

**Extraordinary meeting Standing Committee, Friday 11 March 2022,
14.00**

**Statement by Andreas Aebi, Head of the Swiss Delegation to the
OSCE PA**

The situation in Ukraine continues to deteriorate dramatically. Ukrainian cities are under siege. They are facing repeated and brutal attacks. Civilians are being targeted. In Mariupol, even a children's hospital has been bombed.

Countries close to Russia are also expressing their worry that this war will spread to their territory. Our entire OSCE-area is destabilised.

We, parliamentarians, cannot remain powerless towards the horror of this situation. We helped to establish the International public law, the Humanitarian law and Human Rights. We worked to establish a security architecture that would guarantee peace to our people.

War was unimaginable for many of us until two weeks ago. Today, our decades of effort are scorned. But they are not undermined. We still have the power to influence our governments to continue to mobilize. This is what we are doing, and that is what we will continue to do.

Today I would like us all to put ourselves at the disposal of our OSCE parliamentary assembly, so that dialogue can quickly replace brutality and violence.

The Swiss Delegation is ready to support those in need.

Thank you for your attention.