

Chairmanship: Poland

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE PERMANENT COUNCIL
(1368th Plenary Meeting)**

1. Date: Monday, 11 April 2022 (in the Neuer Saal and via video teleconference)

Opened: 3 p.m.

Closed: 4.20 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador M. Czapliński

Chairperson, Russian Federation (Annex 1)

3. Subjects discussed – Statements – Decisions/documents adopted:

Agenda item 1: THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION'S ONGOING AGGRESSION AGAINST UKRAINE: THE ATTACK IN KRAMATORSK OF 8 APRIL 2022

Chairperson, Ukraine (Annex 2), United Kingdom (Annex 3), United States of America (Annex 4), France-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, Montenegro and North Macedonia; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland and Liechtenstein, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Andorra, Georgia, Moldova, Monaco, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (Annex 5), Switzerland (PC.DEL/556/22 OSCE+), Georgia (Annex 6), Turkey (Annex 7), Canada (Annex 8), Norway (Annex 9), Latvia (Annex 10), OSCE Parliamentary Assembly (PC.GAL/19/22 OSCE+)

Agenda item 2: REVIEW OF CURRENT ISSUES

Another war crime by the Ukrainian armed formations in Kramatorsk on 8 April 2022: Russian Federation (Annex 11)

Agenda item 3: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

4. Next meeting:

To be announced



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Permanent Council**

PC.JOUR/1368

11 April 2022

Annex 1

ENGLISH

Original: RUSSIAN

1368th Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 1368, Point 2

**STATEMENT BY
THE DELEGATION OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

Mr. Chairperson,

We once again reiterate our rejection of the first agenda item of today's special meeting of the Permanent Council announced by the Chairmanship. The Russian side cannot accept the latest attempt to unilaterally entrench the proposed topic, which is of an overtly confrontational nature, and it considers such steps by the Chairmanship to be contrary to the provisions of the Rules of Procedure of the OSCE (paragraphs IV.1(C)1 and IV.1(C)3) and the guidelines for the activities of the Chairmanship-in-Office approved by the Ministerial Council in Porto in 2002 (in particular paragraph 2(b)).

We urge the Polish Chairmanship to adhere strictly to the procedures agreed upon by all the participating States, to stop interpreting these at will, and to provide equitable and non-discriminatory opportunities for discussions at the Permanent Council.

We request that this statement be attached to the journal of today's special meeting of the OSCE Permanent Council.

Thank you for your attention.



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Permanent Council**

PC.JOUR/1368
11 April 2022
Annex 2

Original: ENGLISH

1368th Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 1368, Agenda item 1

**STATEMENT BY
THE DELEGATION OF UKRAINE**

Mr. Chairperson,

Regrettably, every such special meeting of the Permanent Council means more innocent lives lost, more destruction, and new war crimes and crimes against humanity committed by the Russian criminals.

And it is unacceptable that at every such meeting we have to listen to ruthless and dishonest lies aimed at whitewashing Russian war criminals.

This time the brutality and inhumanity of the attack that is the reason for today's meeting is unprecedented.

On 8 April, a Russian missile attack on Kramatorsk railway station left 59 people dead, including five children, and 109 wounded.

At the time of the attack, almost four thousand civilians, mostly children and women, were at the station waiting for evacuation in order to escape anticipated Russian atrocities.

The Russians knew very well that the train station in Kramatorsk was full of civilians waiting to be evacuated.

This evacuation had been announced in advance because Russia had been concentrating its forces for a new bloody attack in the region.

And yet they targeted the station with a ballistic missile. This was deliberate slaughter.

Let me quote President Zelenskyy: "Like the massacre in Bucha, like many other Russian war crimes, the missile strike on Kramatorsk must be one of the charges at the tribunal, which is bound to happen. All the efforts of the world will be aimed to establish every minute: who did what, who gave orders. Where did the rocket come from, who was carrying it, who gave the order and how the strike was co-ordinated. Responsibility is inevitable." End of quote.

There is also a tragic irony in what is currently evolving in Kramatorsk before our eyes.

Kramatorsk is one of the cities of Donetsk region where Russia's aggression started in 2014.

Precisely, eight years ago, on 12 April 2014, the city was occupied by Russia. Kramatorsk lived under the occupation until July 2014.

At that time there were also numerous cases of kidnapping and torturing of civilians as well as of intimidation and harassment.

Let me give an example.

“With the intensification of violence, other residents of the region have started leaving their homes ... particularly in the areas of Slovyansk and Kramatorsk. Many remain within the eastern regions in rural areas, as IDPs have been reporting harassment at checkpoints if they were perceived to be leaving the region to seek protection.”

This is a quotation from the report on the human rights situation in Ukraine issued by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in June 2014.

As far back as 2014, the Russian so-called “army” wanted to keep civilians as hostages.

The Russians want to keep as many civilians on the spot as possible as their attack is anticipated to happen in the coming days.

They continue fighting against civilians. They continue manipulating humanitarian corridors. And they continue the forced transfer of civilians from the occupied territories to Russia. Nothing has changed.

Distinguished colleagues,

Let me also say a few words about Russia's propaganda.

Pro-Kremlin bloggers posted footage of what they said was Russia's attack on Kramatorsk and a gathering of the Ukrainian armed forces.

However, just as with the Malaysia Airlines Flight 17, once the civilian death toll became clear, Russia's State propagandists started to shift responsibility for the attack onto Ukraine.

Not surprisingly.

