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**STATEMENT BY
MR. MAXIM BUYAKEVICH, DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF
THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, AT THE 1398th MEETING OF THE
OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

10 November 2022

On dangerous provocations by the Kyiv regime with the support of a Western alliance of OSCE participating States, and on the Kyiv regime's ongoing crimes against the civilian population

Mr. Chairperson,

We note that a number of Western countries from the group of the Kyiv regime's external handlers are currently not interested in a diplomatic solution to the situation. A few days ago, NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg speculated to that effect when he said that the Alliance considered unacceptable any contacts aimed at a settlement that took account of Russia's position and interests.

It is no coincidence that NATO countries continue to flood Ukraine with weapons – including equipment for the operation of which the skills of the fighters from the Ukrainian formations are inadequate, so that whole teams of “instructors” and foreign mercenaries are required. According to the Russian Ministry of Defence, up to 100 fighters from nationalist formations and foreign mercenaries, including about forty mercenaries from the United States of America, the United Kingdom and Poland, had been eliminated near the city of Krasnyi Lyman (Donetsk People's Republic) by 6 November as the result of a high-precision strike by the Russian Aerospace Forces. NATO military equipment itself, used for the targeted shelling of civilian infrastructure and social facilities, is also regularly destroyed.

Since the start of the special military operation, the US military has been actively involved in planning and effectively steering combat operations. Ukrainian representatives have admitted that not a single missile is fired from HIMARS multiple-launch rocket systems, for example, without prior agreement with the United States. To all intents and purposes, this was recently acknowledged at the Pentagon as well, when confirmation was given that US military personnel were in Ukraine.

The city centres of and residential areas in Donetsk, Kherson, Yasynuvata, Stakhanov and Svatove were subjected to repeated shelling from HIMARS multiple-launch rocket systems in the course of the past week. The data on those killed and injured is being updated. On 6 November, the Ukrainian formations used these same US-made weapons systems to carry out a strike on the Kakhovka hydroelectric power plant, which shows that they are not leaving off their attempts to set the stage for a humanitarian catastrophe. One of the missiles hit a sluice gate on the dam at the plant, causing non-critical damage.

Incidentally, the fact that Ukrainians are being exploited for wholly utilitarian purposes was recently confirmed once again by the Kyiv regime's Defence Minister, Oleksii Reznikov. In an interview with the media outlet Politico on 25 October, he stated that the territory of Ukraine had become "a combat testing field" for the testing of Western weapons.

The objective is obvious: it is not so much to militarily strengthen the Ukrainian formations as to test equipment and NATO standards in combat conditions against Russian weaponry. In view of the huge losses of the Ukrainian armed forces, this betrays above all a consumer-like attitude towards the inhabitants of Ukraine: in October alone, the Ukrainian formations lost more than 12,000 personnel. For the West they are merely expendable material that can be hurled into the pyre of its geopolitical struggle with Russia. The situation in Ukraine is just one of the elements of that struggle. The further goals are, on the whole, also obvious.

On 4 November, Jake Sullivan, the National Security Advisor to the US President, confirmed while in Kyiv that the US Government would provide yet another package of military aid worth 400 million dollars. The total volume of the US Government's officially announced military assistance to the Ukrainian Government since the start of the special military operation has reached 18.2 billion dollars. As we have said on several occasions, by no means all of that military assistance is being used as intended – a considerable proportion is ending up in the hands of terrorists and criminals, as well as finding its way into various conflict zones all over the world. On 7 November, a group of US experts set off for Ukraine to verify the deliveries of weapons to the Ukrainian Government. As it turned out, the United States had oversight over just one tenth of these, that is, of 22,000 units. The fate of the remainder of the weapons supplied is unknown.

The West is effectively forcing Russians and Ukrainians from one side to engage in combat with Russians and Ukrainians from the other side. In this struggle, which is at bottom being waged within a single people, the residents of the territory controlled by the Kyiv regime are having the idea foisted on them that they will attain a better life if, in contrast to their other compatriots, they forget their roots, erase their history from their memory and distance themselves from all things Russian.

There is no need to go far to find examples. On 21 October, the Secretary of the National Security and Defence Council of Ukraine, Oleksii Danilov, said live during the "Great Lviv Speaks" talk show: "The Russian language must disappear from our territory altogether as it is an element of the enemy's propaganda and brainwashing of our population." Such overtly discriminatory pronouncements tie in with the policy, going back many years, of Ukrainizing all spheres of public life and assimilating national minorities and ethnic groups for the purposes of implanting an ethnocratic regime. These processes accelerated sharply after the 2014 coup d'état, in the course of which the fight against the Russian language was proclaimed one of the goals in building a "new Ukraine".

