



**PERMANENT DELEGATION
OF NORWAY TO THE OSCE**

STATEMENT IN RESPONSE TO THE SITUATION IN UKRAINE

As delivered by Counsellor Hilde Austad
to the Permanent Council,
Vienna, 14 April 2014

Mr. Chairman,

Norway aligns itself with the EU statements concerning the activist and separatist group activities in Eastern Ukraine, the important role of the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission, the strong support for Ukraine's unity, sovereignty and territorial integrity and the call for the Russian Federation to withdraw its troops from Ukrainian territory and the Ukrainian border.

We deem the reports from the Special Monitoring Mission observers to be by far the most objective information available on the daily developments in their respective regions. In the current situation, objective information is crucial. Thus, we ask that the observers' reports are given as wide a distribution as possible.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman