



Rappresentanza Permanente d'Italia
OSCE

PROF. FRANCESCO CORVARO

**ITALY'S STATEMENT AT THE OSCE CHAIRPERSONSHIP'S HIGH-LEVEL CONFERENCE ON
CLIMATE CHANGE
"Strengthening Resilience through Innovation and Preparedness"**

CLOSING SESSION

Malta, 21 June 2024

Madam Chair,

Italy aligns with the statement of the European Union and would like to add some remarks in a national capacity.

We would like to sincerely thank Malta for organizing this High-Level Conference on Climate Change. It has been such an excellent opportunity to engage and advance our discussions on the security challenges posed by climate change. We would also like to commend the launch of the "Climate Diplomacy" initiative and express Italy's full support.

Italy is strongly convinced that the OSCE has an important role to play in promoting international cooperation and fostering dialogue among participating States on how to prevent, adapt to and mitigate the security risks of climate change. This is particularly evident for example in Ukraine – where Russia's war of aggression and the deliberate destruction of critical infrastructure aggravate the effects of environmental degradation and natural disasters linked to climate change.

By bringing together participating States from different regions but with similar challenges, as well as representatives from international organisations, national and local authorities, businesses, academia and civil society organisations, the OSCE can offer a significant contribution to strengthen security in our region and to tackle – in a

comprehensive manner - the economic, environmental and energy security consequences of climate change.

Multilateral efforts are the only way to effectively prevent and mitigate the risks posed by climate change. At the international level and in particular as current G7 Presidency, Italy is strongly committed to advancing international decarbonization efforts, promoting environmental sustainability and mitigating the unintended consequences of the energy transition on our economies and societies.

While avoiding duplication of efforts, the OSCE can build on its comprehensive approach to security and on its unparalleled institutional expertise on conflict prevention and management, in order to foster the cross-regional exchange of best practices and lessons learned among participating States and Partners for Cooperation, such as in the Mediterranean region. Italy proudly supports existing OSCE projects in this area and encourages the development of new initiatives tailored to the needs of different participating States and focused on bringing tangible and effective results. Enhanced participation of women and young people in climate action should be an area of particular focus.

In conclusion, allow me to thank the Maltese Chairpersonship once again for its vision and commitment to drive the work of the OSCE in the economic and environmental dimension forward. You can count on Italy's full support.

Thank you