories of Abkhazia and Tskhinvali and engage constructively in the Geneva International Discussions;
- 29. <u>Recommends</u> the intensification of the involvement of the OSCE Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation (Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Morocco and Tunisia) in joint efforts aimed at co-operation and alleviating current threats in the region, including transnational threats, migration crises, human trafficking and financing of terrorism;

- 30. <u>Urges</u> participating States to refrain from exploiting the vulnerabilities of cyberspace, weaponizing the novel digital domain for cybercrimes, disrupting critical infrastructure, and infringing human rights, and to continue the work on implementing confidence-building measures across all OSCE participating States;
- 31. <u>Calls on</u> all participating States to leverage the potential of women and young people in their equal engagement with security and peace efforts and their overall integration in the decision-making process and institution-building, including local government and international platforms;
- 32. <u>Urges</u> all participating States that have not already done so to develop and implement national action plans on women, peace and security, as required by UN Security Council Resolution 1325, which constitutes a comprehensive agenda for the full involvement of women in maintaining all peace and security efforts;
- 33. <u>Urges</u> all participating States to be guided by UN Security Council Resolution 2250 on Youth, Peace and Security, which emphasizes that youth constitute a priority in ensuring and promoting peace and security, and thus <u>encourages</u> all OSCE participating States to empower youth representatives and galvanize their engagements with all stakeholders at the local, national and international levels in line with this UN resolution;
- 34. <u>Urges</u> participating States to reinvigorate the debate over the revitalization of the Treaty on Open Skies and the full implementation and revision of the Vienna Document in line with new security challenges on the ground;
- 35. <u>Encourages</u> all participating States to sign the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons of 2017 in light of the deterioration of critical nuclear security, which could have dire consequences for the OSCE region and beyond;
- 36. <u>Calls on</u> participating States to put an end to any flagrant contraventions of OSCE commitments, and instead to re-commit to and consistently uphold the Helsinki Principles in full conformity with international law, which enables conditions for stabilization, peace and security in the OSCE region;
- 37. <u>Encourages</u> all political leaders in participating States to reinvigorate the debate over European security through the employment of the OSCE's unique tools and multilateral negotiation frameworks, particularly by bolstering dialogue with international partners and other stakeholders to avert crises and ensure peaceful solutions to regional and protracted conflicts, while recalling that the inclusiveness, broad membership and principles of the OSCE provide the basis for this.

#### CHAPTER II

#### ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENT

- 38. <u>Recalling</u> the Helsinki Final Act of 1975, in which participating States recognized that "efforts to develop co-operation in the fields of trade, industry, science and technology, the environment and other areas of economic activity contribute to the reinforcement of peace and security in Europe and in the world as a whole,"
- 39. <u>Categorically condemning</u> the Russian Federation's military invasion of Ukraine, and <u>reiterating</u> the disastrous humanitarian, socio-economic and environmental consequences of conflicts, including in terms of food and water security,
- 40. <u>Applauding</u> the OSCE Ministerial Council Decision No. 3/21 on Strengthening Co-operation to Address the Challenges caused by Climate Change adopted at the 28th OSCE Ministerial Council,
- 41. <u>Welcoming</u> the priorities of the Polish Chairmanship focused on promoting sustainable economic recovery, advancing women's economic empowerment and addressing environmental risks, and <u>reiterating</u> the support of the OSCE PA for the work of the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities in aiding participating States to implement economic and environmental commitments in the OSCE region,
- 42. <u>Supporting</u> the focus of the OSCE's 30th Economic and Environmental Forum on "Promoting security and stability in the OSCE area through sustainable economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic", and <u>welcoming</u> the OSCE PA contribution in this framework,
- 43. <u>Stressing</u> the unique role of national parliaments in adopting legislation, mobilizing resources, promoting public participation, and creating cross-regional responses to advance economic and environmental security, promote sustainable development and implement relevant international commitments in the OSCE region,
- 44. <u>Alarmed</u> that the war in Ukraine has significantly weakened security, stability, connectivity and prosperity across the OSCE region, and <u>condemning</u> its devastating impact on the environment,
- 45. <u>Concerned</u> by the profound economic and social repercussions of the COVID-19 pandemic, which has severely affected the lives of millions of citizens across the region, and <u>cognizant</u> that, to better mitigate the impact of the health crisis on vulnerable communities and particularly exposed sectors, many OSCE participating States have enacted unprecedented fiscal, monetary and financial support measures which led, *inter alia*, to rising sovereign debt levels and higher inflation rates,
- 46. <u>Confirming</u> that, while international trade and relations have been strained by the prolonged health crisis and the war in Ukraine, economic connectivity remains key to promoting stability and prosperity across the OSCE region,

- 47. <u>Condemning</u> Russian use of food supplies as a weapon by blocking exports of food from Ukrainian Black Sea ports and disrupting farming in Ukraine,
- 48. <u>Stressing</u> that the international community should learn from the COVID-19 pandemic to build resilience against and prevent future similar crises through more responsible, forward-looking and environmentally-friendly policies, thereby balancing our civilization's development needs with citizens' legitimate economic and environmental concerns,
- 49. <u>Underlining</u> the goal of promoting economic security through innovation, human capital, good governance and interconnectivity, as well as maximizing the role of the digital economy as a driver for competitiveness and inclusive growth,
- 50. <u>Taking note</u> of demographic changes in the OSCE region that affect both economic prosperity and the future performance of social security systems,
- 51. <u>Underlining</u> the growing migratory pressure experienced by many participating States within the context of armed conflict, labour, development and climate, and <u>acknowledging</u> the significant surge in environmentally driven migration and displacement, to include an estimated 1.7 billion food-insecure people at additional risk of hunger and famine as a direct result of the Russian Federation's war of aggression against Ukraine,
- 52. <u>Alarmed</u> by the rise of human trafficking in a globalized economy, the growing misuse of digital technologies to exploit other human beings and the use of forced labour that is increasingly prevalent in the production of goods and services,
- 53. <u>Expressing concern</u> over the persistent lack of transparency in the work of public entities and widely perceived corruption in public offices that continue to hamper citizens' trust in democratic institutions and processes,
- 54. <u>Recalling</u> the OSCE PA 2018 Berlin Declaration, which urged parliaments to adopt legislation to establish or further develop anti-corruption policies and to promote best practices to ensure a genuinely free and competitive market, as well as enable sustainable and environmentally friendly economic growth,
- 55. <u>Underlining</u> the benefits of a clean environment for socio-economic development, including reduced public spending on medical treatment and the positive impact on work productivity, and <u>reiterating</u> the relevance of food and water security across the OSCE region, especially against the backdrop of climate change and conflict,
- 56. <u>Inspired</u> by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals that call for action to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure peace and prosperity for current and future generations,
- 57. <u>Fully realizing</u> that comprehensive security is not attainable without addressing several interrelated environmental crises including climate change, biodiversity loss, unsustainable use of natural resources and pollution in all its forms,
- 58. <u>Recalling</u> the nexus between the environment and security recognized by the OSCE PA in the 1992 Budapest Declaration, as well as the notion of protecting

the planet's health to preserve our own recognized by the Assembly in 1995 Ottawa and 1996 Stockholm Declarations,

- 59. <u>Recognizing</u> that the connection between environmental security and public health is profound and, therefore, should feature prominently in the international security agenda,
- 60. <u>Particularly concerned</u> that pollution, in all its forms, represents a major health hazard which should be studied, regularly monitored and evaluated carefully, including in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic,
- 61. <u>Noting</u> with concern the latest report of the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), which underlines the "unequivocal" threat that climate change poses to human well-being and the health of the planet,
- 62. <u>Acknowledging</u> that human-influenced climate change is increasingly disrupting weather systems, impacting national economies, costing lives and affecting communities in countries around the world, and that, as such, it must be addressed resolutely through enhanced international co-operation and co-ordination at all levels, which takes into account its differentiated impact on different regions and individuals,
- 63. <u>Welcoming</u> the steps taken since the 2015 UN Climate Change Conference (COP21) and the adoption of the Paris Agreement with the goal of holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels,
- 64. <u>Also welcoming</u> the outcomes of COP26 in strengthening efforts to build resilience to climate change, curb greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and provide the necessary finance for both, as well as the European Green Deal's objective to make the European Union climate neutral by 2050,
- 65. <u>Recalling</u> the OSCE PA 2019 Luxembourg Declaration, which urged parliaments and governments of OSCE participating States to strengthen their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) with the goal of limiting the use of fossil fuels such as oil, coal and natural gas, and replacing them with cleaner sources of energy while increasing energy efficiency,
- 66. <u>Welcoming</u> the 2021 OSCE PA Parliamentary Plea for Resolute Climate Action which, *inter alia*, urged OSCE governments to (1) drastically reduce GHG emissions in line with capping temperature increases at 1.5 degrees, (2) develop effective adaptation strategies, (3) mobilize the necessary financial resources and (4) co-operate across the board,
- 67. <u>Recognizing</u> that over 70 per cent of human-caused GHG emissions stem from the energy sector, and therefore <u>underlining</u> the urgent need to prioritize the greening of participating States' energy and transportation networks, and industrial and heating/cooling processes, as well as to promote circular economy patterns across the OSCE region to support the transition to a low-carbon and more resilient future,

- 68. <u>Also stressing</u> the benefit of carbon-neutral agricultural policies, forest conservation and management, as well as sustainable land use for food security, rural development and the eradication of poverty,
- 69. <u>Highlighting</u> the need to implement a green transition that is fair and beneficial for workers, consumers, companies and States, including by safeguarding decent work conditions, promoting more equitable access to natural resources, and making our economies more resilient, innovative and competitive,
- 70. <u>Concerned</u> by the growing instability of energy markets, as illustrated by the high volatility of prices prompted by a combination of geopolitical tensions, supply bottlenecks, limited storage and the rebounding of the economy from the COVID-19 crisis, and which contributed, *inter alia*, to higher inflation rates in many OSCE participating States,
- 71. <u>Convinced</u> that enhancing and diversifying energy supplies towards clean energy sources is instrumental to achieving carbon-neutrality, alleviating energy dependency, and making energy more accessible, resilient and affordable for all human needs, thereby minimizing related geopolitical tensions and avoiding new forms of energy poverty,
- 72. <u>Recognizing</u> that, in the long run, fossil fuel energy is constrained by too many environmental and social drawbacks while new clean energy sources are likely to become increasingly viable, and therefore <u>determined</u> to accelerate the clean energy transition, including through well-calibrated carbon pricing, the expansion of carbon-neutral, affordable and sustainable energy strategies, and sustained investments in research and technological innovation,
- 73. <u>Realizing</u> that the energy transition intended as the global energy sector's shift from fossil-based systems of energy production and consumption to cleaner energy sources implies gradual changes and structural ruptures, as well as systemic shifts,
- 74. <u>Underscoring</u> the role of private business and citizens' cooperatives in advancing the clean energy transition, and <u>underlining</u> that good governance, economic diversification, social dialogue, social protection and availability of transition funds, as well as skills development, are important aspects of an equitable energy transition,
- 75. <u>Welcoming</u> the critical contribution of science and technology in offering viable solutions to economic and environmental problems that the world is facing, and <u>stressing</u> the importance of a strong and transparent science-policy interface to better inform critical decisions needed to tackle climate change, promote sustainable development and economic growth, protect the environment and safeguard citizens' health,
- 76. <u>Recognizing</u> that the rapid digitalization process taking place across the OSCE area is generating substantial changes in all spheres of life, and <u>underlining</u> the incredible development opportunities stemming from new technologies, such as artificial intelligence (AI), but also the potential threats arising from their misuse,

- 77. <u>Expressing concern</u> about the increasingly frequent misuse of modern communication platforms to spread disinformation and propaganda, and manipulate public opinion, while <u>reiterating</u> the importance of protecting freedom of speech, both offline and online,
- 78. Welcoming the Parliamentary Web Dialogues organized by the OSCE PA on 22 April 2020 on "The Economic Security Fallout of the COVID-19 Pandemic", on 22 May 2020 on "COVID-19: A turning point for environmental protection?", on 25 May 2021 on "Framing the Environmental Security – Public Health Nexus" and on 4 February 2022 on "The Clean Energy Revolution and its Implications for the OSCE Region" as excellent opportunities to share relevant parliamentary experience, interface with the scientific community and promote greater policy convergence around several topical issues on the agenda of the General Committee on Economic Affairs, Science, Technology and Environment,

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

- 79. <u>Reiterates</u> its call on all OSCE participating States to redouble their efforts to identify and pursue co-operative solutions to our common economic and environmental security challenges, including those related to economic recovery, connectivity, migration, trafficking in human beings, good governance, climate change, environmental degradation, pollution, cybersecurity and disinformation;
- 80. <u>Urges</u> participating States to promote socio-economic development in the OSCE region and beyond in line with the Sustainable Development Goals with the aim of fostering regional stability and prosperity, especially through the increased representation of women in positions of power, thereby strengthening democracy and promoting sustainable, peaceful and whole-of-society development;
- 81. <u>Calls on</u> the OSCE participating States to strengthen co-operation to achieve sustainable economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic by, *inter alia*, accelerating the deployment of green technologies, enhancing economic growth and connectivity, and supporting human capital development including progressive reforms promoting gender equality and the economic and social freedom of women, considering and acting upon the adverse social and economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and the backsliding in equality;
- 82. <u>Urges</u> all participating States to adopt a gender-inclusive approach to economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and ensure that recovery policies incorporate an intersectional gender lens and take account of the views of diverse groups of stakeholders, including women's organizations and marginalized groups;
- 83. <u>Urges</u> governments, in the context of the military invasion of Ukraine, to consider effective and well-coordinated actions in the economic and environmental spheres aimed at mitigating the impact of the conflict and restoring international peace and security, which should bear minimal repercussions on the civilian population;
- 84. <u>Urges</u> participating States to continue to intensify economic pressure on the Russian Federation in response to its unjustified and illegal war in Ukraine,

including through the ongoing and orderly phase-out of imports of Russian fossil fuels;

