



PERMANENT DELEGATION
OF NORWAY TO THE OSCE

STATEMENT ON THE SITUATION IN UKRAINE

As delivered by Ambassador Robert Kvile
to the Permanent Council,
Vienna, 30 January 2014

Thank you Mr Chairman,

Norway encourages the Chairman-in-Office to continue working with Kyiv to find ways in which our organization can help find a solution to the crisis in Ukraine. The OSCE is in our view well placed to play a constructive role in facilitating a dialogue between the government, the opposition and civil society.

Mr Chairman,

I am instructed to make also the following three brief points.

We would like to commend the Verkhovna Rada for repealing the clearly undemocratic legislation that was adopted on the 16th of January.

There are however still obstacles standing in the way of reconciliation and a peaceful solution to the crisis. Unfortunately, no consensus was reached yesterday when the amnesty law was adopted by the Verkhovna Rada. Norway strongly maintains that Ukraine needs solutions that all parties can support.

Mr Chairman,

My authorities are concerned by reports regarding missing persons and activists being arrested, also in hospitals. This is not acceptable and must be investigated. It is of paramount importance that all sides refrain from violence, and that freedom of expression and of peaceful assembly and association are respected.

Thank you Mr Chairman.