Many in the West make no bones about the fact that they see Ukraine merely as a tool for destroying modern Russian statehood. Some reflections by the US diplomat Kurt Volker, a former Special Representative for Ukraine Negotiations, are telling in that regard. In an article published on 7 November by the media outlet The New Voice of Ukraine, he argued that the preconditions for the normalization of relations between the West and Russia were "Russia's defeat", the change of our country's leadership and the revision of its current borders – in short, the collapse of our State. Needless to say, he presented this through the prism of the events in Ukraine.

Nor should we forget the numerous threats by Western officials to use military force against our country. As the saying goes, the masks were dropped a long time ago. All this is irresponsible rhetoric of

escalation that could trigger a global catastrophe. Moreover, it is worth remembering what the dreams about destroying the statehood of our fatherland that were entertained by overzealous politicians of bygone times led to. We stress that no matter how difficult the situation, our fatherland always managed to find the internal strength within itself to resist and repel external evils. So it will be this time too.

On 4 November, the Third Committee of the United Nations General Assembly voted on a draft resolution on combating glorification of Nazism, neo-Nazism and other practices that contribute to fuelling contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance. We note that some countries attempted to use procedural tricks to politicize the significance of that document, which only two countries had voted against in recent years: the United States and Ukraine. This year, to our deep regret, Germany, Italy, Romania, Japan, Poland and several other countries did not speak up against the glorification of Nazism, even though one would expect them to have first-hand knowledge of the terrible lessons of history.

The Kyiv regime decided to back up its vote against efforts to combat the glorification of Nazism by tearing down the monument to a soldier-liberator in Uzhhorod in the Zakarpattia region; it was dismantled yesterday, on 9 November. (The monument had been erected on 8 May 1970 to mark the 25th anniversary of liberation from the Nazi invaders.) A few days earlier, on 3 November, Ukrainian neo-Nazis blew up the Grieving Motherland obelisk in a square in Mykolaiv that houses a memorial site dedicated to those killed during the Second World War.

The erosion of historical memory is part of the Kyiv regime's Western-supported policies. How else is one to explain the barbaric destruction of dozens of monuments erected to honour the Red Army soldiers – Russians, Ukrainians and members of other nationalities – who liberated Ukraine from Nazi occupation? Unless neo-Nazism is being propagated in the country, why destroy monuments to those who fought against Nazism?

We note that among the various political forces in the European Union, more and more common sense is gradually emerging with regard to the heavy price that Europe is having to pay for the rabid Russophobia and blind support for the Kyiv regime. This applies to the comments by the head of the European External Action Service about the 22 billion euros spent this year alone on financing Volodymyr Zelenskyy's team, and also to the statements by the European Commission indicating that part of the loans promised for this year, namely 3 billion euros, would not be made available. Vigorous objections can already be heard against the allocation of new funds totalling 18 billion euros to the Kyiv regime in 2023.

Now to conclude. We continue to hear representatives of the US Government and its satellites talk about seeking to compel the whole world to live according to a certain "rules-based order". We note in this regard that no answers have been forthcoming to our direct questions as to what that "order" is, by whom and when it was agreed on and approved, what an exhaustive list of the proposed rules looks like, and how the "rules-based order" differs from the international order based on collectively developed existing norms of international law. We would be grateful if the representatives of the United States could provide relevant clarifications.

The Russian special military operation will carry on and continue to be conducted in a consistent and responsible manner. Its objectives are known and they will be accomplished fully. Resolving the situation in Ukraine must, needless to say, include various aspects of demilitarization and denazification, as well as the elimination of threats to the security of the Russian Federation created by the West on Ukrainian territory. Russia is prepared to engage in meaningful, substantive dialogue, provided that its interests are taken into account. However, it is also prepared for the long haul, meaning for as long as it takes to obtain guarantees for the security of our State and for the protection of its sovereignty. This is attested above all by the attitude

of millions of inhabitants of our country who have expressed their support for achieving the objectives of the special military operation, including hundreds of thousands of mobilized Russians who are getting ready to take part in it.

Thank you for your attention.