- 85. <u>Calls on</u> governments to ensure greater efforts at the OSCE and EU levels to promote an economic and infrastructural reconstruction programme for Ukraine with the contribution of the States in the OSCE area;
- 86. <u>Calls on</u> participating States to develop initiatives for strengthening intergenerational relations and dialogue, enhancing the quality of life in old age and raising living standards across the whole region, and <u>encourages</u> national authorities to monitor demographic changes in the OSCE region through dedicated working groups, committees and departments, with the aim of better understanding plausible causes and consequences, as well as to consider viable strategies for remedial action, such as various family supportive measures and other measures intended to revitalize "depopulated" areas and countries facing demographic crisis, through policies such as investments in material and digital infrastructure, digital nomad visas, e-residency, smart working, longevity-related policies, welfare systems for newly formed households, intergenerational housing and telemedicine;
- 87. <u>Encourages</u> the OSCE participating States to reconsider their supply of energy, spectrum-auction policies, sales of infrastructure and companies, purchases of key communications and safety technology, and debt management with the aim of protecting their independence, particularly, but not only from China, and achieving geopolitical stability and global security;
- 88. <u>Urges</u> the OSCE participating States to promote effective, sustainable and human-rights compliant migration governance, develop adequate legal pathways for economic migration, ensure comprehensive border security and increase international co-operation to address the socio-economic and environmental drivers of migration and displacement, including push factors such as poverty, weak rule of law and the lack of economic opportunities in the countries of origin;
- 89. <u>Urges</u> participating States to prioritize and ensure a proactive leadership role in economy-based development co-operation and to create competence-based long-term strategies with clear and measurable goals to enhance economic co-operation with neighbouring regions in order to foster security in the OSCE region;
- 90. <u>Calls upon</u> parliaments to adopt new legislation with the aim of preventing human trafficking in supply chains through import bans, reporting laws, disclosure laws and due diligence laws, thereby leveraging the power of "demand" to break the business model of trafficking and enabling enterprises to engage ethically in the global market;
- 91. <u>Encourages</u> parliaments to take action to discourage the demand fostering trafficking for sexual exploitation, including by strengthening prevention and criminal justice frameworks to hold accountable those who use victims of trafficking;

- 92. <u>Calls on</u> the OSCE participating States to establish specialized anti-trafficking units, strengthen multi-agency co-operation and upgrade relevant policies including by reflecting the increasingly predominant role that technology plays in facilitating human trafficking to effectively fight traffickers and protect the victims;
- 93. <u>Encourages</u> OSCE participating States to strengthen their statistical and data collection mechanisms on victims of human trafficking, and to provide training to raise police and public prosecutor awareness of the special nature of human trafficking;
- 94. <u>Encourages</u> parliaments to duly regulate issues such as conflicts of interest, transparency in party financing and lobbying practices, as well as to adopt and implement advanced anti-corruption legislation including sound ultimate beneficial ownership laws and oversee the independence of relevant anti-corruption authorities with the aim to ensure free, fair and competitive markets, as well as promote sustainable economic growth;
- 95. <u>Urges</u> participating States to take measures to strengthen their systems against the corrupt influence of Russian oligarchs and other transnational kleptocrats, including through regulation of the enablers of kleptocracy, which may include lawyers, accountants and other financial gatekeepers;
- 96. <u>Urges</u> governments to establish effective internal and external controls and audits, thus enhancing transparency and accountability of public authorities, and to adopt and implement robust regulatory frameworks intended to mitigate risks relating to money laundering and terrorist financing, in line with relevant international standards;
- 97. <u>Calls on</u> governments of the OSCE participating States to redouble coordinated efforts in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and relevant OSCE commitments, duly reconciling global economic progress with social justice and the preservation of the environment, and <u>urges</u> national parliaments to develop coherent and well-informed legislative proposals in this context;
- 98. <u>Prompts</u> participating States to redirect efforts towards shaping a truly sustainable, carbon-neutral development model in which environmental, economic, social and public health factors are duly factored in, and to implement policies such as well-calibrated carbon taxes, effective emission trading systems and subsidies for low-carbon industries and agriculture to leverage incentives toward a more green and healthy economy;
- 99. <u>Urges</u> the OSCE participating States to increase their efforts in the protection of the environment, sustainable use of natural resources, and the conservation and restoration of ecosystems and biodiversity and to integrate nature-based solutions into adaptation strategies that consider social, economic and cultural co-benefits for local communities;
- 100. <u>Calls on</u> national authorities to regularly monitor the status of the environment and strengthen efforts aimed at identifying the main causes of environmental

degradation, better understanding how the latter affects different public health components and proposing viable solutions to protect citizens' health, especially in the context of pollution and microplastic and nanoplastic particles;

- 101. <u>Encourages</u> OSCE participating States to enhance transboundary co-operation and integrated management of transboundary waters by strengthening agreements and institutional arrangements, as a key element for the realization of peace and regional economic integration benefits;
- 102. <u>Calls on</u> participating States to further their knowledge of the fundamental interconnection between poverty, health and pollution and the implementation of appropriate integrated actions;
- 103. <u>Urges</u> the OSCE participating States to drastically cut their GHG emissions in line with the Paris Agreement and the COP26 Glasgow Conclusions including by committing to progressively more ambitious emission reduction targets through realistic NDCs aimed at capping temperature increases at 1.5°C and to boost the low-carbon energy transition by enhancing and diversifying clean energy sources, incentivizing energy efficiency, prioritizing clean energy technologies and making economically viable new sources of clean energy, including through sharp reductions of public subsidies to fossil fuels;
- 104. <u>Calls on</u> participating States to enhance early warning systems, improve hazard mapping, increase capacity for disaster preparedness and response, and set up contingency funding plans to prepare for the increased frequency of climate-related shocks;
- 105. <u>Calls on</u> participating States to strengthen their co-operation in fighting wildfires, in particular through the dispatch of personnel and equipment and the interaction of air assets, and <u>welcomes</u> the creation of the European Centre of Expertise for Civil Security in Nîmes Garons (Nemausus project), bringing together European researchers, entrepreneurs and pilots in joint projects to which they all contribute their expertise;
- 106. <u>Encourages</u> the OSCE participating States to support a community-based approach in adapting to climate change, which should be focused on local communities' priorities, needs, knowledge and capacities, including the differentiated needs of women and men as well as the elderly and children, low-income groups and people with disabilities, thus empowering people to better plan for and cope with the impact of climate change;
- 107. <u>Exhorts</u> the OSCE participating States to meet existing financial commitments and come forward with new ambitious climate finance pledges, and <u>prompts</u> the mobilization of private financial flows towards climate action by implementing incentives to support lending and investment into green projects, including through the adoption of appropriate regulatory frameworks;
- 108. <u>Urges</u> national parliaments to adopt coherent legislation, mobilize adequate resources and actively monitor the implementation of the Paris Agreement commitments, thereby facilitating interdisciplinary knowledge-sharing, promote public participation and build critical public support for resolute climate action;

- 109. <u>Urges</u> participating States to avoid dependency on any one source of energy supply and on the energy resources of the Russian Federation in particular;
- 110. <u>Urges</u> parliamentarians to ensure that citizens are placed at the core of the energy transition process, and that costs and benefits are distributed evenly throughout society, including through financial support mechanisms and suitable policies, so that no one is left behind;
- 111. <u>Calls on</u> the OSCE participating States to harness the opportunities offered by science, digitalization and technological innovation to support the green transition, ensure inclusiveness and develop effective, coherent and well-informed responses to the many interrelated economic and environmental challenges affecting the region;
- 112. <u>Calls on</u> participating States to keep abreast of developments in the field of new technologies and in particular of AI and ensure that citizens and their security needs remain at the core of all relevant efforts, including by promoting multi-stakeholder dialogues, making sure that critical decisions are taken by humans and introducing mandatory labelling when dealing with AI;
- 113. <u>Urges</u> the establishment of a permanent technical panel within the OSCE, assisted by private stakeholders in the sector, dedicated to cryptocurrencies: studying this technological and economic trend; disseminating crypto-policy best practices among participating States; facilitating implementation of large-scale programmes providing education on cryptocurrencies and on business in general; and exploring the potential impacts of cryptocurrencies for the "unbanked" population, economic migrants and political refugees, as well as their potential impacts in situations of economic crisis, currency devaluation, conflict and human rights violations;
- 114. <u>Encourages</u> OSCE participating States to promote greater economic resilience through alternative processes and analogue backup plans for critical supply chains and infrastructure services;
- 115. <u>Urges</u> parliaments of the OSCE participating States to develop balanced legislative frameworks to prevent the misuse of social media platforms in spreading disinformation and propaganda, including by ensuring that their algorithms are clear, transparent and impartial and by strengthening information literacy, particularly among children and youth, while also safeguarding freedom of speech and protecting children and youth in the online sphere, in particular with regard to violence, gambling, pornography and psychological dependency;
- 116. <u>Invites</u> the General Committee on Economic Affairs, Science, Technology and Environment of the OSCE PA to continue raising awareness and providing an open platform to share experiences, interface with the scientific world and foster policy convergence around key economic and environmental security challenges in the OSCE region, including through dedicated initiatives in partnership with the OSCE Executive Structures and other relevant actors.

#### CHAPTER III

#### DEMOCRACY, HUMAN RIGHTS AND HUMANITARIAN QUESTIONS

#### "Human Security for All as a Basis for European Security"

- 117. <u>Acknowledging</u> that for many people within the OSCE region, respect for fundamental freedoms and human rights, as agreed in the Helsinki Final Act and other key OSCE documents, remains an unfulfilled promise,
- 118. <u>Recognizing</u> that the COVID-19 pandemic produced a further strain on respect for human rights and democratic principles, negatively impacted gender equality, and further exacerbated socio-economic disparities between many groups in our societies,
- 119. <u>Extremely concerned</u> that the unprovoked attack by Russian Federation forces upon the people of Ukraine has once again brought war to the centre of Europe and resulted in countless casualties and displaced persons,
- 120. <u>Condemning</u> the Russian Federation's illegal naval blockade of the Black Sea ports of Ukraine, a leading exporter of wheat and other grains, which along with the higher cost of fertilizer and the disruption of agricultural production is exacerbating global food insecurity and causing a humanitarian crisis in countries, including some of the world's least developed and most vulnerable, which rely on Ukrainian agricultural exports to feed their populations,
- 121. <u>Reiterating</u> that international humanitarian law must be respected and that access to humanitarian aid is a fundamental right of people living in conflict zones and people on the move,
- 122. <u>Alarmed</u> about credible reports of patterns of violence by Russian troops against civilians in Ukraine that may be considered war crimes, crimes against humanity or genocide, including killings, executions, rapes, forced deportations and targeting of civilian infrastructure, including schools and hospitals,
- 123. <u>Alarmed</u> at Russian targeting and destruction of Ukraine's national heritage and cultural property, including churches, museums, historic buildings, libraries and Holocaust sites, which reflect denial of the Ukrainian identity and history,
- 124. <u>Recognizing</u> that a vibrant civil society, independent of state structures and free from their interference, is vital to a stable and prosperous society, and that non-governmental organizations are important avenues for voicing public opinions and shaping policies and serve as key partners for parliamentarians,
- 125. <u>Concerned</u> by efforts in some participating States to extend state control over or increase regulation of the actions of civil society and non-governmental organizations,
- 126. <u>Disturbed</u> that in many OSCE participating States women remain underrepresented in political life, and <u>further disturbed</u> by a resurgence of patriarchalbased policies in some participating States,

- 127. <u>Noting with regret</u> that discrimination on the basis of race, gender identity, religion, ethnicity, sexual orientation and other grounds remains a real factor impacting minority communities in all OSCE participating States,
- 128. <u>Expressing deep concern</u> regarding a continued increase in the number of political prisoners across the OSCE region, including cases of activists and public figures being detained, arrested, convicted and otherwise punished for political motives, as well as all other citizens who have faced similar retaliation for nothing more than acting upon their rights and freedoms as contained in the Helsinki Final Act,
- 129. <u>Deeply convinced</u> that independent media and an open exchange of information and views, with minimal state regulation, are fundamental to a healthy, informed and secure society, accountable systems of government and a democratic state,
- 130. <u>Concerned</u> over the mass circulation of disinformation, accelerated by technological advances, and <u>noting</u> with deep concern that some participating States have used state media to distribute disinformation and evidently false narratives, in particular the Government of the Russian Federation, which has used lies and hateful rhetoric both abroad and within its controlled media sphere as an additional weapon in its unjustifiable attack on Ukraine,
- 131. <u>Noting with regret</u> that intimidation and violence against journalists and media actors, in particular women and those experiencing marginalization, continue to pose a serious threat to the democratic functioning of our societies, and <u>mindful</u> of the responsibility that state representatives, including parliamentarians, have in condemning the targeting of journalists,
- 132. <u>Determined</u> to correct deficiencies in the respect for the human rights of our populations,
- The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:
- 133. <u>Condemns</u> the invasion of Ukraine by the Government of the Russian Federation aided and abetted by the Government of Belarus, as a flagrant violation not only of the sovereignty of Ukraine and its territorial integrity, but as an attack against the human rights and fundamental freedoms, most notably of the right to life, of the people of Ukraine;
- 134. <u>Stresses</u> that the need for increased focus and military spending that participating States may feel necessary as a result of the Russian Federation's attack and disregard for the founding principles of the OSCE should not come at the expense of the socio-economic well-being and human security of their population;
- 135. <u>Calls upon</u> the OSCE Secretariat and participating States to continuously monitor the situation in Ukraine with an aim to redeploying a strong OSCE presence in Ukraine to help ensure the security of and support for the humanitarian needs of its population;