These false narratives, which I believe Russian diplomats are going to repeat today, are beneath criticism.

The Russia's Ministry of Defence spokesperson claims that they do not use the kind of missile that hit Kramatorsk. However, even TV archives show he is a liar.

"Tochka-U" was fired in February 2022 during the Russian-Belarusian bilateral military exercise "Allied Resolve-2022".

Furthermore, the use of these missiles by the Russian military was already recorded earlier near the city of Sumy.

It may be the case that while Russian diplomats are spreading lies in this hall, they are perhaps being treated in the same way by Russian military officials and by their own president.

If this is so, we stand ready to share relevant evidence and objective information with the Russian diplomats.

And what happened in Kramatorsk seems to be a part of Russia's military tactics.

As a new attack is under preparation, Moscow has decided to destroy the railway connection between the Donetsk region and the rest of Ukraine.

Days before the Kramatorsk attack, the Russian Defence Ministry reported on a number of railway stations in the Donetsk region being targeted by Russia's troops.

Even last night another railway station was reportedly under fire.

Distinguished colleagues,

As Kremlin's "blitzkrieg" in Ukraine is proving to be a complete failure, the hysteria and repression in Russia itself is gaining new momentum.

A few days ago, a peaceful protester was fined merely for holding a piece of paper with a quotation in his hands.

Let me quote it. "The war brought upon us so many unbearable ordeals, grief and tears that it is impossible to forget. Those who are plotting new aggressions cannot be forgiven or justified."

This fear of public awareness about Russia's war against Ukraine and the terror unleashed on any dissenting voice are a reflection of the Kremlin's paranoia.

Because this man was merely quoting something Putin said almost a year ago on the occasion of Victory Day.

But in the current context, this quoting of words of the Russian President is considered as discrediting the Russian army.

Partly, it is true. Because it is Putin who bears primarily responsibility for the moral degradation of the Russian soldiers and for the war crimes they are committing in Ukraine.

And also for their significant losses in Ukraine, which were recently admitted by his personal spokesperson.

However, among other things, Peskov also confessed that Russia “started to prepare for sanctions a year ago”. In other words, it was preparing for the present ongoing war.

So it is now high time for Russian diplomats to confess that they were lying when they claimed that Russia was not going to attack Ukraine and to stop whitewashing Russia’s war crimes.

Russian diplomats must stop using the OSCE as a platform for the dissemination of propaganda and disinformation.

They discredit the OSCE as an organization.

To conclude, let me also draw your attention to what was said by Minister Kuleba. Russia’s war crimes did not happen in one day. For many years, Russian political elites and propaganda have been inciting hatred, dehumanizing Ukrainians, nurturing Russian superiority, and laying the ground for these atrocities.

Russian diplomacy has become one of the key instruments of Russia’s propaganda and the dehumanization of Ukrainians.

We have to think about that. The future of the OSCE as an organization depends on how successfully we will deal with Russia’s demise.

I kindly ask that this statement be attached to the journal of the day.

I thank you, Mr. Chairperson.



1368th Plenary Meeting

PC Journal No. 1368, Agenda item 1

**STATEMENT BY
THE DELEGATION OF THE UNITED KINGDOM**

Mr. Chairperson, it is not even a week since our last special Permanent Council meeting was held to address the atrocities committed by invading Russian forces in towns such as Irpin and Bucha. And since our last Permanent Council on Thursday, we gather here again – in shock and horror – following the news from Kramatorsk. Two missile strikes in the middle of the day on a crowd reported to be over a thousand people waiting for trains to escape Russia’s onslaught. Strikes on a station whose role in this evacuation has been noted around the world. Over 50 people – innocent civilians – women, men, and children – reported killed in this barbaric attack, and over 100 injured.

One further horrific act in this premeditated, unjustified invasion by Russia of Ukraine. One further incident involving innocent civilians.

As we have come to expect, the Russian disinformation machine immediately kicked into work. The Russian Government continue their futile attempts to distract and deflect us from their own actions through their blizzard of lies. It has not succeeded over the past seven and a half weeks and it will never succeed.

Mr. Chairperson, the world continues to watch, and we continue to take concrete steps in response to Russia’s brutal, unjustified and illegal invasion against its sovereign, democratic neighbour. Last week, the United Nations General Assembly voted to suspend Russia’s membership of the United Nations Human Rights Council. We are awaiting the OSCE Moscow Mechanism report to release the first initial examination of alleged war crimes in Ukraine. And this is only the start.

An International Criminal Court investigation is already underway. The United Kingdom government departments are working closely together to identify and collate evidence of atrocities so that we, alongside international partners, can assist the investigation. Those responsible for the atrocities that have been committed in Ukraine will be held accountable. Mechanisms are being created to bring perpetrators to justice. Soldiers and commanders who issue or follow illegal orders should know that their actions are being broadcast around the world. Mr. Chairperson – we are watching; we are documenting; and we will not forget. Justice will be served.

Mr. Chairperson – we will use all the tools available to us to ensure that President Putin fails in his war of choice. The United Kingdom has imposed further sanctions on Russia. On 6 April, we announced a full asset freeze on Russia’s largest bank and an end to all new UK outward investment into Russia. We also announced an end to all imports of Russian coal and oil by the end of 2022. These measures have been delivered in lockstep with our global allies. Collectively, we are implementing the strongest set of economic sanctions ever imposed, to deprive the Russian Government’s war machine of funds.

