



**PERMANENT DELEGATION
OF NORWAY TO THE OSCE**

**STATEMENT IN RESPONSE TO THE MINISTER OF
FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF MALTA**

As delivered by Ambassador Robert Kvile
to the Permanent Council
Vienna, 4 June 2015

Mr Chairman,

I aligned myself with the statement made by Latvia on behalf of the European Union. Allow me to add a few words in my national capacity – on migration.

Mr Chairman,

I have previously informed the Permanent Council that Norway supports a coordinated European response to migration. We will bear our share of the responsibility. A civilian Norwegian vessel is now on its way to the Mediterranean to take part in Operation Triton. This vessel will carry out border monitoring tasks for Frontex and contribute to saving lives at sea. It has significant capacities for search and rescue operations and can take on board more than 500 people. We expect the ship to be operational in a matter of days.

This contribution is part of our broad approach, which also includes humanitarian assistance, cooperation with civil society and combating trafficking in persons and organized crime.

Thank you, Mr Chairman.