- 136. <u>Calls on</u> the Russian Federation to immediately release all Special Monitoring Mission (SMM) personnel remaining in illegal detention and to end the campaign of denigration against the SMM conducted by the Russian Federation and its proxies;
- 137. <u>Firmly condemns</u> the targeting of civilians as part of the war in Ukraine, including apparent mass killings in Bucha, Borodyanka and other cities of Ukraine, and <u>calls for</u> all war crimes and crimes against humanity to be fully investigated and those responsible to be held accountable;
- 138. <u>Urges</u> participating States to accede to and respect the Geneva Convention for the Amelioration of the Condition of the Wounded and Sick in Armed Forces in the Field (12 August 1949); treat with dignity, care for the wounded and ensure the evacuation of civilian casualties; and accede to and comply with the Convention on Anti-Personnel Landmines of 18 September 1997 (Ottawa Convention) and the Convention on Cluster Munitions of 3 December 2008 (Oslo Convention);
- 139. <u>Welcomes</u> the report of the OSCE Moscow Mechanism experts as an important contribution to understanding the human rights violations caused by the war in Ukraine, and <u>urges</u> further authoritative investigations into any and all violations;
- 140. <u>Condemns</u> Russian destruction of cultural heritage and artefacts and calls on participating States to assist in protecting remaining cultural sites and artefacts and to incorporate restoration in any reconstruction plans;
- 141. <u>Urges</u> all military forces to enable full access by humanitarian aid agencies to all persons impacted by the war in Ukraine, including full access to Crimea, and the Donetsk and Luhansk regions of Ukraine;
- 142. <u>Stresses</u> that sanctions imposed by many OSCE participating States on the Russian Federation for its aggression against Ukraine are targeted against the leaders of the Russian Federation and not against the Russian people, whose views are not effectively represented due to the undemocratic processes of the modern Russian State;
- 143. <u>Welcomes</u> the extraordinary efforts of Ukrainian and neighbouring governments and people to house and care for the millions of innocent people displaced by the war in Ukraine and the strong support and assistance by participating States across the OSCE region;
- 144. <u>Expresses its appreciation</u> to the many OSCE participating States that have facilitated processes for resettlement of refugees displaced by the war, and <u>recalls</u> that such efforts should be in addition to, rather than replace, existing resettlement programmes for persons in need of protection from across the world;
- 145. <u>Urges</u> participating States to refrain from any action likely to undermine the food security of the inhabitants of a State, in particular by destroying places of storage or blocking or using food as a means of blackmail, and <u>urges</u> participating States

not to damage vital civilian infrastructure (such as water pipelines or strategic sites) in another participating State;

- 146. <u>Recognizes</u> with regret the devastating impact that conflict has on populations long after open hostilities have ended, and <u>urges</u> increased diplomatic efforts to find lasting peaceful solutions to protracted conflicts in the OSCE area;
- 147. <u>Condemns</u> the humanitarian and human rights situation which has deteriorated in Russian-occupied regions of Georgia – Abkhazia and the Tskhinvali region/South Ossetia – as a result of the violations of fundamental freedoms and human rights of people living there, various forms of discrimination against ethnic Georgians, and the obliteration and alteration of Georgian features from Georgian cultural heritage monuments in both regions, as a direct consequence of the Russian Federation's ongoing occupation and "russification" policy;
- 148. <u>Calls upon</u> participating States to prioritize a burden-sharing approach towards asylum-seekers, placing the well-being of vulnerable people at the centre of policy responses, regardless of the origins of the migrants;
- 149. <u>Recognizes</u> the particular risks faced by vulnerable groups, in particular women and children, of falling victim to human trafficking, and <u>calls upon</u> all participating States to review and, where relevant, implement the recommendations of the OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings;
- 150. <u>Calls upon</u> the parliaments of OSCE participating States to fully exercise parliamentary oversight over government action to prevent and combat human trafficking and to contribute to efforts to raise public awareness of those criminal activities;
- 151. <u>Affirms</u> the right of all persons to seek asylum, and <u>condemns</u> the increase in "pushbacks" of asylum seekers in several participating States as a breach of law and of their basic human rights;
- 152. <u>Stresses</u> that the provision of life-saving aid must never be criminalized, <u>applauds</u> the invaluable work carried out by non-governmental organizations and faith-based initiatives to provide humanitarian support to migrants and refugees, and <u>calls on</u> all participating States to ensure that their legal frameworks facilitate and protect the provision of such support by individuals and groups;
- 153. <u>Reaffirms</u> that non-governmental organizations are an important organizing mechanism for civil society, and should be able to function with only the minimal amount of regulation required by law to serve their purposes;
- 154. <u>Condemns</u> efforts by governments in some participating States to effectively shut down the space for independent non-governmental organizations and civil society work, notably through the increasing use of administrative, legislative and legal tools, including the application of overly burdensome registration and taxation regulations, excessive requirements for physical offices, application of inappropriate disparaging labels such as "foreign agents", and spurious prosecution efforts;

- 155. <u>Calls upon</u> all OSCE participating States to undertake regular reviews of legislation related to the registration and regulation of the work of non-governmental organizations in co-operation with experts from the OSCE/ODIHR to ensure compliance with human rights standards;
- 156. <u>Reaffirms</u> the important role that an independent judiciary plays in a democratic society, and <u>condemns</u> the efforts in a number of participating States to undermine the independence of judicial systems as a serious and systemic attack on people's full enjoyment of their human rights;
- 157. <u>Stresses</u> the continuing importance of professional and independent election observation, as conducted by the OSCE through the ODIHR and the Parliamentary Assembly, and calls for increased follow-up efforts and political engagement with mission recommendations;
- 158. <u>Deplores</u> that women politicians and women journalists are regularly subjected to harassment and discrimination both online and offline, and <u>recognizes</u> this trend as a serious impediment to true gender equality in the OSCE region;
- 159. <u>Expresses</u> its appreciation to the OSCE/ODIHR for its work supporting the realization of gender-sensitive parliaments, as well as to the office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media for its work related to the safety of female journalists, and <u>calls upon</u> all Members of the OSCE PA to engage with and meaningfully support such efforts;
- 160. <u>Notes</u> that the lack of comprehensive data related to hate crimes limits the capacity for participating States and the OSCE to address these abhorrent crimes;
- 161. <u>Urges</u> all OSCE participating States to increase awareness-raising efforts about the special nature of hate crimes, including for criminal justice officials, and to strengthen their support systems for victims of hate crimes in close co-operation with civil society organizations;
- 162. <u>Calls upon</u> all participating States to work with the OSCE/ODIHR to improve the mechanisms they use to record hate crimes and collect data, and to report at a minimum data based on the following bias motivations: racist and xenophobic crimes, anti-Roma crimes, anti-Semitic crimes, anti-Muslim crimes, anti-Christian crimes, other crimes based on religion or belief, gender-based crimes, anti-lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) crimes, and disability-related crimes;
- 163. <u>Stresses</u> the necessity of sexual and reproductive health and rights in empowering women and in ameliorating possibilities for their equal participation in the political and public life of their communities;
- 164. <u>Encourages</u> all Members of the OSCE PA to publicly condemn hate crimes any time they occur, particularly in their own countries, and to work within their own parliaments to ensure that legislation recognizes the bias motivation in hate crimes and that adequate penalties are imposed on perpetrators;

- 165. <u>Notes</u> the importance of governments publicly recognizing state responsibility for historical crimes and injustices committed particularly against indigenous peoples as an important element in restorative justice;
- 166. <u>Recalls</u> its endorsement at the 2014 Annual Session of the adoption by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe of a Resolution confirming the definition of political prisoners;
- 167. <u>Expresses</u> concern about the existence in some OSCE participating States of thousands of documented political prisoners, many of whom have been subjected to additional discrimination and punishment for publicly expressing views critical of official policies and practices, including those facing criminal penalties for their opposition to the Russian Federation's war of aggression against Ukraine;
- 168. <u>Calls on</u> the OSCE and its Institutions, as well as the participating States themselves, to focus greater attention on the issue of political imprisonment as a violation of the human rights and fundamental freedoms enumerated in Principle VII of the Helsinki Final Act and developed in subsequent commitments adopted by the OSCE, and further to seek to raise their concerns about political imprisonment directly;
- 169. <u>Affirms</u> the fundamental right of individuals, institutions and organizations, while respecting intellectual property rights, to obtain, possess, reproduce and distribute information material of all kinds, both online and offline, and <u>reminds</u> participating States that they should remove any restrictions inconsistent with these rights;
- 170. <u>Concerned</u> by the use of administrative, legislative and legal tools to limit the independence of the media in some countries, and <u>calls on</u> all participating States to review legislation related to the media in consultation with the Office of the Representative on Freedom of the Media to ensure compliance with human rights standards;
- 171. <u>Further affirms</u> that everyone shall have the right of peaceful assembly and demonstration, online and offline, and <u>reminds</u> participating States that any restrictions placed on the exercise of these rights, including for public health reasons, must be strictly necessary, proportional to the gravity of the emergency situation, time-limited and directly related to the specific need on which they are predicated;
- 172. <u>Considers</u> that actions to restrict human rights and fundamental freedoms, even if endorsed through legislation, remain problematic, and <u>calls upon</u> participating States to regularly review legislation impacting fundamental freedoms in cooperation with the OSCE/ODIHR, the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, and other expert bodies;
- 173. <u>Encourages</u> OSCE PA Members to initiate reviews of their national legislation to ensure that freedom of assembly, association, conscience and expression are subject to the same protections online as in the offline world;

- 174. Notes the importance of transparency of information on media organizations, and calls upon OSCE participating States to review their legislation related to media outlets to ensure that members of the public and civil society can readily inform themselves about ownership and funding of media organizations;
- 175. <u>Concerned</u> by the increasing negative impact of disinformation from both public and state sources in the OSCE region, therefore <u>calls upon</u> all OSCE participating States to act in accordance with the General Principles outlined in the March 2017 Joint Declaration on Freedom of Expression and "Fake News," Disinformation and Propaganda of the UN Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Opinion and Expression, the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, the Organization of American States Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Expression and the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Expression and Access to Information.

#### **RESOLUTION ON**

#### THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION'S WAR OF AGGRESSION AGAINST UKRAINE AND ITS PEOPLE, AND ITS THREAT TO SECURITY ACROSS THE OSCE REGION

- 1. <u>Recalling</u> that, on 24 February 2022 the Russian Federation, with the support of the Republic of Belarus, launched a full-scale military invasion and war of aggression against Ukraine against the backdrop of ongoing Russian aggression in violation of Ukraine's sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity since 2014,
- 2. <u>Appalled</u> by the large-scale, state-sponsored campaign of disinformation and propaganda emanating from the Russian Federation that seeks to dehumanize the Ukrainian people, deny the Ukrainian State the right to exist, justify a war of aggression and falsely portray horrific acts committed by Russian forces,
- 3. <u>Stressing</u> that the Russian Federation, under its current political leadership, has violated in its war of aggression against Ukraine but also elsewhere the principles enshrined in the 1975 Helsinki Final Act, which include sovereign equality of participating States; respect for the rights inherent in sovereignty; refraining from the threat or use of force; inviolability of frontiers; territorial integrity of States; peaceful settlement of disputes; non-intervention in internal affairs; respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms; equal rights and self-determination of peoples; co-operation among States; and fulfilment in good faith of obligations under international law,
- 4. Recalling the OSCE PA Resolution on Clear, Gross and Uncorrected Violations of Helsinki Principles by the Russian Federation (2014); the Resolution on the Continuation of Clear, Gross and Uncorrected Violations of OSCE Commitments and International Norms by the Russian Federation (2015); the Resolution on Adherence to the Helsinki Principles in Inter-State Relations Across the OSCE Area (2015); the Resolution on Violations of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the City of Sevastopol (2016); the Resolution on Restoration of the Sovereignty and Territorial Integrity of Ukraine (2017); the Resolution on Ongoing Violations of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the City of Sevastopol (Ukraine) (2018); the Resolution on the Militarization by the Russian Federation of the Temporarily Occupied Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the City of Sevastopol. Ukraine, the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov (2019); and the Resolution on The Destabilizing Military Build-Up by the Russian Federation Near Ukraine, in the Temporarily Occupied Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the City of Sevastopol, Ukraine, the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov (2021),
- 5. <u>Welcoming</u> the adoption of UN General Assembly resolutions on Aggression Against Ukraine (ES 11/1) on 2 March 2022, and Humanitarian Consequences of the Aggression Against Ukraine (ES 11/2) on 24 March 2022, as well as the UN Human Rights Council resolution on the Deteriorating Human Rights Situation in Ukraine Stemming from the Russian Aggression on 12 May 2022,