Mr. Chairperson, as the Prime Minister said on Friday at the “Stand Up for Ukraine” pledging conference, “President Putin has inflicted the worst humanitarian crisis in Europe since 1945”. Faced with this horror, and in solidarity with Ukraine, our Prime Minister visited Kyiv on Saturday to emphasize our unwavering support for Ukraine and the Ukrainian people, whose profound courage in the face of adversity inspires us all.

Thank you Mr. Chairperson. I request that you attach this statement to the journal of the day.



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Permanent Council**

PC.JOUR/1368

11 April 2022

Annex 4

Original: ENGLISH

1368th Plenary Meeting

PC Journal No. 1368, Agenda item 1

**STATEMENT BY
THE DELEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

For the second time in less than a week, this Council is convening in a special session in response to horrifying atrocities carried out by the Russian Federation in Ukraine – this time, in response to Russia’s barbaric missile strike on Kramatorsk’s railway station on 8 April that killed over 50 innocent civilians and injured many more.

On the morning of Russia’s missile strike, Kramatorsk’s station stood teeming with thousands of terrified Ukrainian civilians fleeing their homes in advance of a possible Russian assault.

Colleagues, please try to envision this scene: a mass of anxious civilians in the process of leaving behind their entire lives, their homes and cities in a desperate attempt to avoid the horrific fates suffered by their fellow citizens at the hands of Russian invaders in Bucha, Irpin, and other towns and cities across Ukraine. Hundreds of families huddled together, scared and vulnerable, waiting for the arrival of trains to deliver them to a safer place.

Then, at approximately 10.30 a.m. that morning, a terrible whistle rang out at Kramatorsk’s railway station as two Russian missiles followed their arced trajectory in the sky, bearing down without warning on these huddled masses of people. The missiles descended on the station at the very moment authorities were documenting the mass civilian killings by Russian forces around Kyiv. They honed in on the train station at the very moment Russian forces were loading bodies in mobile crematoria in Mariupol and shelling towns across Kharkiv and Luhansk and Donetsk. A moment later these missiles exploded.

Initially, Russia took responsibility for this attack, proudly announcing its “success.” But it only lasted a fleeting moment. When the scope and scale of human devastation became public, Russia decided to “unannounce” its responsibility. The United States assessment is that this was a Russian strike with short-range ballistic missiles.

Mr. Chairperson,

Words fail to convey the scenes of carnage in Kramatorsk as chunks of hot metal ripped apart the bodies of these unarmed civilians, leaving them splayed on the ground,

motionless, surrounded by their scattered belongings. A woman in one video is heard screaming, “There are so many corpses, there are children, there are just children!”

Minutes after the attack, reporters on the scene inspected the remains of one of the missiles. On it were written the words “For the Children” in Russian. Ukrainian authorities report that at least five of those killed were children. One badly injured child was brought to Kramatorsk hospital, he died after surgery; another child’s burnt body was discovered in the wreckage of a destroyed car. A surgeon at the hospital listed off the injuries of the victims: “amputations, torn limbs, torn feet, stomach wounds and brain injuries.”

Mr. Chairperson,

The Russian Federation’s attacks on civilians continue unabated. Civilians are killed when they stay in their homes, and they are killed when they try to leave. The day before Russia’s attack on Kramatorsk, Russian forces launched 118 airstrikes on Mariupol, where civilian evacuations have failed numerous times due to Russia’s firing. Russian forces continue to bomb and shell residential areas in Kharkiv, whose mayor, Ihor Terekhov, reports that 1,440 out of 8,000 single-storey houses in the city have been destroyed. The mayor has described horrifying examples of barbaric treatment of civilians by Russian forces in small towns and villages around Kharkiv, including rape and the cutting off of male genitalia. In the Luhansk region, Ukrainian authorities report that not a single medical facility – not a single one – has escaped damage from Russia’s attacks.

Mr. Chairperson,

President Zelensky described the attack in Kramatorsk best, saying, “This is an evil that has no limits. And if it is not punished, it will never stop.”

Let there be no doubt that Russia will be held accountable for the Kramatorsk missile strike, the civilian deaths in Bucha, and the continuing destruction of Mariupol and Kharkiv. We have already said that we assess that members of Russian armed forces have committed war crimes in Ukraine. The United States is committed to pursuing accountability for those responsible for such crimes.

Later today, I suspect we will hear the same fantastical denials from the Russian representative as he seeks to gloss over yet another atrocity. So far, Russia has stuck to the narrative that it no longer uses the Tochka-U missile that was deployed in the attack. But numerous photos exist of Tochka-U missiles deployed by Russian forces, yes, Russian forces, to Ukraine, with their insignia of shame scrawled on the side. As we all know, facts have never been an impediment to the Russian representative, whose lies in this Council enable his regime’s prosecution of a brutal war. No number of facts will stop my Russian colleague from pointing the finger of blame elsewhere – anywhere but at his own government.

Mr. Chairperson,

In addition to providing Ukraine with the largest amount of security assistance of any country in the world to help Ukrainians defend themselves against this vicious attack, the United States is also supporting a range of accountability mechanisms in Ukraine, including

investigations by Ukraine's national authorities, international investigative mechanisms, and the important work of human rights documenters.

