

## STATEMENT

of the President of Ukraine, L.D.Kuchma  
at the meeting of the leaders and representatives of States  
participating in the Conference on Security and  
Cooperation in Europe

Budapest, December 5, 1994

Mr.Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Allow me at the onset to join in the words of acknowledgment, which have already sounded in this auditorium, for the important contribution made in the course of this difficult year by representatives of Italy towards the practical incorporation of Helsinki principles into the life of the new Europe.

In the coming year, the CSCE is going to be chaired by Hungary, a neighbor of Ukraine, with whom we are developing friendly multilateral relations, a fact I would like to underscore with particular pleasure. Let me express my assurance that our Hungarian friends will direct and control the Helsinki process of ensuring security and stability in Europe just as effectively and decisively as our Italian colleagues had done.

I would like to thank our hosts for their hospitality and excellent organization of the Summit.

Mr.Chairman,

In a little over two years since the last high-level meeting in Helsinki, we have all become witnesses not only to cardinal geopolitical changes to the map of Europe, but also to serious qualitative changes in the character of international relations. A new step has been taken on the way to implementing the ideals which had been shaped by the CSCE founders more than two decades ago, and a lot of new sharp contradictions, flash points and even large tension zones have appeared.

Nevertheless, the CSCE, particularly in the past few years, has proven its ability to influence the development and stabilization of the political situation on the continent, the reduction of armed forces and weapons, and to make a substantial contribution towards seeking the ways of elimination of conflicts, facilitate the convergence of values, cultures, and remove artificial barriers. At the same time, the years

that have passed since the Paris meeting, allow us to finally get rid of all illusions and make us realize that the path toward a new Europe is much more complex, and riddled with many more problems than we initially expected. If we are to stand by the high ideals declared in the Paris Charter, then it is precisely now that we have the opportunity to clearly realize the following: the only condition for the success in our endeavours is above all a real political will of our states to cooperate in a truly combined effort.

CSCE is an institution of prime importance among those in bigger Europe whose aim is to protect European security. We believe that the CSCE is to play an important and unique role in overcoming the consequences of the past division of Europe into opposing blocks. The CSCE is to become a mechanism for overcoming the syndrome of national egoism, and for the development of a practical implementation of collective approaches to problems of security and cooperation.

Ukraine welcomed the process begun two years ago in Helsinki of a gradual consolidation of the organs and structures of the Conference and its establishment as an international organization. However, this does not exclude further development and improvement of CSCE mechanisms, in preventing potential and combating existing conflict situations.

In connection with this, I would like to particularly emphasize preventive diplomacy as an important aspect of CSCE activity. We think, that preventive diplomacy should include the following:

First and foremost, facilities and technologies for early diagnostics of explosion threatening situations and conflicts. Early stages of political diseases are easier to treat. For that of CSCE member-states require mighty specialised coordinated analytical centres, and respective international institutions. In this case we shall learn how to forecast the most horrible first blood phase in conflicts, after which the conflicts become unforecasted and uncontrolled.

I would like to take this opportunity, speaking from this important podium, to express my gratitude for the principal position of the CSCE on the Crimean situation regarding the territorial integrity and inviolability of our country's borders, and again to underscore our willingness to cooperate in a constructive manner with the recently inaugurated CSCE mission in Ukraine.

Mr. Chairman,

While focusing on the positive aspects of the activity in the framework on general European processes, I cannot be silent about the tragic events in a series of conflicting regions of CSCE. It would certainly be simplistic to seek the reasons for the continuation of local wars in the inadequacy of the mechanisms of CSCE alone. The unfortunate reality is that none of the existing international security structures was able to resolve the conflicts in former Yugoslavia, Georgia, Nagorno-Karabakh, or the Transdniestrian region of Moldova.

Along with this we are deeply convinced that the effective ensurance of peace, as well as the general strengthening of security and stability, will be possible only through the coordination of CSCE efforts with the efforts, experience, and potential of authoritative European structures, particularly the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, the European Union, Western European Union, and the Council of Europe.

It is essential to mention that not all current European problems find an adequate response on the part of the CSCE. On the first hand, this regards the economic aspect of the CSCE. The Newly Independent States, with economies in transition, feel a great need for a coordinated effort of all member states, in overcoming the economic crisis. It is essential to realize that we are not speaking about humanitarian assistance, but about the resolution of our general problem. I am convinced that a healthy, growing economy is the basis for both national and global stability and security.

All this has a direct relation to Ukraine, which, being in the difficult position of a systemic economic crisis, the grievous consequences of the Chornobyl catastrophe, and carrying the basic burden of expenses for nuclear disarmament, has undertaken radical reform, finding no other alternative. We believe that our problems deserve attention from all of Europe, insofar as our general security depends on the stability and security of each particular country. In my view, this is the basis of the philosophical concept of the indivisibility of security.

Mr. Chairman,

Once again underscoring Ukraine's commitment to ensuring European and global security, I must mention an event which will take place in this building at a later time.

I see a profound symbolic meaning in the fact that this event will take place during the course of the CSCE summit. What I have in mind is Ukraine's accession to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty is a truly historic event, which confirms the peace-loving, open orientation of

our policy, and eliminates any doubts, a country with the world's third largest nuclear potential on its territory, has voluntarily abrogated its nuclear status, and acceded to the Nonproliferation Treaty. I would like to point out that the accession to this Treaty was made possible thanks to the understanding of our unique situation by the depository states, connected with the need to guarantee Ukraine's security. We are also glad to inform the honourable audience, that December 4, the government of China declared their assurances of security to Ukraine. This problem has initiated a lot of fantasies and falsifications. But we do not want and do not demand assurances which do not correspond to international law, rules of cooperation and partnership. Then good will of the CSCE member-states, promoting painless denuclearization of Ukraine is not only a gesture of kindness. It is a chance to influence future behaviour of other countries to make similar choice. Today we have signed a relevant document, the Memorandum on Security Guarantees for Ukraine in connection with its accession to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. In this way a significant step will be taken towards consolidating the denuclearization process. We now have the right to expect the nuclear states, in particular the participants of the January 14 Trilateral Agreement, speed up the delivery of technical and other assistance to Ukraine, linked to the process of its nuclear disarmament in accordance with the responsibility taken upon ourselves.

During our meeting we will also approve important documents pertaining to weapons control, building trust and security. The new, revised Vienna document will ensure the further development of operations in the sphere of building trust and security, which already recommended themselves highly, and will allow for a new level of stability and openness on the European continent. An important development will be the implementation of new global procedures of military information exchange, unprecedented in terms of its extent.

Mr. Chairman,

In the forthcoming year, we will celebrate the twentieth anniversary of the signing of the Helsinki Final Act. This is a significant watershed, which carries with it much responsibility. During the course of the past two decades, the principles of the Helsinki process have not lost their actuality, but, to the contrary, have maintained their appropriateness and relevance. To conclude, I would like to express my hope that as an outcome of the Budapest meeting we will confirm our commitment to the corner-stone principles of CSCE, which constitute it as a "community of values", and that we will find realistic answers to the problems we are facing.

Thank you.