- 6. <u>Taking into account</u> as well UN General Assembly Resolution 68/262 of 27 March 2014 on the Territorial Integrity of Ukraine; UN General Assembly Resolution 71/205 of 19 December 2016 on the Situation of Human Rights in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the City of Sevastopol (Ukraine); UN General Assembly Resolution 72/190 of 19 December 2017 on the Situation of Human Rights in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the City of Sevastopol, Ukraine; UN General Assembly Resolution 73/194 of 17 December 2018 on The Problem of Militarization of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the City of Sevastopol, Ukraine), as well as Parts of the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov; and UN General Assembly Resolution 73/263 of 22 December 2018 on the Situation of Human Rights in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the City of Sevastopol, Ukraine, UN General Assembly Resolution 73/263 of 22 December 2018 on the Situation of Human Rights in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the City of Sevastopol, Ukraine, UN General Assembly Resolution 73/263 of 22 December 2018 on the Situation of Human Rights in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the City of Sevastopol, Ukraine,
- 7. <u>Expressing</u> deep appreciation for the work of the OSCE Observer Mission, the Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine and the Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine, as well as their dedicated personnel, who often worked under difficult conditions, for serving as impartial observers on the ground until the Russian Federation regrettably blocked consensus among the participating States on the extension of their mandates,
- 8. <u>Expressing</u> continued outrage at the unprovoked, brutal and unjustified escalation of this aggression on a neighbouring State via the use of indiscriminate and excessive force by the Russian Federation, with the ongoing support of Belarus,
- 9. <u>Expressing</u> outrage as well at the Russian military's targeting of civilians, civilian infrastructure and humanitarian corridors, and the reported cases of summary executions, rape, use of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment of those detained,
- 10. <u>Condemning</u> forced deportations of Ukrainian citizens to the Russian Federation, including unaccompanied children, to so-called filtration camps and the reported illegal adoption and transfer of children to an alien environment taking away their Ukrainian identity,
- 11. <u>Expressing</u> alarm over the heightened risks of human trafficking as well as sexual and gender-based violence faced by Ukrainian refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs), the majority of whom are women and girls, as a result of Russian aggression and the forced migration it has caused,
- 12. <u>Deeply concerned</u> about the destruction of cultural property, looting of artwork and other cultural assets belonging to the cultural heritage of Ukraine and its people,
- 13. <u>Noting</u> with concern the violation of human rights and fundamental freedoms in areas of Ukraine illegally occupied by the Russian Federation, including restrictions on the Ukrainian language, the imposition of a Russian curriculum in schools, attacks on civil rights activists and journalists carrying out their work, as well as the promotion of an environment of intolerance and discrimination,

- 14. <u>Appalled</u> that aggressive and violent actions had been previously taken by the Russian Federation against other participating States, including Georgia and Moldova, and that the Russian Federation maintains unacceptable conditions of effective occupation or control of some of the territory of those participating States to the present day,
- 15. <u>Considering</u> these violations not only a direct threat to the unity, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine and other neighbouring States, but also a common threat to the security of all other OSCE participating States,
- 16. <u>Expressing continued concern</u> regarding ongoing Russian threats and aggressive actions towards the Baltic States, Central and Eastern Europe, and in the Black Sea region, and the Russian Federation's efforts to use energy, trade and military threats as means of blackmail and intimidation,
- 17. <u>Taking into account</u> the report of the mission of experts produced under the Moscow Mechanism invoked by 45 participating States to investigate violations of OSCE commitments and international humanitarian law in Ukraine, including instances in which war crimes and crimes against humanity may have taken place, from 24 February to 1 April 2022, which found "clear patterns of international humanitarian law violations by the Russian forces on many of the issues investigated," including direct targeting of civilians, deliberate attacks on medical facilities, rape, torture, executions, looting and forced displacement of civilians to the Russian Federation,
- 18. <u>Considering</u> that these violations could be considered war crimes, crimes against humanity or genocide,
- 19. <u>Highlighting</u> the effect of the conflict on global supply chains, energy prices, poverty and food scarcity, which has only compounded the economic fallout from the COVID-19 pandemic,
- 20. <u>Expressing</u> concern at the crackdown on anti-war protestors, independent media and political dissent in the Russian Federation and in Belarus,
- 21. <u>Highlighting</u> with alarm, the Russian Federation's continued, illegal and disruptive naval blockade against Ukraine, which is another compounding factor in Ukraine's ongoing economic and humanitarian crisis, a source of air strikes against Ukrainian territory in both military and civilian areas alike, and also threatens global food security by preventing Ukrainian food exports upon which populations around the world rely,
- 22. <u>Noting</u> with extreme concern the horrifying potential for the use of chemical, biological or nuclear weapons in contravention of international prohibitions on the use of such weapons through various international conventions,

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

23. <u>Condemns</u> resolutely and unequivocally the ongoing, intensified, clear, gross and still uncorrected violations of Helsinki Principles as well as of fundamental principles of international law by the Government of the Russian Federation in its war of aggression against Ukraine, as well as the complicity of Belarus in this war of aggression, and calls on the governments of OSCE participating States to do the same;

- 24. <u>Views</u> Vladimir Putin as ultimately responsible for the horrific acts of violence and destruction that constitute the Russian Federation's violations of Helsinki Principles and commitments in Ukraine;
- 25. <u>Notes</u> that Alexander Lukashenko has actively and concretely supported Russian aggression and is therefore complicit in the horrific acts of violence and destruction that constitute the Russian Federation's violations of Helsinki Principles and commitments in Ukraine;
- 26. <u>Rejects</u> the denials as well as false claims and arguments that have been put forward to justify the Russian Federation's violations of Helsinki Principles in its unprovoked aggression against Ukraine;
- 27. <u>Reaffirms</u> its strong support for the sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders;
- 28. <u>Reiterates</u> its refusal to recognize the illegal occupation of Crimea by the Russian Federation, or the establishment through the use of force of any autonomous regions or independent entities within the internationally recognized borders of Ukraine or of any other neighbouring participating State;
- 29. <u>Calls for</u> the immediate cessation of hostilities by the Russian Federation and the immediate, complete, and unconditional withdrawal of all Russian forces from the territory of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders, including Donetsk, Luhansk and Crimea, as called for by the UN General Assembly Resolution ES-11/1 of 2 March 2022 and the Order of the International Court of Justice dated 16 March 2022;
- 30. <u>Urges</u> governments to commit to immediate, ongoing and concrete actions demonstrating support for the authorities and citizens of Ukraine in defending themselves and their territory within its internationally recognized borders and territorial waters;
- 31. <u>Appreciates</u> the response of those participating States, particularly those neighbouring Ukraine, which have provided shelter and assistance to those Ukrainian citizens who have been forced to flee their homes and seek safety elsewhere;
- 32. <u>Appreciates</u> the contribution of all members of civil society, volunteers and NGOs who have become selflessly engaged in helping war refugees and providing for their subsequent integration, and <u>urges</u> all participating States to continue providing their support and solidarity by all possible means;
- 33. <u>Demands</u> all parties to allow safe and unfettered passage for civilians to destinations outside of Ukraine and to facilitate the rapid, safe and unhindered access to humanitarian assistance for those in need in Ukraine; to protect all civilian persons in vulnerable situations; to ensure the freedom and well-being of

Ukrainian civilians deported to Russia, including children, and their quick return; and to ensure the safety of humanitarian personnel as they carry out their work;

- 34. <u>Notes</u> that Contracting Parties to the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, which entered into force in 1951, confirmed that genocide, namely acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnic, racial or religious group, whether committed in times of peace or in times of war, is a crime under international law, which they undertake to prevent and punish;
- 35. <u>Supports</u> a continued international effort, in co-operation with Ukraine, to collect evidence of violations of international humanitarian law in Ukraine and to hold accountable those responsible by bringing them to justice through an effective legal mechanism at all levels of political and military authority, particularly for acts determined to constitute a war of aggression, war crimes, crimes against humanity or genocide of the Ukrainian people;
- 36. <u>Calls for</u> the quick establishment of effective legal mechanisms to prosecute and punish those responsible for such crimes, including a special international criminal tribunal, as well as the provision of the financial support needed for this effort to succeed in providing justice;
- 37. <u>Acknowledges</u> those citizens of the Russian Federation and Belarus who have courageously expressed opposition to the war against Ukraine waged by the undemocratic Governments of their countries, and have expressed their solidarity with the Ukrainian people;
- 38. <u>Calls</u> on the governments of all other participating States, individually and collectively, to declare the clear, gross and uncorrected nature of the Russian Federation's violations of Helsinki Final Act principles and commitments in Ukraine, and to consider therefore the possibility of whatever collective response may be deemed appropriate and necessary to safeguard human rights, democracy and the rule of law through peaceful means in light of these violations, as foreseen by the signatories to the Document on Further Development of CSCE Institutions and Structures adopted at the Prague meeting of the Ministerial Council of 30–31 January 1992, paragraph 16;
- 39. <u>Condemns</u> the Russian Federation's threatening nuclear rhetoric, <u>recalls</u> that the five nuclear-weapon States, including the Russian Federation, have affirmed that a nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought, and <u>calls on</u> all States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to recommit to the treaty's Article VI on nuclear disarmament, with the ultimate goal being a security environment that allows for a world without nuclear weapons;
- 40. <u>Urges</u> the OSCE and participating States to explore possibilities for the redeployment of an OSCE field operation in Ukraine with a robust mandate including support for the many security and humanitarian needs of the Ukrainian population;
- 41. <u>Welcomes</u> the appointment by the OSCE PA President of a Special Representative for Parliamentary Dialogue on Ukraine, and <u>endorses</u> his efforts

to contribute to OSCE dialogue-facilitation efforts related to the conflict as well as to parliamentary dialogue in support of negotiations aimed at effectively ending the conflict by diplomatic means;

- 42. <u>Emphasizes</u> its ongoing readiness to assist in bringing the Russian war of aggression against Ukraine to an end, resolving differences, restoring peace and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms throughout Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders, alleviating tensions, building confidence and ultimately restoring peaceful relations by facilitating dialogue in place of aggression as well as greater respect for human rights, fundamental freedoms and democratic norms in the Russian Federation, Belarus and throughout the OSCE region;
- 43. <u>Calls on</u> the OSCE PA Standing Committee to amend the Assembly's Rules of Procedure so that in the case of a violation of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of an OSCE participating State by another of the OSCE participating States, of OSCE principles and commitments, and of the Helsinki Final Act, the credentials of the national parliamentary delegation of the State committing the violation shall be challenged. The President shall appoint a Credentials Committee, which shall report its recommendations forthwith to the Bureau for a decision on whether to suspend the mandate of the delegation until significant changes to the policy of the State committing the violation have taken place;
- 44. <u>Agrees</u> to remain heavily focused on this primary threat to the security of all OSCE participating States, and to actively consider further actions that may be appropriate for it to take in response to the Russian Federation's war of aggression with the support of Belarus, and the clear, gross, and uncorrected violations of Helsinki Principles that have occurred as a result;
- 45. <u>Holds responsible</u> governmental and non-government actors that violate international sanctions on Russia.

#### **RESOLUTION ON**

#### VICTIMS OF TERRORISM

- 1. <u>Reiterating</u> that terrorism constitutes one of the most serious threats to international peace and security, and unequivocally <u>condemning</u> all acts, methods and practices of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, wherever and by whomsoever committed, regardless of their motivation, as criminal and unjustifiable, while <u>emphasizing</u> that terrorism and violent extremism conducive to terrorism cannot and should not be associated with any religion, nationality, civilization or ethnic group,
- 2. <u>Deploring</u>, in the strongest terms, the incitement of terrorist acts, and <u>repudiating</u> attempts at the justification or glorification of terrorist acts, which may incite further terrorist acts, while <u>respecting</u> the right to freedom of expression reflected in Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in Article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,
- 3. <u>Condemning</u> all acts of terrorism, international and domestic, including such acts based on hatred, intolerance, racism and discrimination, which the Assembly noted at its 2021 Remote Session were escalating across the OSCE region,
- 4. <u>Strongly condemning</u> all forms of sexual and gender-based violence perpetrated by terrorist groups, including abductions, trafficking in persons, rape, forced marriage, enslavement, and all other forms of violence, especially that suffered by women and children, and <u>stressing</u> that all those victims should be recognized as victims irrespective of their perceived status or affiliation with such groups and are thus entitled to all gender-sensitive and victim-centred support, as well as the importance of closing the impunity gap for perpetrators and increasing rehabilitation and reintegration measures for victims,
- 5. <u>Underscoring</u> that respect for human rights, fundamental freedoms and the rule of law are complementary to and mutually reinforce effective counter-terrorism measures, and <u>noting</u> the importance of respect for the rule of law so as to effectively prevent and counter terrorism,
- 6. <u>Reiterating</u> that States bear the primary responsibility for preventing and countering terrorism, violent extremism and radicalization that lead to terrorism, while <u>respecting</u> their obligations under applicable domestic and international law,
- 7. <u>Deeply deploring</u> the suffering caused by terrorism to the victims and their families/beloved ones, <u>reaffirming</u> its profound solidarity with the victims and survivors of terrorism and heartfelt condolences to their families and to the people and governments that have been targeted, and <u>emphasizing</u> the need to promote international solidarity in support of all victims of terrorism and to ensure that they are treated with dignity and respect,
- 8. <u>Reaffirming</u> the determination to remain united in preventing and countering terrorism, through increased international co-operation and a sustained and comprehensive approach at all relevant levels involving the active participation

and co-operation of all participating States and relevant international and regional organizations as well as local communities and civil society, especially victims of terrorism themselves, their associations and organizations, and sharing on a voluntary basis of best practices and lessons learned related to the protection of victims of terrorism,