Right now, at the request of the Prosecutor General of Ukraine, the United States is supporting a multi-national team of international prosecutors and other war crimes experts deployed to the region. This interdisciplinary team, which includes American experts, is directly supporting the efforts of Ukraine's Prosecutor General's War Crimes Units to collect, preserve, and analyse evidence of atrocities with a view toward pursuing criminal accountability processes. And, of course, we have the Moscow Mechanism invoked here at the OSCE by 45 participating States to investigate possible war crimes and violations of international humanitarian and human rights law resulting from Russia's vicious war of choice. We are committed to using every tool available to ensure those responsible are held accountable for atrocities.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. I request this statement be attached to the journal of the day.



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Permanent Council**

PC.JOUR/1368

11 April 2022

Annex 5

Original: ENGLISH

1368th Plenary Meeting

PC Journal No. 1368, Agenda item 1

**STATEMENT BY
THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE EUROPEAN UNION**

The delegation of France, in its capacity as EU Presidency, passed the floor to the representative of the European Union, who delivered the following statement:

The European Union condemns in the strongest possible terms the attack that struck Kramatorsk railway station on Friday and claimed the lives of more than 50 people, including five children, injuring scores of others, many of them critically. We are profoundly shocked by this brutal, indiscriminate bombing of innocent civilians, including many children, who were fleeing amid fears of another Russian onslaught against their homes and country. We mourn the victims and our thoughts are with their families and the Ukrainian people.

The perpetrators of war crimes or crimes against humanity, as well as any responsible State officials and military leaders, must be and will be held accountable. There will be no impunity for war crimes. The European Union supports all measures to ensure accountability for human rights violations and international humanitarian law in Ukraine by the Russian armed forces. In particular, we fully support the investigation launched by the International Criminal Court Prosecutor into war crimes and crimes against humanity as well as the work of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights Commission of Inquiry. The European Union is assisting the Ukrainian Prosecutor General and civil society, focused on collection and preservation of war crimes evidence. We also look forward to the imminent report of the OSCE Moscow Mechanism expert mission, and we highly appreciate the Office for Democratic Institutions (ODIHR) Ukraine Human Rights Monitoring Initiative.

The international community is largely united in this stance. Last Thursday, the United Nations General Assembly adopted by a clear majority a resolution to suspend the rights of membership of the Russian Federation in the Human Rights Council due to the scale and gravity of Russia's violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law.

Two words can only describe what is happening: failure and horror. Failure of the Russian army to overcome the courage of the Ukrainian people and horror over the indiscriminate attacks against civilians, and civilian infrastructure, killings, summary executions, and sexual violence against innocent civilians, including women and children. The European Union is appalled that these egregious violations of international humanitarian law are becoming the norm for the Russian strategists of this premeditated and unprovoked

war against the sovereign and independent Ukraine. Atrocities committed by Russian forces in Bucha, Borodyanka, Irpen and other towns and villages recently liberated by the Ukrainian army from Russian occupation, and the brutal attack on the Kramatorsk railway station, are all part of the Kremlin's deplorable destruction tactics to annihilate the Ukrainian nation. The torment of Mariupol and other besieged Ukrainian cities and towns that Russian shelling has reduced to ashes will forever live in infamy.

Blatant attempts to hide or whitewash Russia's responsibility for this and other crimes using disinformation and media manipulations are unacceptable. We repeat what was already stated: everyone here can see through these obvious lies. We categorically reject and strongly condemn the reprehensibly cynical attempts we see in Russian State-run media and by diplomats in this and other international fora to justify Russia's brutal and illegal war of aggression against Ukraine.

We repeat our call on Russia to fully respect Ukraine's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity within its internationally recognized borders and territorial waters. We demand that Russia immediately and unconditionally cease its military actions and withdraw all its troops from the entire territory of Ukraine. Russia must also urgently and unconditionally provide safe pathways, both for civilians to evacuate to other parts of Ukraine, as well as for those delivering humanitarian assistance. We also reiterate our call on the co-aggressor, Belarus, to stop enabling the Russian aggression by allowing Russian forces to use its territory and to abide by its international obligations.

The European Union commends the Ukrainian people's strength, courage, and resistance in withstanding Russia's aggression, and stands with them in firm solidarity, as was also demonstrated on Friday by the visit of the President of the European Commission von der Leyen and High Representative Borrell in Kyiv. The European Union will continue to provide co-ordinated political, financial, material and humanitarian support and will advance, as a matter of urgency, work on further sanctions against Russia and Belarus. The #StandUpForUkraine campaign has raised more than 9.1 billion euros for people fleeing bombs, inside and outside of Ukraine. And once the bombings have stopped, we will help the people of Ukraine rebuild their country. A free and prosperous Ukraine that belongs to the European family.

The world is standing up for Ukraine. Ukrainian people are holding up the torch of freedom for us all. Your fight is our fight.

I kindly ask that this statement be appended to the journal of the day.

The candidate countries the Republic of North Macedonia¹, Montenegro¹, and Albania¹, the EFTA countries Iceland and Liechtenstein, members of the European Economic Area, as well as Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova, Georgia, Andorra, Monaco and San Marino align themselves with this statement.

1 Republic of North Macedonia, Montenegro, and Albania continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Permanent Council**

PC.JOUR/1368

11 April 2022

Annex 6

Original: ENGLISH

1368th Plenary Meeting

PC Journal No. 1368, Agenda item 1

**STATEMENT BY
THE DELEGATION OF GEORGIA**

Mr. Chairperson,

We align with the statement delivered by the delegation of the European Union. In addition, allow me to add the following remarks in my national capacity.

