



STATEMENT BY AMB. ANDREA CASCONE, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ITALY, AT THE 1525th MEETING OF THE OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL

Vienna, 19 June 2025

AoB ITEM: ON THE UKRAINE RECOVERY CONFERENCE 2025 TO BE HELD IN ROME ON JULY 10 AND 11

I am delivering this statement on behalf of Ukraine and my own country Italy.

The current global context remains volatile, marked by geopolitical tensions and Russia's full-scale war of aggression against Ukraine, which constitutes a manifest violation of the UN Charter and the Helsinki Final Act, and has caused catastrophic human suffering, massive infrastructure destruction and profound economic challenges. In this uncertain environment, international solidarity and steadfast support for Ukraine's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity within its internationally recognized borders are more vital than ever. Last year under the Italian Presidency, the G7 Leaders agreed on a 50 billion Euro Extraordinary Revenue Acceleration (ERA) Loan Initiative to support Ukraine's budgetary, military and reconstruction assistance. As stressed by the Foreign Ministers of Italy, France, Germany, Poland, Spain, United Kingdom and the EU High Representative in Rome on June 12:

"We remain firmly committed to supporting Ukraine's economic stability under its IMF program, ensuring it has sufficient fiscal assistance for 2026 and beyond, and its recovery and reconstruction, in close coordination with our international partners. Early recovery and reconstruction will help lay the foundation for a more prosperous Ukraine that is integrated into Europe. This presents an opportunity to embed

resilience, foster prosperity, and advance reforms toward Ukraine's integration into the European Union, with the ultimate goal of EU membership, adopting a "whole of society" approach and focusing on "building back better".

The support from the international community remains crucial as Ukraine continues to exercise its inherent right to self-defence in the face of the devastating impacts of Russia's unjustified and unjustifiable aggression. In this context, we welcome the efforts of the United States to foster negotiations toward achieving a just and lasting peace in accordance with international law, including the United Nations Charter. We appreciate Türkiye's role, being prepared to support any other relevant facilitation initiatives that can contribute to advancing towards a fair and lasting solution which must include and respect the fundamental principles of international law.

In the face of ongoing geopolitical upheaval and the unwavering resolve of the Ukrainian people, we will gather in Rome on 10 and 11 July 2025 for the Ukraine Recovery Conference (URC2025), a vital platform dedicated to Ukraine's resilient recovery and long-term reconstruction and modernization.

This year's conference continues the legacy of previous high-level gatherings, building on the success of the recent German edition and the landmark Lugano and London conferences, emphasizing our collective commitment to a comprehensive, just, and sustainable peace for Ukraine, rooted in international law and the principles of the UN Charter and the Helsinki Final Act.

This year conference will indeed uphold the Lugano principles and a whole of society approach, promoting meaningful participation from governments, international organizations, civil society, local authorities and the private sector. The conference will focus on four key thematic dimensions:

- i) The Business Dimension aims to mobilize and attract private investment, particularly in key sectors (including energy and transport infrastructure, housing, manufacturing, agribusiness), addressing concerns related to security, financing, insurance, incentives, regulation, and labour markets.
- ii) The Human Capital Dimension will emphasize social cohesion, inclusion, and the development of educational and professional skills, in particular for women and youth, as well as the reintegration of displaced persons, refugees, and veterans into civilian life.
- iii) The Local and Regional Dimension will highlight the critical role of municipalities and regional authorities in recovery, financial access, and capacity building.
- iv) The EU Dimension will advance Ukraine's reform and integration efforts, supporting the long-term goal of EU membership.

A dedicated Recovery Forum, including a Business Fair, will serve as an interactive platform for stakeholders—Ukrainian, Italian, and international—to exchange experiences, forge partnerships, and mobilize support for recovery projects.

The road to URC2025 has been marked by a series of preparatory events designed to build awareness, foster partnerships and ensure concrete outcomes. These include the Business Dimension event in Milan on March 5, aimed at mobilizing the private sector for reconstruction and sustainable economic development; the human capital event in Kyiv on April 2, focusing on the engagement of the civil society in the recovery of Ukraine; the EU-Ukraine Business Summit in Brussels on April 10 and 11, which showcased investment opportunities and EU support; the event in Verona on May 12 to ensure that the Local and Regional Dimension can make a central contribution to the reconstruction process.

Collectively, these initiatives aim to generate momentum and align efforts toward the overarching goals of URC2025.

In conclusion, we reiterate our strongest condemnation of the Russian war of aggression and once again demand Russia to immediately and unconditionally stop its war, and to completely withdraw all its forces and military equipment from the entire territory of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders.

Thank you.