- 9. <u>Stressing</u> the importance of treating victims with compassion and providing victims with access to their rights, in accordance with applicable domestic and international law, to help them to rebuild their lives and the lives of their families, including the rights to assistance, accountability, reparation or restitution, truth, protection, information and access to justice, and properly supporting and assisting them immediately after an attack and in the long term,
- 10. <u>Underlining</u> the need to ensure that the suffering of victims is not instrumentalized and expressions of solidarity with them are not used to justify abusive or excessive counter-terrorism measures incompatible with applicable domestic and international law,
- 11. <u>Emphasizing</u> that measures to support and assist victims of terrorism must ensure non-discrimination and equality among victims of all crimes to avoid creating any hierarchy among victims, and that any difference in treatment afforded to victims of acts of terrorism, as distinct from victims of other crimes, should be based upon their specific needs in accordance with applicable domestic and international law and recognized best practices,
- 12. <u>Emphasizing</u> the importance of involving civil society, in particular families, youth, women, victims of terrorism, and religious, cultural and educational leaders, as well as the media, including information technology companies, in supporting victims, including in the provision of assistance and medical, legal, psychosocial or financial support services,
- 13. <u>Recognizing</u> the decisive role that victims of terrorism, victims' associations and civil society actors can play in efforts to counter terrorism by bringing public awareness to the human impact of terrorist acts, which can also contribute to the prevention of terrorism and the building of resilience and social cohesion,
- 14. <u>Highlighting</u> the importance of effective co-ordination and co-operation among relevant governmental authorities, civil society organizations, including victims', community-based and grassroots organizations, and private sector providers in supporting and assisting victims,
- 15. <u>Underscoring</u> further the central role of the UN in preventing and countering terrorism and violent extremism, and the need for all States' actions to be conducted in compliance with the UN Charter and all other applicable obligations under international law, including international human rights law, international refugee law, and international humanitarian law, as well as relevant UN Security Council Resolutions,
- 16. <u>Welcoming</u> the new UN Model Legislative Provisions to Support and Protect the Rights and Needs of Victims of Terrorism, also reflecting the contribution of the OSCE PA in the drafting of these Provisions, and <u>commending</u> the adoption of

UN General Assembly Resolution 73/305 to enhance international co-operation to assist victims of terrorism, and of UN General Assembly Resolution 72/165 establishing an International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism,

- 17. <u>Welcoming</u> the outcomes of the International Conference on Victims of Terrorism in the sphere of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, held in Madrid, Spain, on 15–16 November 2018, which underlined the urgency to coherently address the complex needs of the victims of terrorism by duly integrating them into comprehensive counter-terrorism policies and practices at the national level, as well as the efforts of the UN Conference on Victims of Terrorism, held in Rome on 7–8 June 2022 in co-operation with the OSCE PA and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean, on promoting this topic at a parliamentary level,
- 18. <u>Welcoming</u> further important efforts by the Council of Europe to expand its work in this area, including through the 24/7 Network of Single Contact Points for the exchange of procedural information regarding the legal standing of victims of terrorism, to facilitate cross border information sharing,
- 19. <u>Recalling</u> the efforts of the OSCE in preventing and countering terrorism, and in particular, <u>noting</u> the OSCE Ministerial Council Declaration on Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism and Radicalization that Lead to Terrorism (2015) and the OSCE Permanent Council Decision No. 618 on Solidarity with Victims of Terrorism (2004),
- 20. <u>Confirming</u> the importance of the full implementation of the OSCE PA's Resolution on Preventing and Countering Terrorism and Violent Extremism and Radicalization that lead to Terrorism (2018) and Resolution on the Challenges Related to Returning and Relocating Foreign Terrorist Fighters (2019), which call for inclusive, effective and human rights-compliant counter-terrorism responses in the OSCE region,
- 21. <u>Taking positive note</u> of the recurring themes identified by the OSCE PA Ad Hoc Committee on Countering Terrorism as priority areas where the Assembly may add a distinct parliamentary value, including support to the victims of terrorism, and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms in countering terrorism, as well as <u>welcoming</u> timely counter-terrorism initiatives implemented by the Ad Hoc Committee on Countering Terrorism since 2020,
- 22. <u>Hailing</u> the OSCE PA's strategic partnership with the OSCE executive structures on countering terrorism, as well as with the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT), which led to the signing of a landmark Memorandum of Understanding between the two organizations in 2020, and to the launching of a new Counter-Terrorism Co-ordination Mechanism among Parliamentary Assemblies in 2021,
- 23. <u>Welcoming</u> the establishment of the UN Global Programme on Parliamentary Engagement in Preventing and Countering Terrorism, implemented in partnership with inter-parliamentary assemblies and other international organizations, to expand the reach of parliamentarians in working towards the full implementation of the international counter-terrorism framework,

#### The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

- 24. <u>Calls on</u> OSCE participating States to swiftly and fully implement the international legal framework on countering terrorism, as well as relevant OSCE commitments in this field;
- 25. <u>Calls on</u> participating States to decisively address domestic terrorism targeted at groups based on ethnicity, race, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, religion, political affiliation or citizenship status, including through the adoption of an OSCE Anti-Discrimination, Equity, and Inclusion Plan, as urged by the Assembly at its 2021 Remote Session;
- 26. <u>Exhorts</u> OSCE participating States to adopt and align relevant national legislation in line with the new UN Model Legislative Provisions to Support and Protect the Rights and Needs of Victims of Terrorism, as appropriate;
- 27. <u>Calls upon</u> all OSCE participating States to develop comprehensive assistance plans for victims of terrorism, regardless of whether the perpetrator of the terrorist act is identified, apprehended, prosecuted or convicted, consistent with domestic law, taking into account a gender perspective, to address the immediate, short-term and long-term needs of victims of terrorism and their families, with regard to their relief and rehabilitation, ensuring that they are provided with proper support and assistance, both immediately after an attack and in the long term;
- 28. <u>Encourages</u> OSCE participating States to co-operate with relevant institutions of civil society in initiating, developing and implementing policies and services that empower victims of terrorism, as well as in expressing solidarity with, and providing support for, the victims of terrorism and their families;
- 29. <u>Calls on</u> all OSCE participating States to ensure that victims of terrorism receive the material, medical, psychological and social assistance that is necessary to meet their needs as victims, and that all assistance is accessible and available, on a non-discriminatory basis, including to groups with special needs or vulnerabilities;
- 30. <u>Prompts</u> national authorities to ensure the right of victims of terrorism to full, adequate, effective and prompt reparation for all harm suffered from terrorism, including where it is not available from a person or entity responsible for such terrorism;
- 31. <u>Appeals</u> to OSCE participating States to ensure that victims are timely informed of their rights to assistance, reparation, protection and access to justice and that they are provided with effective, fair, humane, transparent and accountable criminal justice systems, in accordance with applicable domestic and international law, and provided with measures to support each victim's specific needs, including when developing and maintaining appropriate strategies for prosecution and rehabilitation;
- 32. <u>Calls upon</u> OSCE participating States to respect the dignity and legal rights of victims of terrorism, as provided for in domestic law, in criminal litigation, and in gaining access to justice, to enable full participation by victims of terrorism and

involvement in all appropriate stages of criminal proceedings, including the right to be considered for witness protection measures and appropriate support during criminal proceedings, awareness of court proceedings and charges, the right to be treated with fairness and with respect for their dignity and privacy, and for their safety from intimidation and retaliation, in particular where they appear as witnesses, the right to full and timely restitution, and the ability to address the court and consult with prosecutors;

- 33. <u>Urges</u> OSCE participating States to implement necessary measures to prevent secondary and repeat victimization to victims of terrorism within the criminal justice process, duly emphasizing the importance of a victim-centred approach and the principle of "do no harm" with respect to the rights, dignity, and well-being of victims, with due regard to particular vulnerabilities, and the need for appropriate trauma-informed training for professionals who come into contact with victims;
- 34. <u>Encourages</u> OSCE participating States to establish a permanent co-ordination body for victims of terrorism composed of representatives from all relevant public authorities and civil society organizations, including non-governmental organizations, victims' associations, victims' advocates and women's rights associations;
- 35. <u>Urges</u> OSCE participating States to develop a multidisciplinary and accessible crisis response team that includes victim assistance professionals, which proactively identifies victims and assesses their needs in the aftermath of an attack;
- 36. <u>Urges</u> parliamentarians in the OSCE region to strengthen national legislation essential in combating terrorism, promote respect for and solidarity with victims of terrorism, and speak out strongly and promptly against terrorism and violent extremism and radicalization leading to terrorism;
- 37. <u>Encourages</u> OSCE participating States to further develop the role and profile of the OSCE as a regional security platform for the exchange of good practice, lessons learned and information, as well as for promoting co-operation among participating States, including on victims of terrorism;
- 38. <u>Calls on</u> the 2022 and 2023 Chairs-in-Office of the OSCE to continue to promote an active role for the OSCE in this domain, and <u>encourages</u> the OSCE executive structures in co-operation with the OSCE PA and by leveraging on their respective strengths to continue to raise awareness, promote good practices, and assist the OSCE participating States in the implementation of relevant international obligations and OSCE commitments, in line with the OSCE's comprehensive approach to security and taking into account a gender- and childsensitive perspective;
- 39. <u>Encourages</u> the OSCE PA Ad Hoc Committee on Countering Terrorism to continue to add value in this field through targeted initiatives in partnership with national and international stakeholders aimed at promoting the full implementation of the global counter-terrorism framework while, at the same time, fostering greater parliamentary engagement in counter-terrorism matters,

including by leveraging its co-operation with the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the United Nations Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee (UNSC CTC);

40. <u>Tasks</u> the OSCE PA International Secretariat to continue to support the work of the OSCE PA Ad Hoc Committee on Countering Terrorism through the organization of regular meetings and other targeted initiatives, as relevant and within available resources.

#### **RESOLUTION ON**

#### THE ARCTIC REGION

- 1. <u>Taking note</u> of the OSCE PA's 2013 Istanbul Declaration's Resolution on the Arctic and the 2010 Oslo Declaration's Resolution on the Arctic,
- 2. <u>Reiterating</u> the fundamental importance of the environmental aspects of the OSCE concept of security,
- 3. <u>Underlining</u> the importance of international law in the Arctic, especially the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, which provides the essential multilateral legal framework for all ocean activities, including in the Arctic,
- 4. <u>Taking note</u> of the history of the Arctic region as a zone of peace and stability, where solutions to challenges are found through co-operative relationships and good will, in a peaceful manner,
- 5. <u>Noting</u> that the stability of the Arctic has long been relatively well preserved, but is increasingly affected by the growing international interest in the region and the changing security landscape,
- 6. <u>Taking note</u> of the increasing military importance and strategic geopolitical role as well enhanced links of the Arctic region to global issues, with developments outside the Arctic likely to have consequences for Arctic States and vice versa,
- 7. <u>Reiterating</u> the core principles of sovereignty and territorial integrity that have long underpinned international co-operation in the Arctic,
- 8. <u>Acknowledging</u> the impact that the security situation in Europe has already had on Arctic co-operation, including suspension of the work of the Arctic Council and joint research projects,
- 9. <u>Strenuously condemning</u> the Russian Federation's unprovoked invasion of Ukraine, and <u>noting</u> the grave impediments to international co-operation, including in the Arctic, that the Russian Federation's actions have caused,
- 10. <u>Reiterating</u> that the climate crisis is by far the greatest security threat in the Arctic,
- 11. <u>Underlining</u> that the climate crisis should be viewed as a threat multiplier which exacerbates existing trends, tensions and instability,
- 12. <u>Acknowledging</u> that sustainable economic development is fundamental for the future of the Arctic region and requires close co-operation between government, business representatives and academia,
- 13. <u>Acknowledging</u> the added value brought to Arctic co-operation by the participation of civil society, including youth and women's organizations, indigenous groups and other stakeholders,

- 14. <u>Underscores</u> the importance of maintaining peace, stability and low tension in the Arctic region;
- 15. <u>Strongly encourages</u> involved parties to adhere to international law, including UN conventions and other relevant international agreements on the Arctic;
- 16. <u>Urges</u> OSCE participating States to maintain focus on the Arctic and to recognize the impact that the climate crisis has on Arctic communities and the planet, with consequences for the wider political, socio-economic and geostrategic interests in the region;
- 17. <u>Urges</u> participating States to address the climate crisis based on scientific information and advice;
- 18. <u>Calls on Arctic States to protect and defend the rights of indigenous peoples;</u>
- 19. <u>Encourages</u> Arctic states to engage with the region's indigenous peoples, businesses, academia and other stakeholders to tackle the region's challenges;
- 20. <u>Suggests</u> engaging actively with the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities on the specific challenges faced by Arctic communities, including in terms of indigenous rights, political representation and the impact of COVID-19, and considering joint initiatives;
- 21. <u>Calls</u> on OSCE participating States to promote the portfolio of the Arctic and the climate-security link as a confidence-building topic within the Organization and the Assembly and to support the primary role of the Arctic Council in managing Arctic co-operation;
- 22. <u>Recommends</u> developing a stronger and more structured portfolio on climate change within the Assembly, within or in co-ordination with the General Committee on Economic Affairs, Science, Technology and Environment, to contribute to global efforts;
- 23. <u>Encourages</u> co-operation and engagement with prominent civil society organizations, including youth and women's organizations, indigenous groups, and other stakeholders, on future Arctic policies and to ensure that all voices are heard.