We thank the Polish Chairmanship for convening this special Permanent Council meeting concerning the attack in Kramatorsk on 8 April.

Mr. Chairperson,

We strongly condemn the Russian strike on Kramatorsk railway station, where thousands of people, mostly women and children, were waiting for evacuation trains on Friday morning in order to flee from the Russian occupation army. This attack claimed the lives of 59 innocent civilians and left over a hundred injured.

In violation of international humanitarian law, the occupying forces continue direct, massive and indiscriminate bombing and shelling of civilian objects.

The attack on Kramatorsk station is a continuation of the horrific crimes that Russian forces have perpetrated in Bucha, Borodyanka, Chernihiv, Mariupol and other Ukrainian towns and. We hear daily reports of deliberate killings, rape, torture, inhumane treatment and other human rights violations that amount to war crimes.

Mr. Chairperson,

We join calls on Russia to immediately stop its aggression, comply with the order of the International Court of Justice, and withdraw all its forces and armaments from Ukraine.

We are sparing no effort to ensure, together with the international community, that justice is served for the crimes that Russia is committing, through all available international legal mechanisms.

Georgia reiterates its unwavering support for Ukraine's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity within its internationally recognized borders, including Crimea and Donbas, and for Ukraine's navigational rights in its territorial waters.

I thank you, Mr. Chairperson, and kindly ask to attach this statement to the journal of the day.



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Permanent Council**

PC.JOUR/1368

11 April 2022

Annex 7

Original: ENGLISH

1368th Plenary Meeting

PC Journal No. 1368, Agenda item 1

**STATEMENT BY
THE DELEGATION OF TURKEY**

Mr. Chairperson,

It is very painful to gather here today after another humanitarian tragedy in Ukraine. We are deeply saddened that dozens of civilians who were awaiting to be evacuated lost their lives as a result of rocket strikes against the railway station of Kramatorsk. We share the pain of the Ukrainian people.

There can be no excuse for targeting innocent civilians. It is just horrible and can never be accepted. This tragic event has once again demonstrated the importance and urgency of establishing humanitarian corridors to ensure the safe evacuation of civilians. As also expressed by the United Nations Secretary-General after this attack, we remind all parties of their obligations under international law to protect civilians. Identifying those who are responsible and bringing them to account by holding an independent investigation is our main expectation.

The humanitarian situation in Ukraine is being worsened day by day. Around 13 million people are estimated to be stranded in affected areas or unable to leave. Thirteen million is not just a number. It means 13 million human beings. Everything should be done to keep the stranded people out of the harm's way.

We repeat to underline the importance of acting with common sense and maintaining dialogue. We repeat our call for an end to this devastating war by immediately declaring a ceasefire. There is an urgent need to find a political solution to the ongoing humanitarian tragedy.

Therefore, we support all diplomatic efforts aimed at putting an end to this tragedy. Therefore, we repeat our call for the continuation of the ongoing negotiations. The meaningful momentum of the recent Istanbul meeting should be sustained urgently. Our country will continue to lend every kind of support regarding the process to enable immediate establishment of a ceasefire and a durable peace.

Evacuation efforts, particularly from the Mariupol region, must be accelerated. Turkey, for its part, is constructively trying to facilitate and contribute to possible

humanitarian evacuation efforts from the Mariupol region through the Black Sea. We also continue to support and facilitate United Nations aid operations launched from Turkey.

We will never give up our efforts in supporting the people of Ukraine.

Mr. Chairperson,

We would like to emphasize once again that we reject the ongoing assault of the Russian Federation against Ukraine. We strongly support the preservation of the sovereignty, political unity and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders, including its territorial waters.

We kindly ask that our statement be attached to the journal of the day.

Thank you.



1368th Plenary Meeting

PC Journal No. 1368, Agenda item 1

**STATEMENT BY
THE DELEGATION OF CANADA**

Mr. Chairperson,

Allow me to add Canada's voice to today's chorus of condemnation for Russia's heinous attack. We condemn the continuing Russian military aggression against Ukraine and ongoing atrocities committed by Russian forces. Following the revelations of the cruel, inhuman, and degrading actions of Russian forces in Bucha and other recently liberated territories, this past Friday we were witness to yet another act of Russian brutality, as Russian missiles struck the Kramatorsk train station. This missile strike has killed at least 57 people, including 5 children, and wounded more than 100, and the casualty count is likely to rise. The victims of this attack were civilians, overwhelmingly women, children, and the elderly trying to flee Russian violence.

During Russia's "current issue", we will hear lies about Friday's attack. These will be the same type of lies we have heard throughout, and before, this war. As we can see from the title, the Russian delegation will make the truly fantastical claim that Ukraine attacked its own citizens. It is notable that the Russian delegation is accusing Ukraine of committing war crimes, while it remains illegal in Russia to even call this a war. The Russian delegation will not mention the fact that Kremlin-affiliated media proudly announced the success of a Russian attack on Kramatorsk prior to changing the story once learning the extent of the civilian death toll. Nor, will they acknowledge that Kremlin-affiliated media have extensive practice with reversing themselves. Such claims and retractions are familiar to us all, with the tragic destruction of flight MH17 as the most prominent and deadly example. Russia will also claim that it does not use the missile that struck Kramatorsk, the Tochka-U. Considerable open source intelligence information shows this to be untrue. The Kremlin continues to prosecute its unjust war in the apparent unawareness that the eyes of the world are on Ukraine and everyone with a smartphone is a witness.

