



Permanent Mission of Ukraine
to the International
Organizations in Vienna

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF UKRAINE

As delivered by HE Mr Yuriy Vitrenko, Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the International Organizations in Vienna

1563rd meeting of the OSCE Permanent Council

Agenda Item 2, “Review of current Issues”
“Europe Day”
(7 May 2026)

Mr Chairperson,

Ukraine aligns itself with the statement delivered by the European Union. In addition I would like to add some remarks in my national capacity.

We are grateful to the EU delegation for bringing the upcoming Europe Day to the agenda of today’s Permanent Council meeting.

It is indeed a historic day, reminding us that the European project remains an ambitious and transformative force. It continues to inspire many countries in our part of the world in their commitment to the values of stability and dignity, human rights and freedom, the rule of law and democracy.

United by these very values, the Ukrainian people took to the streets in 2014 under EU flags during the Revolution of Dignity. They stood up to defend their future and their aspiration to live in a free, democratic, and united Europe.

Regrettably, these aspirations were perceived in Moscow as a threat. Fearing the sovereign choice of the Ukrainian people to align their future with a united Europe, the Russian Federation acted. It first attempted to annex Crimea, then occupied parts of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions, and ultimately launched a full-scale invasion of Ukraine.

As a result, this year Ukraine will once again mark Europe Day against the backdrop of an ongoing war of aggression waged by Russia. Nevertheless, despite all attempts by the aggressor state to undermine this course, Ukraine remains fully committed to European and Euro-Atlantic integration. We are resolute in our vision of a Europe that is whole, free, and at peace.

Let this day serve as a reminder that we must sustain our unity, our solidarity, and our determination to protect peace and security in the region, to bring an end to this war of aggression, and to strengthen our common home - Europe.

Thank you, Mr Chairperson.