### EFFECTIVE YOUTH ENGAGEMENT TOWARDS SECURE, INCLUSIVE AND DEMOCRATIC SOCIETIES

- 1. <u>Recognizing</u> the significant role that young people can play and display in addressing the challenges the world is currently facing and the leadership which they have demonstrated, especially on issues of climate change, peaceful conflict resolution and the reduction of the growing inequalities throughout the OSCE region and beyond,
- 2. <u>Noting</u> that current global challenges, including the post-pandemic recovery and international conflicts and wars, mainly pose multi-faceted threats for young people, and <u>expressing concern</u> about the economic fallout and the negative impact of such crises on youth employment, education and social-protection systems,
- 3. <u>Noting</u> that the inclusion of young people in political, social and economic structures is vital for ensuring strong and resilient societies,
- 4. <u>Stressing</u> the importance of strengthening youth input in the OSCE by ensuring meaningful and inclusive youth participation, identifying the needs of young people and engaging them in efforts towards a safer and more sustainable future, including by securing concrete commitments from national and local governments to empower young people,
- 5. <u>Noting</u> the increasing youth population in the world and different age structure in the countries of the OSCE region,
- 6. <u>Emphasizing</u> that as a necessary precondition for democracy and the rule of law, accountable government institutions need widespread political participation from every segment of society, including youth and other underrepresented categories,
- 7. <u>Acknowledging</u> the efforts of OSCE Executive Structures, the OSCE Secretariat, Institutions and field operations, as well as the OSCE Academy in Bishkek to recognize and strengthen youth policies and practices and to support OSCE participating States in the development and implementation of effective youth policies,
- 8. <u>Acknowledging</u> the work of the OSCE Special Representative on Youth and Security to ensure transparency and inclusiveness in the OSCE for youth participation,
- 9. <u>Welcoming</u> the establishment of the informal network among young members of the OSCE PA aiming to promote the youth agenda and to encourage the inclusion of youth in decision-making processes in national parliaments and international platforms,
- 10. <u>Acknowledging</u> the contribution of the OSCE Group of Friends of Youth and Security in discussing, highlighting and encouraging the meaningful participation of young women and men in the politico-military, economic and environmental,

and human dimensions of security and in providing a platform for OSCE delegations, OSCE executive structures and youth representatives to meet and exchange views on the main issues related to youth participation and youth policies,

- 11. <u>Recalling</u> the importance of strong partnerships among international organizations, participating States and civil society in order to support and ensure sustainable peace and security, and the potential of young people in ensuring stability and economic success and enhancing stability in the OSCE area, the Mediterranean region and neighbouring countries,
- 12. <u>Recognizing</u> the potential of young people to contribute to the efforts of the OSCE and its participating States to address in a more inclusive and effective way growing security challenges, especially those related to digitalization, cybersecurity and new technologies, in both national and international forums,
- 13. <u>Stressing</u> the obstacles and barriers that young people face who want to speak out and make an impact, including age-based discrimination, structural and legislative barriers, prejudices, and a lack of political will or opportunities,
- 14. <u>Emphasizing</u> that the advancement of gender equality, the empowerment of young women, and full and effective participation of women are critical factors to secure inclusive and democratic societies for all,
- 15. <u>Highlighting</u> the necessity of encouraging, facilitating and stimulating youth participation in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of public policies,
- 16. <u>Noting</u> the need to strengthen education about peace and security, human rights, democracy, the rule of law, and to provide innovative platforms for young people to have an active voice in the development of solutions to challenges related to these issues,
- 17. <u>Mindful</u> of the fact that education occupies a critical place for young people in relation to peace and security and is a key interface that shapes and defines the relationship between young people and public institutions, and that the COVID-19 pandemic negatively affected and is still affecting access to complete education and training programmes; and <u>stressing</u> the need to prioritize education recovery to allow young people to take part positively and in full in the civic, economic, social and political development of their communities, and to make informed decisions on sustainable security choices,
- 18. <u>Emphasizing</u> the detrimental impact of youth unemployment on the development of societies and the need to support national agencies in maintaining and improving a complete set of national occupational qualifications for youth with a curriculum and workforce strategy, and an online learning platform, while ensuring the development of young people's skills to enhance their contribution to society and the economy, with a particular focus on the great challenges of our time,

- 19. <u>Further emphasizing</u> the importance of ensuring that opportunities for youth engagement are offered to every category of young people, both those inside and outside urban centres, including youth with minority and migrant backgrounds, disabled youth, and without any other form of discrimination,
- 20. <u>Recalling</u> the youth-related commitments made in the Helsinki Final Act, as well as OSCE Ministerial Council Declarations No. 3/14 (Basel), No. 5/15 (Belgrade) and No. 3/18 (Milan); the youth-related Resolutions of the OSCE PA, including the 2018 Resolution on A Shared Priority: Fostering Peace and Security through Enabling Young People to Reach their Full Potential, and the 2019 Resolution on the Integration of Gender and Youth Perspectives in Efforts to Combat Climate Change; and UNSCR 2250 on Youth, Peace and Security, and the recently adopted UNSCR 2535 (2020),
- 21. <u>Inspired and encouraged</u> by the adoption of a Youth, Peace and Security National Action Plan by Finland with a view to implementing UNSCR 2250, and <u>stressing</u> the importance for other participating States to follow this example and increase their domestic efforts to address youth, peace and security issues,
- 22. <u>Concerned</u> by the growing impact of conflicts and wars on young people within the OSCE area and neighbouring States, and the negative repercussions for future generations,

- 23. <u>Calls upon</u> OSCE participating States to join international efforts to uphold the role of youth in contributing to a culture of peace, dialogue, justice, trust, and reconciliation;
- 24. <u>Calls for</u> greater collaboration and co-operation among young members of parliaments of the OSCE participating States, and <u>recommends</u> the integration of the network of young parliamentarians into the formal structures of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly;
- 25. <u>Underlines</u> the importance of co-ordination among OSCE structures regarding youth and security issues and of implementation of relevant Ministerial Council decisions and further commitments;
- 26. <u>Urges</u> participating States to develop and adopt a cross-dimensional OSCE Youth Strategy and Action Plan;
- 27. <u>Calls upon</u> governments to ensure that public services not only meet the political, economic, social and security needs of youth, but also promote young people's active role in shaping community development, and to take active steps to achieve this,
- 28. <u>Encourages</u> the OSCE participating States to develop domestic youth parliamentary working groups aimed at supporting the exchange of good practices between young people and parliamentarians, enhancing dialogue with public institutions, strengthening the assessments of young people's needs, and

supporting young people's involvement in political life, and in so doing, strengthen democracies and foster peace and security;

- 29. <u>Calls on</u> OSCE participating States to give young people in the OSCE a stronger voice by promoting exchanges and dialogue among young people in the entire OSCE region, and creating training programmes and opportunities offering young people the possibility to have a better understanding of the OSCE, to ensure that young people will develop their skills in leadership, critical thinking, mediation, negotiation and diplomacy, and will support conflict resolution and peace development;
- 30. <u>Urges</u> the introduction of appropriate language, channels and forms of communication between institutions and youth to involve young people in the drafting process and the development of innovative tools to encourage political dialogue and capacity-building between young people and institutions, with the aim of implementing inclusive legislative processes and systematizing youth representation by ensuring that young people are adequately involved across parliaments' organizational structures;
- 31. <u>Encourages</u> the OSCE participating States to support the development of training modules for employees of public institutions and civil society to strengthen institutional capacity, while creating an enabling environment to ensure that young women and men from diverse backgrounds are able to realize their potential and contribute to the life of their communities, build their trust in government, stimulate their interest in politics and encourage their efforts to promote peace and security;
- 32. <u>Urges</u> OSCE participating States to create innovative online platforms, awareness campaigns and education programmes to support the peaceful settlement of conflicts, counter and prevent violent extremism and radicalization, promote computer literacy and online security awareness, and recognize the fundamental role of youth inclusion in addressing current politico-military issues and the dynamic challenges posed by emerging technologies;
- 33. <u>Encourages</u> the OSCE participating States to enable youth to contribute to the transition to green economies, by facilitating youth consultation, enhancing cooperation with the private sector and engaging young people in designing youth-related institutional policies and strategies on peace and sustainable development;
- 34. <u>Recommends</u> the assessment of the implications for young people of any planned action, including legislation, policies and programmes, in all areas and at all levels, including the elaboration of a strategy for making youth concerns and experiences an integral dimension of the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes in all political, economic and environmental domains;
- 35. <u>Strongly recommends</u> that every participating State develop a youth, peace and security national action plan that addresses the specific needs of youth and ensures opportunities for their participation in resolving peace and security issues.

#### A CODE OF CONDUCT FOR MEMBERS OF THE OSCE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

- 1. <u>Recognizing</u> that the OSCE PA has pledged to combat corruption and promote transparency, accountability, and integrity on several occasions, including through the Helsinki Declaration, Tbilisi Declaration, Minsk Declaration, Berlin Declaration and Luxembourg Declaration,
- 2. <u>Noting</u> that a code of conduct is a significant step towards enhancing the institutional framework that supports transparency, accountability and integrity, and consolidating its role as an organization which prioritizes the fight against corruption along with its other aims,
- 3. <u>Underlining</u> that the transparency and accountability of elected representatives should also extend to parliamentary assemblies,
- 4. <u>Mindful</u> of the positive results of the introduction of the Code of Conduct for OSCE PA Election Observers,
- 5. <u>Cognizant</u> that the OSCE already has a code of conduct for staff/mission members,
- 6. <u>Taking into consideration</u> that the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe has already adopted Codes of Conduct that apply both to their Members and staff,
- 7. <u>Recognizing</u> that the commitment to abide by a code of conduct depends on the willingness of both members and staff to comply with it in good faith,

The OSCE PA calls on the Standing Committee to elaborate and adopt a code of conduct, to be informed by the following elements:

- 8. Provisions of the code of conduct shall complement the obligations of Members of the OSCE PA provided in the Rules of Procedure;
- 9. While exercising their mandate as Members of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, Members shall:
  - a. refrain from acting in a manner which is likely to bring discredit to the Assembly;
  - b. comply with the principles, norms, and commitments of the OSCE and the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, as envisaged in the Helsinki Final Act and the Paris Charter for a New Europe;
  - c. exercise their duties with integrity;
  - d. not use their public office to obtain any direct or indirect private financial benefit or other reward for themselves or anyone else;

- e. declare any conflicts of interest;
- f. use the resources available to them responsibly;
- 10. When participating in events organized or co-organized by the OSCE PA, Members undertake to act in a manner respectful of the laws and regulations of the country in which the event takes place;
- 11. Members shall refrain from any form of sexism, sexual harassment or genderbased violence;
- 12. Members shall not use their position as a member of the OSCE PA to further their own or another person's or entity's interests in a manner incompatible with the Code of Conduct;
- 13. Members shall not request or accept any fee, compensation or reward intended to affect their conduct in the exercise of their duties;
- 14. Members shall avoid conflicts between any actual or potential economic, commercial, financial, or other interests on a professional, personal or family level on the one hand, and the work of the Assembly on the other. When impossible to avoid such a conflict of interest, it shall be disclosed at the earliest possible stage;
- 15. Members shall refrain from accepting, in the performance of their duties, any gifts or similar benefits, other than those with an approximate value of less than €150 offered in accordance with courtesy usage;
- 16. Members shall register with the Secretariat of the Assembly any benefits (such as travel expenses, accommodation, subsistence, meals or entertainment expenses) of a value in excess of €150 that they accept in the performance of their duties;
- 17. Members shall use information with discretion, and in particular shall not make personal use of information acquired confidentially in the course of their duties;
- 18. Outside activities and interests of Assembly Officers shall not be actively associated with the management of any business, nor may they hold a financial interest in any business, if there is a possibility that they would benefit from such association or financial interest by reason of their official position with the OSCE PA;
- 19. Any Member of the Assembly or any person employed at the International Secretariat that notices a case of misconduct must report the matter through a dedicated procedure. The Bureau ensures that no prejudice is caused to any person who reports any misconduct on reasonable grounds and in good faith;
- 20. If a Member is believed to have failed to comply with the Code of Conduct, the President of the Assembly may seek clarification and further information from the Member concerned, or other Members of the Assembly. The Members shall cooperate, at all stages, with any investigation into their conduct in accordance with this Code;

- 21. If necessary, the President of the Assembly may refer the matter to the Bureau to examine the circumstances of the alleged breach and make a recommendation as to a possible decision;
- 22. The Bureau may take one or several of the following decisions:
  - a. temporary deprivation of the right to participate in the Assembly's missions or other events, outside statutory meetings;
  - b. temporary deprivation of the right to speak at meetings;
  - c. temporary deprivation of the right to sponsor or co-sponsor an amendment or a Supplementary Item;
  - d. temporary deprivation of the right to submit his/her candidature for election as an Assembly Officer, and/or to sponsor another candidate;

The President shall then inform the Assembly and the Speaker or other relevant officer of the national parliament concerned accordingly;

- 23. Should the Bureau decide that a member failed to comply with the code of conduct, it may instruct him or her to prepare a reasoned statement which he or she will read out before the Assembly;
- 24. The OSCE PA calls for the principles of the above Code of Conduct to apply equally to the staff of the International Secretariat;
- 25. The Parliamentary Assembly calls on the Bureau and the Standing Committee to act so as to safeguard the relevance and validity of a code of conduct including through considering its annexation to the Rules of Procedure.

