



Permanent Mission
of the Republic of Poland
to the United Nations Office
and International Organizations
in Vienna

**Joint Statement of France, Germany and Poland
on the Report under the Moscow Mechanism
1535th Permanent Council
Vienna, 25 September 2025**

Ms./Mr. Chairperson,

While fully aligning with the joint statement delivered by the Ambassador of the Netherlands, I have the honour to deliver this joint statement on behalf of France, Germany and my own country, Poland.

An expert report on the treatment of Ukrainian prisoners of war by the Russian Federation was presented to the Permanent Council of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) today. This report is the result of the activation of the Moscow Mechanism by Germany, France, Poland and 38 other participating States on 24 July 2025 which tasked independent experts to investigate the treatment of Ukrainian POWs by the Russian Federation and to examine possible violations of OSCE commitments, international humanitarian law (IHL) and international human rights law (IHRL).

We are very grateful to Prof. Ascensio, Prof. Bílková and Prof. Klamberg, for their important report and for presenting it to us in person today. Unfortunately, the mission's findings confirmed our utmost cause for concern.

The experts found that Russia is widely and systematically violating international humanitarian and international human rights law in its treatment of Ukrainian prisoners of war. including with arbitrary killings, torture, ill-treatment, denial of fair trial rights, and unsafe detention and transfer conditions.

These conclusions conform with those already established by several other reports, including by the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and the International Independent Commission of Inquiry on Ukraine.

Members of the Weimar Triangle, our countries unequivocally condemn these practices and call on Russia to cease them immediately. As pointed out by the independent experts, under international law, the Russian Federation must prevent, stop and remedy violations committed

by its Armed Forces, state organs, and entities under its control. We also join the independent experts in calling on Russia to immediately recognize Ukrainian detainees as POWs, cease arbitrary executions and all forms of torture or ill-treatment directed against Ukrainian POWs, ensure humane detention conditions for them, and grant the ICRC full and unfettered access to all detention facilities.

We recall that the OSCE participating States have committed to respect international humanitarian law, in particular the obligations under the Third Geneva Convention relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War, and recall that the prohibition of torture under international law is absolute.

We share the assessment of the experts that there is an urgent need for accountability, reparations and continued international monitoring to ensure respect for the rights of Ukrainian POWs and respect for international law.

We solemnly reaffirm our determination to fight against impunity. We will continue to stand with Ukraine and the Ukrainian people and support the indispensable work of international justice. Those responsible for crimes committed in Ukraine must be held accountable.