Mr. Chairperson,

There is little sense in trying to ascribe logic to Kremlin propaganda. As we well know, the approach is not to make people believe their version of the truth; it is to make people reject any version of the truth. Nevertheless, the logical leaps necessary to claim that this was a Ukrainian attack on its own fleeing civilians is as astounding as it is appalling. Does the Kremlin believe that Ukraine and its people need more justification to resist? Are

Mariupol, Kharkiv, Bucha, Irpen, and Borodyanka, insufficient? Does the Kremlin think that the world needs more justification?

And so, we will be told that the “successful Russian strike” is now a Ukrainian attack on its own people, and the Russian delegation will have the audacity to call this a Ukrainian war crime. Russia’s lies are insulting. They insult those of us in this room who must hear them, but most importantly, they insult the memories of those who have died by the hand of the Russian military.

We call on Russia to end its criminal targeting of civilians and to withdraw its military forces from Ukraine immediately.

Thank you and I would ask that this statement be attached to the journal of the day.



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Permanent Council**

PC.JOUR/1368

11 April 2022

Annex 9

Original: ENGLISH

1368th Plenary Meeting

PC Journal No. 1368, Agenda item 1

**STATEMENT BY
THE DELEGATION OF NORWAY**

Mr. Chairperson,

Like others, Norway condemns in the strongest possible terms the missile attack on the railway station in Kramatorsk on 8 April, which claimed the lives of more than fifty people and injured scores of others, many of them critically.

We extend our heartfelt condolences to the families and friends of the victims and mourn together with the Ukrainian people and our Ukrainian colleagues in the OSCE.

This strike on a large crowd of civilians within a densely populated urban area is yet another demonstration of the blatant disregard for civilian life that has now sadly become a steady feature of this military aggression.

This was nothing but a brutal, indiscriminate bombing of innocent civilians, including children, who were intending to flee Russia's onslaught on their homes and country to relative safety further west in Ukraine.

This atrocity must be thoroughly investigated. I reiterate that those responsible for grave breaches of international humanitarian law and serious violations of international human rights law must be held accountable.

If this was a deliberately targeted attack against civilians, it may indeed constitute a war crime. There must be no impunity for war crimes.

I once again urge the Russian Federation to stop its attack on Ukraine. There can in the end only be a diplomatic solution. The war must end.

I kindly ask that this statement be attached to the journal of the day.



1368th Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 1368, Agenda item 1

**STATEMENT BY
THE DELEGATION OF LATVIA**

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

Latvia fully aligns itself with the statement delivered by the European Union, and I would like to add some remarks in my national capacity.

What are war crimes?

According to the Geneva Conventions of 1949, war crimes are crimes committed against:

- The wounded and the sick;
- Medical and religious personnel, medical units and medical transports;
- Wounded, sick and shipwrecked members of armed forces at sea (in hospital ships, coastal rescue craft, medical aircraft and other medical transports at sea) and religious, medical and hospital personnel performing their duties in a naval context;
- Prisoners of war;
- Civilians.

And those crimes are the following, as later summarized in Article 8, paragraph 2(a) of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC) of 1998:

1. Wilful killing;
2. Torture or inhuman treatment, including biological experiments);
3. Wilfully causing great suffering, or serious injury to body or health;
4. Extensive destruction and appropriation of property, not justified by military necessity and carried out unlawfully and wantonly;

5. Compelling a prisoner of war or other protected person to serve in the forces of a hostile Power;
6. Wilfully depriving a prisoner of war or other protected person of the rights of fair and regular trial;
7. Unlawful deportation or transfer or unlawful confinement;
8. Taking of hostages.

Article 8, paragraph 2(b) of the Rome Statute extends the definition of war crimes. Since the ICC has already established jurisdiction over a case referred to it in relation to Russia's aggression against Ukraine, we don't have to discuss any jurisdictional competences anymore. The list of war crimes enumerated in Article 8(b) of the Rome Statute runs to 26 items, I quote:

1. Intentionally directing attacks against the civilian population as such or against individual civilians not taking direct part in hostilities;
2. Intentionally directing attacks against civilian objects, that is, objects which are not military objectives;
3. Intentionally directing attacks against personnel, installations, material, units or vehicles involved in a humanitarian assistance or peacekeeping mission in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, as long as they are entitled to the protection given to civilians or civilian objects under the international law of armed conflict;
4. Intentionally launching an attack in the knowledge that such attack will cause incidental loss of life or injury to civilians or damage to civilian objects or widespread, long-term and severe damage to the natural environment which would be clearly excessive in relation to the concrete and direct overall military advantage anticipated;
5. Attacking or bombarding, by whatever means, towns, villages, dwellings or buildings which are undefended and which are not military objectives;
6. Killing or wounding a combatant who, having laid down his arms or having no longer means of defence, has surrendered at discretion;
7. Making improper use of a flag of truce, of the flag or of the military insignia and uniform of the enemy or of the United Nations, as well as of the distinctive emblems of the Geneva Conventions, resulting in death or serious personal injury;
8. The transfer, directly or indirectly, by the Occupying Power of parts of its own civilian population into the territory it occupies, or the deportation or transfer of all or parts of the population of the occupied territory within or outside this territory;
9. Intentionally directing attacks against buildings dedicated to religion, education, art, science or charitable purposes, historic monuments, hospitals and places where the sick and wounded are collected, provided they are not military objectives;