### IMPLEMENTING THE UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS IN THE OSCE AREA

- 1. <u>Recalling</u> UN General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching, and people-oriented set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and targets, and acknowledged the essential role of national parliaments through their enactment of legislation, adoption of budgets and their role in ensuring accountability for the effective implementation of internationally agreed upon commitments,
- <u>Taking into account</u> UN General Assembly resolutions 72/278 and 74/304 on Interaction between the UN, national parliaments and the Inter-Parliamentary Union which recognize the action and contribution by parliaments at national, regional and global levels, including through multi-stakeholder partnerships, in support of the accelerated implementation and achievement of the SDGs by 2030,
- 3. <u>Taking note</u> of resolution 2017/23 of the UN Economic and Social Council, which appreciates that some countries have informed and engaged their parliaments in relation to the SDGs, and <u>encouraging</u> all governments to consider undertaking similar efforts, while noting that some parliaments have taken a proactive role in their implementation,
- 4. <u>Noting</u> that the OSCE, as a regional security organization under Chapter VIII of the UN Charter, has a complementary role to play within its mandate as an important platform through which States can further their national and collective sustainable development objectives, given the alignment of its mandate with all 17 SDGs and the 2030 Agenda's five pillars of people, planet, prosperity, peace and partnerships, reflecting the embracement of the 2030 Agenda as a common point of reference for regional organizations beyond the UN system and affiliated agencies,
- <u>Recalling</u> the Luxembourg Declaration adopted by the OSCE PA at its 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Session emphasizing the commitment of OSCE PA participating States to implement the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 SDGs, which are worthwhile guidelines for fostering peaceful, just and inclusive societies,
- 6. <u>Welcoming</u> the efforts of parliaments of OSCE participating States to advance the 2030 Agenda, including through the adoption of SDG-aligned legislation, national development plans and budgets, oversight of SDG achievement, more open and transparent ways of engaging the public, and the role of the OSCE in Voluntary National Review processes,
- 7. <u>Recognizing</u> the importance of promoting a whole-of-society, people-oriented approach to the advancement of the 2030 Agenda, which should be manifested through systematic partnerships between parliaments, oversight institutions, civil society, academia, local government and the private sector,

- 8. <u>Welcoming</u> the OSCE's leadership in affirming and advancing linkages between sustainable development and a comprehensive approach to security realized through its institutions and network of field missions, active in both stable and conflict contexts,
- 9. <u>Applauding</u> the efforts of the OSCE PA to promote discussions relevant to Security Sector Governance and Reform, which represents instrumental guidance for the achievement of SDG 16 and its targets, including through the OSCE PA 2014 Baku Declaration and 2017 Minsk Declaration, and through its Resolution on Strengthening the OSCE's Approach to Supporting Security Sector Governance and Reform in Participating and Partner States, adopted during the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Session in Berlin,
- 10. <u>Recognizing</u> the importance of transitional justice processes, including reparations and reconciliation aimed at acknowledging and repairing legacies of past large-scale human rights violations and inequities, in achieving the targets of SDG 16, particularly those concerning the rule of law, countering racism, equal access to justice, prevention of violence, accountable institutions, inclusive representational decision-making and non-discriminatory laws and policies,
- 11. <u>Taking note</u> of the 2021 OSCE Ministerial Council's Decision No. 3/21, acknowledging that climate change is a global challenge to achieving the objectives of the UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its SDGs,
- 12. <u>Recalling</u> the strong nexus between the OSCE's economic and environmental dimension and the 17 SDGs, and <u>taking note of</u> the 2021 OSCE Parliamentary Plea for Resolute Climate Action, which emphasizes that realizing the OSCE vision of comprehensive security is not possible without addressing the climate crisis,
- 13. <u>Deeply concerned</u> about the continued impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on human development and security, including its implications for stability, peace and democracy in the region and beyond, making the achievement of the SDGs by 2030 an even greater challenge,
- 14. <u>Commending</u> the remarkable commitment of youth in OSCE participating States to inclusive solutions to global and regional challenges, including climate change, and their leadership in mitigating the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, and <u>applauding</u> in this regard the establishment of a network of young parliamentarians at the OSCE PA initiated by the OSCE PA Special Representative on Youth Engagement with a view to promote a more inclusive youth representation in the OSCE area,
- 15. <u>Underscoring</u> the inextricability of sustainable development and gender equality, while <u>taking note with appreciation</u> of the growing representation of women across the parliaments of OSCE participating States which surpasses the global average,
- 16. <u>Recognizing</u> that "building back better" requires a renewed commitment to the SDGs, with parliaments playing a vital role in renewing their commitment to unity, solidarity and regional co-operation, and engaging in partnerships for increasing

people's voices and participation to ensure that long-term recovery is peoplecentred, human rights-driven and geared towards building more sustainable, peaceful, secure and resilient societies,

17. <u>Noting</u> the appointment of the OSCE PA's Special Representative on Sustainable Development Goals tasked with promoting the Assembly's engagement on issues related to achieving the UN SDGs and implementing the 2030 Agenda,

- 18. <u>Urges</u> parliaments of OSCE participating States to intensify efforts aimed at mainstreaming the SDGs into their processes, structures and mechanisms, and engaging most effectively and meaningfully in national development planning and oversight;
- 19. <u>Invites</u> OSCE governments and parliaments to revitalize partnerships within the OSCE, as well as with UN agencies, funds and programmes, other international organizations, regional and local organizations and agencies, the private sector and academia in order to forge effective responses to challenges in the OSCE area in the spirit of SDG 17 "Partnership for the Goals" and based on parliaments' access to expertise and resources to support informed scrutiny, monitoring and evaluation of national development plans and strategies;
- 20. <u>Encourages</u> the OSCE participating States to ensure that their parliamentary oversight mechanisms are structured, mandated, adequately resourced and equipped with sound baselines to conduct periodic monitoring, reporting and evaluation of the SDGs implementation over time with the aim of enhancing public engagement, accountability, transparency and continuous learning;
- 21. <u>Calls upon</u> national parliaments to ensure that their processes are inclusive, open, responsive and participatory by integrating meaningful forms of public engagement into their core functions, including by making key parliamentary information publicly available, consultation with the public, civil society and local stakeholders on legislative and budget proposals, ensuring public input into parliamentary scrutiny of proposals and monitoring of the implementation of national development plans; and by identifying ways to ensure that the voices of women, young people, people with disabilities, and others at risk of being excluded are heard by parliament;
- 22. <u>Encourages</u> parliamentarians of participating States to seek through their constituency links input from local community-based and civil society organizations with the purpose of reflecting their perspectives in the programmes and instruments through which the SDGs are delivered in their areas;
- 23. <u>Welcomes</u> the involvement of OSCE parliaments in the consultation and validation of national progress reports prepared by participating States as part of the voluntary national review process in recent years, while encouraging their continued involvement in the monitoring of the implementation of the recommendations made, to re-assess their country's development patterns,

reviewing the policy and institutional mechanisms aligned with the SDGs, and building stakeholder engagement around them;

- 24. <u>Calls upon</u> parliaments to continue placing the principles of gender equality, inclusion, and "leaving no one behind" at the heart of their efforts to accelerate progress towards the SDGs, including by promoting fair and equal participation of women and vulnerable groups in their processes and in their membership, including through well-designed temporary special measures, and by adopting gender-sensitive culture and practices that leave no-one behind;
- 25. <u>Encourages</u> further inter-parliamentary co-operation within the OSCE PA to inspire collective ambition, enhance peer-to-peer learning and sharing of best practices, and to increase knowledge-sharing and awareness-raising among parliamentarians.

## ACCELERATING THE GREEN ENERGY TRANSITION

- 1. <u>Reaffirming</u> OSCE commitments related to environmental protection enshrined in the 1975 Helsinki Final Act, the 2003 OSCE Strategy Document for the Economic and Environmental Dimension (Maastricht Strategy), the 2007 Madrid Declaration on Environment and Security, and other relevant OSCE documents and decisions,
- 2. <u>Recalling</u> OSCE Ministerial Council Decision No. 3/21 (Stockholm) on Strengthening Co-operation to Address the Challenges Caused by Climate Change, which recognizes that the use of renewable energy sources, low-carbon and clean-energy technologies, and energy-efficiency measures contribute to climate-change adaptation and mitigation,
- 3. <u>Reiterating</u> the OSCE PA's Minsk Declaration (2017), Berlin Declaration (2018), and Luxembourg Declaration (2019), which urge participating States to recognize the urgency of the climate crisis and its related challenges, implement policies that promote environmental good governance and expand investment in renewable and sustainable energy technologies,
- 4. <u>Taking note</u> of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly's recent debates on climaterelated issues, including a web dialogue on 4 February 2022 on the clean energy revolution, which have underscored the important role that parliamentarians can play in shaping relevant national legislation and scrutinizing the implementation of climate-related commitments,
- 5. <u>Taking note of</u> the Parliamentary Plea for Resolute Climate Action presented to leaders of OSCE participating States by the Bureau of the General Committee on Economic Affairs, Science, Technology and Environment ahead of the 26<sup>th</sup> UN Climate Change Conference (COP26), which called for bold action towards reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, developing effective climateadaptation strategies, and mobilizing the necessary climate-related financial resources,
- 6. <u>Guided by</u> the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to which all OSCE participating States have agreed, specifically SDG 7, which calls on countries to ensure universal access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all and to substantially increase the share of renewable energy in global energy sources, among other targets, and SDG 13, which calls on countries to integrate climate change measures into national policies and on developed states to assist developing countries in their efforts to mitigate the impacts of climate change,
- 7. <u>Alarmed by</u> reports of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, including its 2018 special report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5°C above preindustrial levels and its 2022 report on climate-change mitigation, which underline the risks that climate change poses to health, livelihoods, food security, water supply, human security and economic growth, and emphasize the need for

immediate and effective action to avoid the most catastrophic effects of climate change,

- 8. <u>Underlining</u> the urgency of prioritizing innovation in the production, transport and consumption of energy, given that the energy sector is the source for the majority of GHG emissions globally,
- 9. <u>Acknowledging</u> the steps taken to scale up the global response to climate change since the adoption of the Paris Agreement in 2015, and <u>welcoming</u> the commitments related to increasing climate finance, phasing down coal power, and accelerating the reduction of emissions adopted by States at COP26,
- 10. <u>Encouraged</u> by the findings of the International Energy Agency, which has noted that green stimulus in response to COVID-19 represents the largest-ever clean-energy recovery effort,
- 11. <u>Convinced</u> of the value and mission of the Powering Past Coal Alliance, a leading global initiative to accelerate clean growth and climate protection through the rapid phase-out of emissions from coal power,
- 12. <u>Underscoring</u> that green energy innovation is integral to combating climate change, and <u>emphasizing</u> the important role that market mechanisms, such as carbon pricing, can play to incentivize the transition to a low-carbon economy and to promote clean economic growth,
- 13. <u>Cognizant</u> of the need for complementary actions to address climate change, which include investments in international climate finance to support developing countries in their efforts to build low-carbon and climate-resilient economies,
- 14. <u>Deploring</u> the Russian Federation's reckless and unprecedented seizure of nuclear power facilities in Ukraine and other dangerous actions connected to nuclear and radioactive materials, which continue to pose a serious and direct threat to public health and the environment, as well as to the safety and security of these facilities, their personnel and nearby civilian populations,
- 15. <u>Convinced</u> that the consequences of the Russian Federation's illegal and unprovoked invasion of Ukraine have exposed the economic vulnerabilities associated with being over-reliant on fossil fuels and on any one source country for energy,
- 16. <u>Encouraged</u> by the efforts of the European Union to phase out the import of Russian oil and to accelerate a low-carbon energy transition,
- 17. <u>Stressing</u> that energy security and climate action are complementary objectives, and <u>convinced</u> of not only the environmental benefits but also the economic opportunities offered by the green energy transition,

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

18. <u>Expresses</u> grave concern about the destabilizing effects of climate change, which acts as a threat multiplier, with profound implications for international peace and stability;

- 19. <u>Calls on</u> OSCE participating States to take urgent and ambitious global climate action to limit the increase in the average global temperature to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels;
- 20. <u>Urges</u> OSCE participating States to take measures to enhance and achieve their Nationally Determined Contributions under the Paris Agreement;
- 21. <u>Encourages</u> OSCE participating States to adopt ambitious targets for reaching net-zero emissions and to establish legislative frameworks that underpin a transparent and accountable process for ensuring emissions reductions;
- 22. <u>Notes</u> the potential of low-carbon hydrogen as a means of reducing global GHG emissions, and <u>calls on</u> OSCE participating States to increase their investment in technologies needed to support its production and use;
- 23. <u>Emphasizes</u> that a green energy transition must be just and beneficial for workers and that OSCE participating States should take proactive action to support workers and communities in the transition to a net-zero carbon economy;
- 24. <u>Recognizes</u> that transitioning to low-carbon economies is essential for the future prosperity of OSCE participating States, and that carbon pricing provides an incentive to invest in renewable energy, energy efficiency, low-carbon infrastructure, cleaner energy production and technological innovation;
- 25. <u>Stresses</u> that developed countries must continue to support developing countries with climate-change adaptation and mitigation, including by increasing their international climate finance commitments and by collaborating with multilateral development banks to leverage and attract more private-sector climate-related investment in developing countries;
- 26. <u>Notes</u> the particular threat that climate change poses to Arctic, northern and Indigenous peoples, and <u>underscores</u> that national and international climateadaptation and mitigation measures and targets must be designed and implemented in a spirit of genuine collaboration with these communities of peoples most affected by a changing climate;
- 27. <u>Emphasizes</u> the need to take into account the needs of women and girls, who are disproportionately affected by climate change due to various forms of socioeconomic inequalities, and to integrate a gender perspective in designing climate-change adaptation and mitigation policies;
- 28. <u>Urges</u> OSCE participating States to continue to support investments in research and development aimed at improving the commercial viability and emissions-reducing potential of carbon capture, utilization and storage technologies;
- 29. <u>Reiterates</u> the commitments of the European Union to expeditiously phase out the import of Russian oil, diversify its energy sources to safeguard energy security, increase energy efficiency and resilience, and accelerate the green energy transition, while at the same time <u>recognizes</u> the right of every participating State to choose the energy mix that best suits the structure of its economy and availability of natural resources;

- 30. <u>Underscores</u> the role of OSCE parliamentarians in monitoring the implementation of national commitments regarding reductions in GHG emissions, and in consulting and engaging with the private sector, Indigenous peoples and civil society organizations on clean-energy pathways;
- 31. <u>Encourages</u> the International Secretariat of the OSCE PA to organize regular opportunities for parliamentarians, government officials and members of civil society to engage together to share best practices and raise awareness of climate change as a multidimensional security challenge.

