



Permanent Mission of Ukraine  
to the International Organizations in Vienna

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**Statement by the Delegation of Ukraine**  
**at the 2017 Annual Security Review Conference**

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**Special session: Special meeting of the Structured Dialogue**

**Mr. Chairperson,**

Ukraine welcomes the progress in the development of the «Structured Dialogue» on the current and future challenges and risks to security in the OSCE area to foster a greater understanding on these issues that could serve as a common solid basis for a way forward, which was launched by the OSCE Hamburg Ministerial Declaration of 2016. Through engagement into Dialogue we must duly reflect upon the content of the Hamburg Declaration, that is not limited to issues of political-military dimension.

We agree with the basic principles of the Dialogue formulated by the Chairmanships after consultations with the delegations. In particular, that it would be unproductive at the first stages of the Dialogue to prejudge the precise timelines and preliminary results of the current and upcoming discussions.

It is important to ensure that the Dialogue is based on the comprehensive concept of security as well as common understanding of the inviolability of the norms of international law and the basic principles of the OSCE. We must proceed from today`s realities, being aware of the deep crisis in the European security that emerged as a result of flagrant violation by one participating State of the OSCE fundamental norms and principles. At the same time, we must not allow for acceptance of the notion of so-called "new normality". Russia`s aggression against Ukraine, illegal occupation of the ARC and the city of Sevastopol and military intervention into Donbas undermined the very foundation of European security as a rules-based order and of the Helsinki Final Act and the Paris Charter.

While threat perceptions, military doctrines and force postures were already initially discussed in the Structured Dialogue, we need to continue progress, having in mind full adherence to existing OSCE principles and commitments. As our discussions on threat perceptions in the OSCE area showed, among numerous threats to security faced today and identified by the participating States, the most widely noted is a cluster of threats connected with the violation of the basic international norms and principles.

In this context there is a need for a thorough analysis and update of documents in the OSCE political-military dimension, in particular, the Framework for arms control, adopted in the Lisbon Document of 1996 as well as Vienna Document 2011 on CSBMs.

Among the areas which should be further explored in the Dialogue we note: military doctrines, new mechanisms for arms control, military activity and military force postures which cause concern, methods of hybrid warfare and ways of response, finding ways to restore confidence and risk reduction, tools for early warning, crisis management and conflict prevention, nonproliferation.

Speaking about *Threat Perceptions*, Ukrainian side identifies the following current major threats to the national security of the country:

- ***Violation of the sovereignty and territorial integrity.*** Temporary occupation by Russia of parts of Ukraine's territory, military aggression in certain areas of Donetsk and Luhansk Oblasts undermine political, economic and social stability in Ukraine, led to large-scale human life losses, hundreds of thousands IDPs and refugees, grave violations of human rights and basic freedoms in the occupied territories.

- ***Military presence of Russia in Crimea and in certain parts of Donbas region of Ukraine, build-up of military forces along the border of Ukraine.*** Building up military formations of RF on the temporarily occupied territory of Ukraine, provoking extremist and separatist activities in other regions of Ukraine, direct participation of Russia in the armed conflict in Donbas and military support to illegal armed formations create a real threat of escalating the armed conflict and make the task of its peaceful resolution even more complex. Russian military buildup and intensified militarization of the territories neighboring with Ukraine and along the Ukraine-Russia state border raise the level of military threat to Ukraine.

- ***Conduct of a hybrid war against Ukraine.*** Ukraine is targeted by Russia with use of political, economic, energy, information and military tools. Just as the OSCE has a comprehensive approach to security, Russia has proved its comprehensive approach to aggression. Threats to Ukraine are of existential nature. The strategic objective of the hybrid warfare is to block European and Euro-Atlantic integration of Ukraine, deplete its economic and military resources, destabilize political situation and subordinate Ukraine to the interests of the Russia's leadership, stimulate the fall of Ukrainian state.

- ***Lack of reliable external security safeguards.*** Ukraine is not a member of any international collective security organization and has to guarantee its national security and defense by its own means. International legal safeguards of security stipulated in the UN Charter, Helsinki Final Act and 1994 Budapest Memorandum have proved insufficient revealing the weaknesses of the international security mechanisms and institutions.

In conclusion, the Ukrainian delegation reiterates its readiness to actively engage in the Structured Dialogue and expresses support of respective efforts of the Austrian OSCE Chairmanship and the German Chair of the IWG.

**Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.**