



**Statement by North Macedonia  
Permanent Representative**

111 Executive Council of the OPCW - The Hague, 10-13 March 2026  
Agenda item 5 - General debate

*Mr. Chairperson, Mr. Director-General, Distinguished delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,*

North Macedonia aligns itself with the statements delivered by the European Union. On this occasion, I would like to highlight the following points in my national capacity:

Allow me to first express sincere gratitude to H.E Ambassador Thomas Schieb for his skillful chairmanship of the Executive Council in the past year.

We also extend the appreciation and reiterate our full support to the Director General, Ambassador Fernando Arias and also to the Technical Secretariat for their professionalism, impartiality and expertise in implementing the Chemical Weapons Convention.

We once again condemn unprovoked and unjustified Russian aggression over Ukraine and join the others in calls to Russian Federation to withdraw and end military activities. This war of aggression constitutes flagrant violation of the UN Charter obligations and OSCE principles and commitments.

North Macedonia also joins the EU in reiterating the call for a full, transparent, and independent investigation into the death of Mr. Alexei Navalny, following

his poisoning with a nerve agent of the "Novichok" group. Impunity for the use of chemical weapons cannot and must not be tolerated.

Thank you for your attention.

I would kindly ask you to consider this statement as an official document of the 111 Executive Council and post it on the OPCW external server and public website.