



Delegation of Canada  
to the OSCE

Délégation du Canada  
auprès de l'OSCE

**JOINT STATEMENT  
IN RESPONSE TO THE REPORT BY  
THE HEAD OF THE OSCE MISSION IN KOSOVO  
DELIVERED BY AMBASSADOR JOCELYN KINNEAR**

**1372<sup>nd</sup> MEETING OF THE PERMANENT COUNCIL  
MAY 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

Mr. Chair,

I am making this statement in my national capacity and also on behalf of Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Norway, the Netherlands, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America.

Mr. Chair,

We are very pleased to welcome the Head of the OSCE Mission in Kosovo, Ambassador Michael Davenport, back to the Permanent Council. We recognize and value the outstanding work carried out by the OSCE Mission in Kosovo (OMiK) to support the country's authorities in strengthening their institutions.

We recall that the Mission is the largest OSCE Field Operation in the Balkans and plays an essential role in Kosovo. The Mission has continued to adapt its activities to Kosovo's evolving needs and to the challenge posed by the COVID-19 pandemic—which has demanded persistence and creativity in finding effective ways to implement the Mission's mandate. In particular, we applaud the ongoing work of the Mission on the ground via its five Regional Centers and presence in all 38 of Kosovo's municipalities, which are critical to the OSCE's early warning and conflict prevention function. We also strongly support OMiK's continued commitment to women's rights, women's empowerment and gender equality, and to mainstreaming these aspects throughout the Mission's work.

We are particularly appreciative of OMiK's tireless efforts to assist in searching for a pragmatic solution that would have enabled Kosovo citizens who were eligible to vote in Serbia's elections last month to do so from Kosovo as had been customary in previous elections.

We recognize that, as a matter of good governance within our organization, one of the best ways to understand the impact of the work of OSCE Field Operations is to hear directly from the partners and beneficiaries on the ground. Therefore, it is essential to have contact among participating States and stakeholders, partners, and interlocutors who are co-operating with the OSCE Mission in Kosovo. We welcome this practice and encourage it to be continued in the future.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.