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**STATEMENT BY  
MR. MAXIM BUYAKEVICH, DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF  
THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, AT THE 1511th MEETING OF THE  
OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

6 March 2025

**On the increasing military involvement of certain NATO and EU member States in  
further confrontation in and around Ukraine**

Mr. Chairperson,

Once again, we stress the lack of a reaction on the part of the Finnish Chairmanship to the confirmed instances of crimes committed by the Kyiv regime's armed formations against the civilian population in Russian regions, which have been made public by the Russian Federation. Last week alone, shelling by the Ukrainian armed forces resulted in no fewer than 66 civilian casualties, with 11 killed and 55 injured, including two children. All of these people are protected under international humanitarian law. However, Finland, in solidarity with the criminal Kyiv regime, prefers to keep silent about crimes against Russians. This approach is bringing the institution of the OSCE Chairmanship into disrepute.

We also note, Mr. Chairperson, your public relaying of the Kyiv regime's hackneyed propaganda, which was rejected by the International Court of Justice more than a year ago in its judgment of 31 January 2024. At the previous meeting, when we read out excerpts from the judgment, the Permanent Council was able to see for itself once again that the Court had found untenable and unsubstantiated the allegations that Russia was implementing some sort of policy involving the "erasure of cultural identity" and other oppression on ethnic and national grounds.

In that regard, it is worth noting the much more thoughtful and realistic assessments of what is going on that have been heard from the United States of America in recent weeks. For example, that Volodymyr Zelenskyy has lost touch with reality and has trampled on democratic process in Ukraine (US President Donald Trump); that those in power in Kyiv are violating political and religious freedoms, suppressing political opposition and completely controlling the media (US Director of National Intelligence Tulsi Gabbard); that the head of the Kyiv regime is obstructing current efforts to organize a political and diplomatic settlement of the conflict, that most of Ukraine's European sponsors have no plan at all for ending the confrontation around Ukraine, and that the conflict itself is a proxy war with Russia (US Secretary of State Marco Rubio); and finally, that Mr. Zelenskyy does not show his sponsors the proper respect (Vice President J. D. Vance).

However, back in September 2023, Mykhailo Podolyak, adviser to the head of Mr. Zelenskyy's office, dismissed such reasoning as "Russian propaganda": at that time, he said that Russia's goal was to "create a collective image of Ukrainians as ungrateful, boorish, thieving, infantile and criminal individuals". It should be noted that this is precisely the image of Ukrainians that is being created by the Kyiv regime's representatives themselves, without any interference from Russia.

Against this backdrop, we note the anxious attempts by the United Kingdom and a number of European NATO countries to salvage the "Ukraine project", which has been financed by them, among others, and which is led by the power-usurping Mr. Zelenskyy. Their statements, including those made at the summit in London on 2 March, show that certain Western elites and corporations intend not only to maintain tensions and prolong the conflict, which is a hopeless one for the Kyiv regime, but also to give the conflict fresh impetus and scale it up further.

There are calls for temporary ceasefires and for the military "beefing up" of Ukraine to be stepped up through the provision of loans to Ukraine, which future generations will be asked to pay back (if there are any left following the war "down to the last Ukrainian" being waged against Russia by the regime's sponsors). There is growing speculation about the deployment of troops from European NATO countries in the framework of some kind of "coalition of the willing", while ideas are being mooted to provide "cover" for these military personnel by invoking Article 5 of the Washington Treaty. It is important to note that all of these escalating rhetorical manoeuvres are explicitly aimed at increasing the risk of clashes with Russian troops. This playing with fire could lead to tragic consequences for the entire continent.

At the same time, Ukraine's warmongering sponsors do not care about the deplorable situation of the Ukrainian armed forces along the line of engagement, the shortage of manpower or the problems with the manning of military formations.

According to the Russian Ministry of Defence, despite the launch of the so-called voluntary military service model in the Ukrainian armed forces for young men aged 18–24, the Kyiv regime has so far failed to recruit even a couple of thousand such "volunteers". The ballpark figures related to the forced mobilization are also telling: having lost 38,920 personnel in February, Mr. Zelenskyy's formations managed to "busify" (that is, capture in the streets and forcibly mobilize) only about 28,000 people in the same month. According to the Kyiv regime's own data (from the Unified State Register of Conscripts, Persons Liable for Military Service and Reservists of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine), more than 1.5 million persons with limited fitness for military service did not show up for the medical examination.

It is not surprising that, in view of the painful setbacks on the battlefield, Mr. Zelenskyy, whose regime is in its death throes, is hastily "shuffling the cards": for example, he recently dismissed Major General Andrii Hnatov from his post as Commander of the Joint Forces of the Armed Forces of Ukraine.

For many ordinary citizens of Western countries, the military hostilities are finally ceasing to be a "reality show" on their television screens. The actors, their true roles, the techniques used to brainwash the general public and the manipulated information itself are being exposed for what they are.

