

Statement by Ambassador Paul Teesalu
Permanent Representative of the Republic of Estonia to the OPCW
at the 109th session of the Executive Council of the OPCW - Agenda subitem 6 (e)
10th July 2025

Mr. Chairperson,

Estonia fully aligns itself with the statement of the European Union. I would like to add some remarks in my national capacity.

Estonia strongly supports the sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders. We urge Russia to immediately and completely withdraw its forces from the entirety of Ukraine.

For almost three and half years Russia has been waging the most brutal war in Europe since World War II. In this context, with grave concern, I refer to the recent OPCW Technical Secretariat's *Report of the Technical Assistance Visit on the Activities Carried Out in Support of a Request by Ukraine*, that is already third such report. This report once again confirms that riot control agent CS has been used against Ukraine. The information recently published by the Netherlands and Germany is even more bleak and speaks of an escalating pattern of use of forbidden chemicals by Russia on the frontlines against the Ukrainian troops.

The use of riot control agents as a means of warfare constitutes a blatant violation of the Chemical Weapons Convention. The re-emergence of chemical weapons use poses a significant threat to international peace and security. This dangerous practice should have remained in the dustbin of history.

Estonia calls for the strong enforcement of the Chemical Weapons Convention to address the re-emergence of chemical weapons and ensure accountability for their use. We also call for a timely attribution of the proven use of riot control agents as a method of warfare. Their use must be investigated and impunity for their use must not and will not be tolerated.

Thank you.