



EUROPEAN UNION

**OSCE Forum for Security Co-operation N°1114
Vienna, 17 September 2025**

EU Opening Statement

1. Mister Chair, the European Union and its Member States would like to thank Mr Antti Häkkinen, Minister of Defence of Finland, for his opening remarks and congratulate Finland on assuming the FSC Chairpersonship. We look forward to working under your leadership with you and your team, as this Forum works on increasing military security and stability in Europe.
2. Rightly staying high on the agenda is Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine and its repercussions for European and global security. Russia's intensified attacks over the summer and earlier this month resulted in unprecedented high tolls in victims and human suffering, since the start of Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine. We call for accountability for all international crimes and human rights violations and abuses.
3. We remain steadfast in our commitment to a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in Ukraine, grounded in the principles of the UN Charter and international law. The EU also underlines its unwavering commitment to help Ukraine exercise its inherent right of self-defence against the Russian aggression and to build a peaceful, democratic and prosperous future. As in the past, it is still for Russia to show its willingness to achieve peace.
4. Focusing further on your envisaged programme, we find your proposed Security Dialogues particularly interesting. We also welcome your focus on the Women, Peace and Security agenda and the related Chair's Event on the 25th anniversary of the UN Security Council Resolution 1325 as we need to redouble our efforts on this matter.
5. Dear Ambassador, rest assured of our full support. We also remain grateful to Estonia which remains in the Troika while we welcome France joining it and thank Spain which is now leaving it.

Thank you.