

The OSCE Secretariat bears no responsibility for the content of this document and circulates it without altering its content. The distribution by OSCE Conference Services of this document is without prejudice to OSCE decisions, as set out in documents agreed by OSCE participating States.

FSC.DEL/149/26
27 March 2026

ENGLISH
Original: FRENCH

Delegation of Armenia

**STATEMENT BY
THE DELEGATION OF ARMENIA AT THE 1132nd MEETING OF THE
OSCE FORUM FOR SECURITY CO-OPERATION**

25 March 2026

Closing session

Madam Chairperson,

Allow me first of all to thank the Minister Delegate, Ms. Alice Rufo, for her closing remarks. We should like to express our gratitude to the French Chairmanship for its successful leadership of the Forum for Security Co-operation over the past trimester. Ambassador, we congratulate you and your excellent team for guiding our work during these difficult times and for facilitating substantive discussions on relevant politico-military issues.

The topics chosen for the Security Dialogues were particularly relevant in view of the security challenges and threats in the OSCE area.

We should like to highlight the Security Dialogue on women in the armed forces, which focused on challenges and opportunities and provided an occasion to reflect on the role of women in the armed forces, the challenges they face and the need to advance opportunities for their meaningful participation. We emphasized that the effective and full participation of women in the security and defence sector is not only a matter of equality but also a key factor in enhancing operational effectiveness, institutional resilience and comprehensive security and ensuring sustainable peace. We also drew attention to the importance of promoting gender equality and gender mainstreaming in the defence sector, in particular through women's participation in decision-making processes, democratic oversight of the armed forces and peacekeeping activities, as well as the need to ensure safe and inclusive working environments free from discrimination and harassment. In this spirit, we reaffirm our strong commitment to the women, peace and security agenda.

We should also like to highlight the joint meeting with the Permanent Council on the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security, the treatment of prisoners of war, and obligations and responsibilities, which provided an opportunity to reflect on the humanitarian and human rights implications of armed conflicts, as well as on the obligations arising from international humanitarian law and international human rights law. We emphasized that prisoners of war and civilian detainees must be treated humanely and protected from torture, ill-treatment and exposure to public curiosity, and that when criminal charges are brought, they must be afforded the guarantees of due process and a fair trial. We also emphasized that the detention of prisoners of war is not punitive in nature, that collective punishment is prohibited, and that prisoners of war must be released and repatriated without delay following the cessation

of active hostilities, while stressing the importance of addressing the issue of enforced disappearances and missing persons.

In conclusion, we should like to express our gratitude once again to the French Chairmanship. We look forward to working with the incoming Georgian Chairmanship.

Thank you.