## COMBATING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN JOURNALISTS AND POLITICIANS

- 1. <u>Reiterating</u> the commitment of OSCE participating States to upholding the principles enshrined in the 1975 Helsinki Final Act, which include the peaceful settlement of disputes, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, equal rights and self-determination of peoples, co-operation among States and the fulfilment in good faith of obligations under international law,
- 2. <u>Deeply concerned</u> by the widespread and intensifying violence against women in journalism and politics – including physical, sexual, psychological, and economic violence – which endangers women, puts the well-being of our societies and democracies at risk, and threatens to undermine progress toward gender equality,
- <u>Recalling</u> OSCE Ministerial Council Decisions No. 14/04 (Sofia) on the Action Plan for the Promotion of Gender Equality, No. 15/05 (Ljubljana) and No. 7/14 (Basel) on Preventing and Combating Violence Against Women, No. 14/05 (Ljubljana) on Women in Conflict Prevention, Crisis Management, and Post-Conflict Rehabilitation, No. 3/18 (Milan) on the Safety of Journalists, and No. 4/18 (Milan) on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women,
- 4. <u>Referring</u> to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly's (OSCE PA's) Berlin Declaration (2018) and its Resolution on Preventing and Combating Gender-Based Violence,
- 5. <u>Guided by</u> the 2021 Annual Report of the OSCE PA Special Representative on Gender Issues entitled Violence Against Women Journalists and Politicians: A Growing Crisis,
- 6. <u>Endorsing</u> the UN Security Council resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security, as well as subsequent resolutions that comprise the Women, Peace and Security agenda, which call on UN Member States to ensure the full participation of women in all efforts for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security, and <u>recognizing</u> that the contribution of women journalists and politicians in post-conflict democratization processes is key to the success of the Women, Peace and Security agenda,
- 7. <u>Underscoring</u> that women and girls face disproportionate risks of online violence, especially severe types of harassment and sexualized online abuse, and that this form of violence is tied to larger social problems of sexism and misogyny,
- 8. <u>Recognizing</u> that the increasingly hostile political rhetoric directed toward journalists and media organizations across the OSCE region and the world, combined with the rise of social media and the challenges associated with working during the COVID-19 pandemic, have created unique pressure on women journalists,
- 9. <u>Welcoming</u> the work of the Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media in defending freedom of expression and advocating for the safety of

women journalists in the OSCE region, including through the Safety of Female Journalists Online project,

- 10. <u>Convinced</u> that society benefits from diverse and representative media and parliaments, which contribute to a healthy public discourse and social inclusion, to countering disinformation, and to the foundation of a strong democracy,
- 11. <u>Noting</u> that the underrepresentation of women in the political sphere is both caused and exacerbated by discrimination and gender-based violence, and that available data suggests that the vast majority of women parliamentarians experience such discrimination and violence from the moment they become candidates for political office,
- 12. <u>Highlighting</u> enhanced security measures and initiatives adopted in the Canadian Parliament in 2020 aimed at providing greater protection to parliamentarians at their homes and offices, including through the use of mobile alarms and a web monitoring service,
- 13. <u>Concerned</u> that some OSCE participating States have allowed and ignored discrimination, gender-based violence, misogyny and hostile working conditions toward women parliamentarians in their legislative assemblies,
- 14. <u>Acknowledging</u> that discrimination and violence against women are intensified in conflict situations, where women journalists and politicians are exposed to heightened risks of human rights violations,
- 15. <u>Emphasizing</u> that women journalists and politicians are targeted by multiple forms of violence because of intersecting identity factors such as ethnicity, race, religion, disability, sexual orientation, and gender identity and expression,
- 16. <u>Recognizing</u> that indigenous women, including indigenous journalists and politicians, experience disproportionate discrimination and violence, and <u>recalling</u> the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which stipulates that States shall take measures to ensure that indigenous women and children are fully protected against all forms of discrimination and violence,
- 17. <u>Noting</u> the lack of information, statistics and data analysis with respect to violence against women journalists and politicians in the OSCE region and the world,
- 18. <u>Bearing in mind</u> the significant impacts of gender-based violence on journalists and politicians, their families, and society as a whole, including on democratic processes,

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

19. <u>Urges</u> the OSCE and OSCE participating States to collect and publish disaggregated data on the prevalence of violence against women journalists and politicians in the OSCE region, and ensure that such data and the information it provides on the experiences of women with intersecting identity factors, informs any action taken to make certain that policies and legislation are effective, inclusive and evidence-based;

- 20. <u>Calls on</u> OSCE participating States to develop or review legislation to prohibit gender-based violence against women journalists and politicians, including violence occurring online;
- 21. <u>Recommends</u> that OSCE participating States review electoral legislation to ensure it is effectively addressing violence against women and its impact on the democratic process;
- 22. <u>Encourages</u> parliamentarians of OSCE participating States to demand that their parliaments review or strengthen parliamentary codes of conduct to ensure they are effective in responding to gender-based violence against parliamentarians;
- 23. <u>Calls on</u> the OSCE and OSCE participating States to adopt a gender-sensitive and intersectional approach in all actions to ensure the safety of journalists and politicians, including in conflict situations;
- 24. <u>Asks</u> all OSCE participating States that have not already done so to develop and implement National Action Plans on Women, Peace and Security, and to reflect in those plans the key role women journalists and politicians play in conflict prevention and resolution and in post-conflict democratization processes;
- 25. <u>Strongly recommends</u> that OSCE participating States provide funding to civil society organizations that support women's participation in public life, combat gender-based violence against journalists and politicians, and offer support services to women who have been affected by gender-based violence, including women journalists and politicians;
- 26. <u>Urges</u> the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media and the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights to denounce violence against women journalists and politicians, and to draw attention to cases in which women journalists and politicians are harassed, detained or imprisoned, including in conflict situations in the OSCE region;
- 27. <u>Demands</u> the OSCE and the OSCE PA create platforms for the exchange of best practices and discussions on how to address violence against women journalists and politicians;
- 28. <u>Tasks</u> the OSCE PA International Secretariat to provide training to election observers to detect and report acts of violence against women in politics.

# THE IMPORTANCE OF THE HUMAN DIMENSION IN THE CONTEXT OF CURRENT THREATS TO THE SECURITY IN THE OSCE AREA STEMMING FROM THE RUSSIAN AGGRESSION AGAINST UKRAINE

- 1. <u>Acknowledging</u> the particular role of the OSCE for comprehensive security in the region, including for respecting and promoting human rights and fundamental freedoms, and for protecting and developing democratic institutions,
- 2. <u>Recognizing further</u> the role of the OSCE Human Dimension for setting new standards to strengthen protection of human rights and democratic institutions in the region,
- 3. <u>Welcoming with appreciation</u> the role and activity of the OSCE autonomous Institutions and structures,
- 4. <u>Underlining</u> the importance of OSCE commitments, in particular those undertaken within the Human Dimension, that constitute firm political declarations of the participating States to fulfil, respect and promote human rights and fundamental freedoms,
- 5. <u>Stressing</u> the role of civil society and its valuable contribution to the promotion and protection of international human rights standards and OSCE commitments,
- 6. <u>Extremely concerned</u> by the tragic impact of the Russian aggression against Ukraine, including clear patterns of violations of international humanitarian law and human rights law committed by Russian forces in invaded Ukraine, as confirmed by the report of the OSCE Moscow Mechanism experts, and <u>deploring</u> the increasingly tragic human impact of said aggression,
- 7. <u>Expressing concern</u> that the Russian Federation's aggression against Ukraine, targeting civilian and non-military infrastructure, has led millions to flee their homes, 90 per cent of whom are women and children according to the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, creating a humanitarian and human-trafficking crisis, as refugees are particularly vulnerable to being targeted by human traffickers, not only as they flee but also through online offers of housing and employment,
- 8. <u>Condemning</u> savage attacks on civilians and civilian infrastructures, as well as sexual and gender-based violence, including rape and human trafficking,
- 9. <u>Also concerned</u> about the shrinking space for civil society and limitations of fundamental freedoms in some participating States, including in the context of the above-mentioned aggression,

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

10. <u>Condemns</u> in the strongest terms the Russian military aggression against Ukraine;

- 11. <u>Calls upon</u> all participating States, in particular those receiving large numbers of Ukrainian refugees, to make full use of ODIHR's updated handbook on National Referral Mechanisms and to continue to develop and support actions to raise awareness and protect Ukrainian refugees and internally displaced persons from falling prey to human traffickers;
- 12. <u>Calls on</u> relevant OSCE structures to collect evidence of possible war crimes, crimes against humanity, genocide, or violations of international human rights law in Ukraine for use in future legal proceedings;
- 13. <u>Calls for</u> further addressing during Human Dimension events, through meaningful and relevant discussions, the most topical humanitarian issues and human rights violations and abuses in the OSCE area, including in particular those stemming from the Russian aggression against Ukraine;
- 14. <u>Welcomes with appreciation</u> the activity of civil society, and <u>looks forward</u> to its further involvement in discussions during Human Dimension events;
- 15. <u>Reaffirms</u> its full support for the independent mandate of the OSCE autonomous Institutions;
- 16. <u>Recommits</u> to supporting all efforts aimed at the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms and the development of democratic institutions in the OSCE area.

### ENSURING THE SAFETY OF JOURNALISTS IN CONFLICT ZONES

- 1. <u>Recognizing</u> that journalists operating in conflict zones are afforded protection under international humanitarian law, including the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and their Additional Protocols, setting out rules to protect people who are not taking part in the fighting,
- 2. <u>Underscoring</u> the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court establishing that intentionally directing attacks against civilians, and therefore also against journalists who are not engaged in the hostilities, constitutes a war crime,
- 3. <u>Taking into account</u> UN Security Council Resolution 1738 (2006), calling for an end to intentional attacks against journalists in situations of armed conflict, and Resolution 2222 (2015), urging states to comply with the relevant obligations under international law to end impunity and to prosecute those responsible for serious violations of humanitarian law,
- 4. <u>Guided by</u> the work of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media through guidebooks on the safety of journalists and the joint statement in 2014 with the Rapporteurs of the UN, the Organization of American States, and the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, which reminded States of their obligations to improve international protection for journalists in conflict situations,
- 5. <u>Emphasizing</u> the importance of press coverage in conflict zones in collecting and sharing reliable information about the conflict, and <u>noting</u> that journalists have an important role in bringing attention to reports of war crimes and human rights violations,
- 6. <u>Recalling</u> the paramount importance of ensuring that journalists and media workers can work freely, independently and safely without hindrances, threats or violent reprisals,
- 7. <u>Expressing concern</u> at the continued threats and dangers faced by journalists operating in conflict zones, including reports of deliberate attacks, kidnapping and torture,
- 8. <u>Highlighting</u> that attacks against journalists not only impact individuals but deter and prevent journalists from exercising their right to seek and disseminate information and deprive the public of the right to know and to access information about conflict zones,
- 9. <u>Concerned</u> at the lack of accountability for many perpetrators of attacks on journalists, and <u>noting</u> that many attacks against journalists are not prosecuted under human rights law and international humanitarian law,
- 10. <u>Remembering</u> journalists killed during the conflict in Ukraine and across the OSCE region, and <u>paying tribute</u> to journalists continuing to operate in the country to ensure access to reliable and accurate information despite the threats and risks faced,

- 11. <u>Urges</u> OSCE participating States to ensure the safety of journalists in all conflict zones through respect for human rights law and international humanitarian law;
- 12. <u>Encourages</u> all OSCE participating States to join the 52 member countries of the Media Freedom Coalition by signing the Pledge on Media Freedom;
- 13. <u>Reiterates</u> that journalists covering armed conflicts have civilian status, as they are not participants in the conflicts they cover and, as such, are protected by the applicable guarantees under human rights law and international humanitarian law;
- 14. <u>Condemns</u> resolutely and unequivocally all violence against journalists operating in conflict zones, and <u>remembers</u> the 26 journalists reported by Reporters Without Borders to have been killed this year, including the seven who have lost their lives covering the Ukraine conflict;
- 15. <u>Calls on</u> OSCE participating States to ensure that perpetrators of attacks against journalists are held accountable in courts of law for their actions;
- 16. <u>Urges</u> the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media to monitor and report on the safety of journalists during the conflict in Ukraine;
- 17. <u>Calls for</u> open and committed dialogue among governments, non-state groups, journalists, and other interested parties in order to strengthen protections to promote the safety of, and respect for, those reporting on a conflict.