10. Subjecting persons who are in the power of an adverse party to physical mutilation or to medical or scientific experiments of any kind which are neither justified by the medical, dental or hospital treatment of the person concerned nor carried out in his or her interest, and which cause death to or seriously endanger the health of such person or persons;
11. Killing or wounding treacherously individuals belonging to the hostile nation or army;
12. Declaring that no quarter will be given;
13. Destroying or seizing the enemy's property unless such destruction or seizure be imperatively demanded by the necessities of war;
14. Declaring abolished, suspended or inadmissible in a court of law the rights and actions of the nationals of the hostile party;
15. Compelling the nationals of the hostile party to take part in the operations of war directed against their own country, even if they were in the belligerent's service before the commencement of the war;
16. Pillaging a town or place, even when taken by assault;
17. Employing poison or poisoned weapons;
18. Employing asphyxiating, poisonous or other gases, and all analogous liquids, materials or devices;
19. Employing bullets which expand or flatten easily in the human body, such as bullets with a hard envelope which does not entirely cover the core or is pierced with incisions;
20. Employing weapons, projectiles and material and methods of warfare which are of a nature to cause superfluous injury or unnecessary suffering or which are inherently indiscriminate in violation of the international law of armed conflict, provided that such weapons, projectiles and material and methods of warfare are the subject of a comprehensive prohibition and are included in an annex to this Statute, by an amendment in accordance with the relevant provisions set forth in articles 121 and 123;
21. Committing outrages upon personal dignity, in particular humiliating and degrading treatment;
22. Committing rape, sexual slavery, enforced prostitution, forced pregnancy, as defined in article 7, paragraph 2(f), enforced sterilization, or any other form of sexual violence also constituting a grave breach of the Geneva Conventions;
23. Utilizing the presence of a civilian or other protected person to render certain points, areas or military forces immune from military operations;

24. Intentionally directing attacks against buildings, material, medical units and transport, and personnel using the distinctive emblems of the Geneva Conventions in conformity with international law;
25. Intentionally using starvation of civilians as a method of warfare by depriving them of objects indispensable to their survival, including wilfully impeding relief supplies as provided for under the Geneva Conventions;
26. Conscripting or enlisting children under the age of fifteen years into the national armed forces or using them to participate actively in hostilities.

Already a week ago, when addressing United Nations Security Council, Ukraine's President Mr. Volodymyr Zelenskyy stated that there was not a single war crime that Russia had not committed in Ukraine.

Ukraine's Prosecutor General Ms. Iryna Venediktova has already announced that more than five thousand war crimes have been committed by Russian forces in Ukraine since 24 February 2022 alone.

Are the Russians proud of it? It depends. In the Russian media we see that they are. In the foreign media and foreign forums, including the OSCE, they are obviously not, as they are trying to deny everything, and will try again today.

But we see it all.

The ICC opened the investigation after referrals from 39 States (33 of them being OSCE participating States).

Similarly, 42 States have referred the situation to the International Court of Justice (ICJ) for breaches of international law committed by Russia in Ukraine.

It will take us years to sentence all Russian war criminals for all war crimes committed in Ukraine.

But we will be patient and we will make sure no one escapes. Not this time.

However, what we are impatient for is for those trials to start. And, first and foremost, for this war and the suffering of the Ukrainian people to come to an end.

I thank you, Mr. Chairperson, and I kindly ask for this statement to be attached to the journal of the day.



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Permanent Council**

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Annex 11

ENGLISH

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**STATEMENT BY
THE DELEGATION OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

Mr. Chairperson,

I should like to address those participants in today's discussion who have been particularly vocal in blaming Russia for the shelling of the square in front of Kramatorsk railway station. What arguments, what facts other than sweeping statements along the lines of the "highly likely" approach or claims that "it is clear to the world who did it" are you able to provide? The answer became apparent in the course of today's special meeting: you simply do not have credible facts or evidence. You have no idea of the real situation on the ground and are openly spreading barefaced lies. You assign blame based on political expediency. You ignore the obvious evidence pointing to Ukrainian involvement in the shelling. Because you are not interested in the truth and are driven by a single aim – to malign Russia.

First of all, we draw attention to the fact that the Polish Chairmanship is once again convening a special meeting of the Permanent Council with overtly confrontational wording of the main agenda item, reflecting solely the position of Ukraine and its Western sponsors. We proposed a more neutral designation of the issue, one on which everyone could speak. We consider such actions by the Chairmanship to be absolutely unacceptable. They cast doubt on its desire to act as an "honest broker".

Now for the facts of the matter. On 8 April 2022, a large-calibre shell hit the square in front of the railway station in the city of Kramatorsk in the Donetsk People's Republic, which is currently controlled by Ukrainian armed formations. There were dozens of dead and wounded.

Immediately after the incident, Oleksii Arestovych, adviser to the Head of the Office of the President of Ukraine, and Pavlo Kyrylenko, head of the so-called Donetsk Regional Civil-Military Administration, made statements claiming that the strike was carried out with a Russian Iskander tactical ballistic missile system. However, fragments of the missile used to hit Kramatorsk remained on the ground, and numerous witnesses took photos and videos of them. The material published by them clearly shows that it was a Tochka-U missile. Such shells are used exclusively by the Ukrainian armed forces.

After the witnesses' footage emerged, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy admitted that the strike was actually carried out by a Tochka-U tactical missile. However, he also still blamed the Russian military for the shelling, thereby wilfully spreading disinformation.

