



PERMANENT DELEGATION OF NORWAY TO THE OSCE

STATEMENT MADE BY NORWAY

As delivered by Senior Advisor Helene Sand Andresen
to the Annual Security Review Conference
Vienna, 24. June 2015

Mr Moderator

Norway aligned itself with the statement made by Latvia on behalf of the European Union. In my national capacity, I would like to add a few points.

Mr Moderator,

Friday last week the Norwegian Government presented a white paper to Parliament on global security challenges in our foreign policy. In this paper, the Government announced a more effective and more coherent effort to address global security challenges.

In presenting the white paper Foreign Minister Børge Brende said that Norway is facing growing and more complex security challenges, such as more frequent and more advanced cyber-attacks, an increased terror threat level, and criminal networks that are financing militias and terrorist groups. These challenges are occurring at the same time and they are occurring globally. Our response must also be global, using instruments from development policy, foreign policy, justice policy and defence policy, the Minister of Foreign Affairs added.

Mr Moderator,

The global security landscape has changed fundamentally in the past few years. To an increasing extent, we are seeing that non-traditional security threats and certain non-state actors are having an impact on the situation both at home and globally.

The Norwegian Government therefore attaches importance to using development policy instruments to promote stability and prevent radicalisation, violent extremism, organised crime, piracy, cyber threats and conflict.

As a practical – and tangible – contribution to our efforts to meet the global and transnational threats to our security, the Norwegian Government is launching two new development programmes: one to support efforts to combat serious and organised crime and one to combat and prevent violent extremism and terrorism. Both programmes will be established in 2016 and will, in due course, have a combined budget of 200 million Norwegian kroner annually – approximately 23 million Euros.

In his statement last Friday Foreign Minister Brende underscored that Norway's security is now more directly affected by developments in other countries and other parts of the world than it was in the past. Problems of governance and development in fragile states affected by violent conflict are increasingly becoming our own security concerns, he concluded.

Mr Moderator,

The Norwegian Government will base its enhanced effort on four main elements: knowledge and analysis, national-level coordination, broad international cooperation, and capacity building. Through international cooperation, Norway will help to make countries and organisations better equipped to prevent, respond to and combat global security challenges.

In order to develop the best possible analysis of key security challenges and their possible consequences, we need to take a coherent approach and we need to cooperate with a range of actors at both national and international level; regional organisations, the private sector, think-tanks and researchers.

We will help to build up regional capacity and develop global and regional networks for cooperation between customs, police and prosecuting authorities in a number of developing countries and regions, and we will increase our support to relevant organisations.

This kind of capacity and cooperation is crucial if states are to be able to investigate and prosecute serious and organised crime and other transnational threats and challenges.

Thank you, Mr Moderator.