Here are some recent examples. Information has made its way into some Western media outlets about the High Court in Prague (an appellate court) increasing by one year (from seven to eight years) the prison sentence of Czech mercenary Filip Siman, who had been fighting since the spring of 2022 on the side of the Ukrainian neo-Nazi battalion Carpathian Sich. During the investigation and in court, he testified how he witnessed and was complicit in a number of crimes by Ukrainian neo-Nazi detachments in the cities of

Bucha and Irpin and the town of Hostomel in the Kyiv region, immediately after the Russian military withdrew from there. As he himself put it – together with the other fighters they “were the police ... the court ... [and] the execution squad, if it came to that”. The crimes by Ukrainian militants he testified about included extrajudicial killings of civilians in Bucha, sexual violence and looting. According to this mercenary, he came to Ukraine as a result of recruitment activities carried out by the Ukrainian embassy in Prague. He was drilled in a training camp, after which he was sent off to commit crimes in the Kyiv region.

It is noteworthy that, to this day, almost three years after the unsubstantiated accusations against Russian military personnel with regard to “atrocities in Bucha”, the Kyiv regime has still not provided a list of the alleged victims – such a list would help to establish the true fate of the persons whose corpses “suddenly appeared” three days after Russian troops left Bucha. This would have been extremely useful following the frank confession by the Czech Filip Siman to the crimes committed in Bucha.

Today, some of our opponents recalled the work of the former OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine (SMM). In a recent interview with Hellas Journal, the former Ambassador of Greece to Ukraine, Vasilios Bornovas, confirmed that SMM monitors secretly passed on the findings of the monitoring of the situation in the People’s Republics of Donetsk and Lugansk to the Ukrainian intelligence services, whereupon the positions of local military personnel would be “immediately shelled from the Ukrainian side”, indicating that the monitors’ reports were first transmitted to the Ukrainian intelligence services.

At the same time, our country’s representatives have repeatedly drawn attention to the fact that the Mission’s leadership and the OSCE Secretariat categorically objected to the provision of the monitors’ raw reports to the participating States. The sharing of these reports with all participating States, not just with the Kyiv regime’s intelligence services, could not only have contributed to de-escalation, but could also have demonstrated exactly which parts of the patrols’ observations got “lost” in the process of compiling the SMM’s daily and weekly reports. The fact that censorship was practised to accommodate the Kyiv regime has been confirmed many times.

The leadership of our Organization is also trying to hush up the statements by Vasilios Bornovas, a high-ranking representative of an EU Member State, as well as the confirmed facts cited previously by Russian diplomats about the SMM’s failure to fulfil its mandate in good faith. All this is being done instead of investigating the unpleasant facts that are tarnishing the reputation of the entire OSCE. Or instead of explaining, finally, how SMM assets ended up in the hands of the Kyiv regime’s neo-Nazi paramilitary units as early as February 2022, and why they were used in street fighting and as tools for committing crimes against civilians (see, for example, Russia’s statements at the Permanent Council contained in documents PC.DEL/83/23 of 26 January 2023, PC.DEL/1220/23 of 21 September 2023, PC.DEL/915/24 of 18 July 2024 and others). We demand that the aforementioned facts be duly investigated and receive a proper assessment.

Every day there is growing evidence of the terrorist nature of the Zelenskyy regime. The Russian Federal Security Service thwarted the assassination of Metropolitan Tikhon (Shevkunov) of Simferopol and Crimea, which was being planned by his assistant Denis Popovich and cleric Nikita Ivankovich. These two individuals, who were close to the Metropolitan, had been recruited by the Kyiv regime’s intelligence services and, as instructed, were going to plant explosives in the Sretensky Monastery in Moscow, which they had obtained through a cache. Let that sink in: the Kyiv regime’s intelligence services were planning to carry out a terrorist attack in a crowded place of worship in the centre of Moscow. According to the testimony of the detainees, they had been preparing to commit the crime since the middle of 2024, having been in constant contact with handlers from Kyrylo Budanov’s intelligence services.

We should like to add that, in 2024, more than half of the crimes of a terrorist nature in Russia were planned and organized by the Kyiv regime's intelligence services and their handlers.

Are the aforementioned facts, for which there is legal proof, a cause of concern for the representatives of Western countries? Or have they prompted any public comments by the Finnish Chairmanship, its relevant Special Representatives or at least by someone from the leadership of the OSCE's relevant bodies? Or are they in the focus of the long-discredited extrabudgetary "Support Programme for Ukraine", which unashamedly claims to promote "democratization and the rule of law" in Ukraine?

Let us conclude by emphasizing the main point. The "empire of lies" that the West has built over the past few years and even decades will undoubtedly collapse under the weight of reality-based evidence – just like the terrorist neo-Nazi regime in Ukraine that it has nurtured.

Our country is ready for constructive co-operation with those responsible members of the Western elite who genuinely want to de-escalate and stabilize the security situation on the European continent and in the world. With those who are ready to work substantively on all proposals the true goal of which is a long-term and sustainable settlement of the Ukrainian conflict, taking into account our country's legitimate security interests. As long as this approach is not met with due understanding, the special operation will be continued by military means until all the tasks set have been accomplished.

Thank you for your attention.