It is worth noting that before the missile was launched, the words "for the children" were written in Russian on the tail section for added "visibility". This gave Ukrainian propaganda a reason to trumpet that if the inscription was in Russian, Russian troops must have been responsible for the shelling. This thesis, by the way, has been energetically taken up by a number of Western publications – which are increasingly resorting to relaying fake stories for Ukrainian propaganda instead of real journalism and analysis.

And now for the real facts. According to the Russian Ministry of Defence, the Russian armed forces did not undertake or plan any fire missions on 8 April 2022. Tochka-U tactical missiles, fragments of which were found near the Kramatorsk railway station, have not been used by the Russian armed forces for a long time.

An analysis of the area damaged by the Tochka-U missile warhead and the position of the missile's tail clearly confirm that it was fired from an area south-west of Kramatorsk. According to reliable information, one of the divisions of the 19th Missile Brigade of the Ukrainian armed forces equipped with Tochka-U missile systems was located near Dobropillia, a town 45 kilometres south-west of Kramatorsk, at the time of the strike. This area of the Donetsk People's Republic is still under the full control of a Ukrainian military unit.

In an attempt to give their version of the shelling of Kramatorsk an international dimension, the Ukrainian authorities gave orders to admit foreign journalists to the scene. But they greatly miscalculated: a story on the evening news of the Italian television network TG La7 on 8 April 2022 showed the serial number of the projectile.¹ Journalists had managed to capture it on film by crossing the security perimeter close to the missile wreckage. It is numbered Sh91579, unequivocally confirming that the shell belongs to the Ukrainian armed forces. Moreover, shells from the same batch – for example, Sh91565 and Sh91566 – were already traced in the shelling of the city of Alchevsk in the Luhansk People's Republic (2 February 2015) and the village of Lohvynove in the Donetsk People's Republic (13 February 2015). Photos of the tails of these shells, which were used by the Ukrainian military to bombard the territory of the Donetsk and Luhansk People's Republics, are available in the public domain.

On 14 March 2022, a similar Tochka-U missile fired by a division of a separate missile brigade of the Ukrainian armed forces struck the centre of Donetsk, killing 20 people at the scene and seriously wounding another 28 civilians, including children. By the way, neither the OSCE leadership nor Western countries reacted in any way, not even to express regret at the loss of civilian lives.

The facts mentioned here prove that a targeted attack on civilians was once again carried out by Ukrainian armed formations on 8 April 2022. The aim is clear, namely to

1 <https://tg.la7.it/esteri/guerra-ucraina-ecco-il-missile-che-ha-colpito-la-stazione-di-kramatosrk-08-04-2022-170588>.

prevent the population from leaving Kramatorsk in order to continue to use them as a human shield – as in Mariupol. Is this what the Ukrainian military was taught by NATO instructors in their many joint exercises? We might recall here how closely tactical exercises on military operations in an urban area were integrated into the exercise programme – something, incidentally, that we pointed out many times during our statements in the Permanent Council last year.

The events in Kramatorsk on 8 April are clearly a criminal act directed against the civilian population by the so-called Ukrainian “defenders” of Donbas, who are not afraid to resort to bloody provocations. At the same time, we see disingenuous attempts to slander and malign the Russian armed forces as they duly perform their tasks in the zone of the special military operation. This provocation comes after the blowing up by the Ukrainian military of chemical tanks in Rubizhne on 5 and 9 April 2022, the discovery of alleged “mass graves” in Bucha, Borodyanka, Irpin and Buzova, and many other heinous acts staged by the Kyiv regime.

Additionally, we should like to inform you that the Russian Investigative Committee has opened criminal proceedings concerning the large number of civilian deaths following the missile strike on Kramatorsk by Ukrainian armed formations. Russia will do its utmost to ensure that all those responsible for this terrible crime are severely punished.

Against this background, NATO countries continue to transfer lethal weapons to Ukraine, which fall into the hands of irresponsible Ukrainian armed formations. At the same time, Ukraine’s leadership is evidently covering up the war crimes they are committing.

This begs the question – what do the countries supplying arms to Ukraine expect and what are their intentions? How many more civilians in Ukrainian railway stations and cities must die as a result of provocative shelling by the Ukrainian armed forces and paramilitary nationalists before the West realizes with whom the Ukrainian armed formations are really at war? And are NATO countries aware of their share of responsibility for the continuing deaths of Ukrainians?

Under these circumstances, it is clear that the lives of civilians in Ukraine do not matter to the leadership of the countries supplying weapons there. It is no coincidence that British Prime Minister Boris Johnson and European Union High Representative Josep Borrel, who recently visited Ukraine, and also Pentagon press secretary John Kirby from Washington, advocate a military solution to the situation in Ukraine. We see how the foreign handlers of the current Ukrainian authorities stubbornly continue to discourage their protégés from pursuing a political and diplomatic path. We also note that after such “encouraging” signals from Western capitals, the Ukrainian leadership is abruptly changing its rhetoric, once again banking on militarism.

We shall refrain from evaluating all these actions today. Suffice to say that this path is ruinous for Ukraine, which the West is trying so hard to turn into an instrument to oppose Russia.

We emphasize that the Russian special military operation in Ukraine is designed to put an end to the protracted conflict in Donbas, where the OSCE has not managed to facilitate

a political settlement. The main objectives of the special operation, namely the demilitarization and denazification of Ukraine, will be achieved.

I request that this statement be attached to the journal of today's special meeting of the OSCE Permanent Council.

Thank you for your attention.