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**STATEMENT BY
MR. GIORGIO SILLI, UNDERSECRETARY OF STATE AT THE MINISTRY OF
FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION OF ITALY, AT
THE THIRTY-SECOND MEETING OF THE
OSCE MINISTERIAL COUNCIL**

Vienna, 4 December 2025

Madam Chairperson-in-Office,
Mr. Secretary General,
Heads of the autonomous institutions,
Esteemed colleagues,

I should like to begin by expressing my sincere gratitude to the Finnish Chairmanship for its work this year, in which we are celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Helsinki Final Act. The conference held in July of this year in Helsinki and the discussions among participating States provided an opportunity to strongly reaffirm the enduring validity of the principles agreed upon fifty years ago. These are the principles that must continue to guide us in building peace and security in Europe.

We have wholeheartedly supported the efforts of the Chairmanship-in-Office to initiate a constructive dialogue on how to modernize our Organization. We hope that this dialogue will continue and produce tangible results under the incoming Swiss Chairmanship. The OSCE must make every effort to respond effectively to the challenges of our time. The approval of the Unified Budget and the revision of the Scales of Contributions can no longer be postponed. We want a streamlined, efficient Organization that is capable of having a real impact in the most fragile contexts on our continent.

Madam Chairperson,

Almost four years of Russian aggression have caused severe suffering to the Ukrainian people, affecting in particular the most vulnerable groups – children, women and the elderly – and exacting a heavy toll in terms of casualties, destruction and trauma.

Italy will remain staunchly at the side of the Ukrainian people until a just peace is achieved, one based on full respect for Ukraine's sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity. With this in mind, we continue to support and contribute to international efforts to promote dialogue between the parties, in particular those of our US allies.

We also remain committed to ensuring that Ukraine can once again enjoy prospects for a full recovery and socio-economic reconstruction. The decision to host the Ukraine Recovery Conference 2025 in Rome last July is tangible proof of this.

Italy's backing of the OSCE Support Programme for Ukraine further confirms our commitment to Ukraine within the OSCE. I should also like to renew our call for the immediate and unconditional release of the three detained OSCE officials: Vadym Golda, Maxim Petrov and Dmytro Shabanov.

Madam Chairperson,

In an international landscape marked by tensions and conflicts, recourse to multilateral diplomacy must remain at the heart of our efforts. We welcome the ongoing reconciliation process between Armenia and Azerbaijan and remain committed to contributing to the establishment of a new phase of peace and development in the South Caucasus. The recent elections in the Republic of Moldova confirmed the strength of its democratic institutions, the resilience of the Moldovan people and their support for the country's European path, despite the attempts at external interference.

The instability in the Middle East reminds us that European security and Mediterranean security are inextricably linked. We are called upon to strengthen the fragile peace process that has begun in Gaza and to support efforts to build a new Middle East that is more prosperous, integrated and peaceful. We must also step up our efforts to implement the "Mediterranean chapter" of the Helsinki Final Act.

Despite the difficulties, including operational ones, caused by the prolonged absence of a Unified Budget, the OSCE remains an essential forum for seeking shared solutions to today's problems in the three security dimensions – politico-military, economic and environmental, and human – and for addressing multidimensional challenges, such as combating trafficking in human beings and protecting minors in armed conflicts.

In conclusion, on behalf of Italy, I should like to express my sincere best wishes for Switzerland's success in its Chairmanship in 2026. We listened with great interest to the priorities presented by Federal Councillor Cassis to the Permanent Council. We are confident that Switzerland will lead the Organization effectively and in a spirit of co-operation, promoting respect for the principles, dialogue and the strengthening of security throughout the OSCE area.

Thank you, Madam Chairperson.