



**Statement by the Delegation of Ukraine  
at the 761-st FSC Plenary Meeting  
(23 July 2014 at 11.00, Hofburg)**

**Mr. Chairman,  
Distinguished colleagues,**

Since it is the last regular plenary meeting of the Forum for Security Cooperation before the summer recess let me first of all express sincere appreciation to Moldovan FSC Chairmanship for steering the work of this decision-making body of the OSCE in politico-military dimension. We would also like to warmly welcome the next FSC Chairmanship of Monaco and wish them every success in guiding our work during the final stage of this FSC annual session. I avail myself of this opportunity to express gratitude to the delegation of Malta, the outgoing FSC Troika member, for its efforts in the time, when challenging and threatening scenario started to unfold around and in Ukraine.

It gives me also pleasure to greet Mongolia as a new member of the FSC Troika.

**Mr. Chairman,**

On 17 July civilian airplane Boeing-777 of “Malaisian Airlines” was *en route* its regular flight from Amsterdam to Kuala-Lumpur on 10 100 meters altitude. Around 16:20 the airplane disappeared from the radars screens of the Dnipropetrovsk regional flight oversight center and at 16:45 the emergency signal was identified. The airplane crashed 3 kilometers to the North-West from Grabove, near Shakhtarsk in Donetsk region of Ukraine -the territory now under control of the illegal armed groups of Donetsk separatists. All 298 people on board the airplane were killed.

Few hours after the crash Security Service of Ukraine received and published the undeniable evidence that the aircraft was shot down by pro-Russian terrorists from Russian weapon. One of the militants’ leaders was boasting of the downed aircraft in a conversation with his foreign Russian supervisor, colonel of the Main Intelligence Directorate of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation Vasili Geranin. Other terrorists also bragged about the new trophy immediately after the plane was shot down. The shooting of the plane, where the terrorists took responsibility, was widely reported by pro-militant Russian media. Meanwhile let me demonstrate the video with sound recording of the terrorists commenting the crash of the Boeing-777, flight MH 17.

President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko immediately reacted on this tragic event and observed, particularly: «Today the war has expanded beyond the territory of Ukraine. Consequences of this war reached the whole world. Tragedy, which happened today in the sky over Donetsk area deeply shocked even against the usual background of deplorable and overwhelming events caused by actions of aggressors and militants in Donbas. Today terrorist killed almost 300 people by one shot. Among the victims – women and children, citizens of several countries. On behalf of Ukraine I express deep and sincere condolences to families and relatives of the innocent victims. Ukraine mourns together with you...”

There was immediate evidence as to those who committed this horrendous crime, namely – terrorists, fighting against Ukraine as such.

Open and thorough international investigation of this heinous crime should bring those responsible and their supporters to justice.

Yesterday Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine adopted the Statement №4326a “On tragic loss of lives of the people as a result of terrorist act over the territory of Ukraine”, which acknowledges in particular: “According to the data of the competent authorities of Ukraine, this terrorist act was carried out by the militants, waging military actions against Ukraine in Donetsk region, using air-defense rocket system “Buk”, which was provided by the Russian Federation, with the Russian operating staff... This act became possible due to the militants support from current Russian authorities, which supplied them with modern military equipment and weapons, including air-defense rocket systems. Such actions and irresponsible policy of the Russian authorities, directed against Ukraine, bring about acts of the international terrorism, which result in numerous losses of lives of Ukrainians, as well as of citizens of other countries. Illegal procurement of weapons on Ukraine`s territory by the Russian Federation, direction of Russian mercenaries and military servicemen for their participation in the military actions against Ukraine constitute the act of military aggression against Ukraine, with all characteristic features of the international terrorist activities”.

As different unfounded speculations are now launched by those who wish to conceal their responsibility and complicity in this heinous terrorist act, let me emphasize that in course of the ATO no actions were carried out, which were aimed at shooting down the targets in the air-space. The claim by the Russian Delegation on 760-th Plenary meeting of the FSC that the terrorists captured the air-defense rocket system “Buk” is groundless. The inventory of the air-defense rocket systems and air-defense guided rockets in Ukraine was checked. No absence of rocket or air-defense system was reported. Thus, any information that terrorists might have seized them is groundless.

It is necessary to remember that prior to Boeing - 777 terrorists shot down 13 aircraft and helicopters belonging to Armed Forces of Ukraine. They started this hunting campaign by shelling from grenade-launchers at landed helicopters in Kramatorsk air-field, then used MANPADs to shoot down various type of military aircraft. Encouraged by the comprehensive backing of their Russian masters, feeling own impunity these criminals started to use Russian air-defense rocket system and became international terrorists, deserving no other fate but consistent elimination or immediate surrender.

**Mr. Chairman,**

During the last plenary meeting delegation of Ukraine drew the attention of the Forum to the situation at the state Russian-Ukrainian border, where armed militants continue shoot at Ukrainian forces, make provocative fire on the Russian side of the border, creating the reasons for the Russian fire in response. On 17 July 2014 the MFA of Ukraine issued the statement in connection with the shelling of Ukraine`s territory and the units of the Armed Forces of Ukraine by the multi-launch rocket system BM-21 “Grad”, deployed on the Russian territory.

The Russian involvement in escalation of the situation in the east of Ukraine long time ago is beyond the limits of military-technical, financial and informational support of the militants spreading terror in our state, which is confirmed by the cases of shelling from the Russian side at Ukrainian forces. One of the example of such actions was the shelling of Ukraine`s territory from the area near to Gukovo in Rostov region of the Russian Federation on 17 July, which was recorded by video and made widely available. This is one more proof of the Russia`s direct involvement in killing Ukrainian military servicemen and civilians.

Such events are reported on the daily basis. Thus, in the night from 21 to 22 July there were the shelling from the Russian territory of the Ukrainian forces near Kumachevo (from mine-launchers) and border control point “Dolzhansky” (from self-propelled artillery pieces).

In the border areas the militants shelled the positions of Ukrainian forces using artillery and battle-tanks near Marynivka, using “Grad” near Solntsevo, using mine-launchers near Chervonopartysansk.

**Mr. Chairman,**

Despite consistent calls from Ukraine and its international partners throughout the second stage of the FSC annual session, the Russian Federation has failed to meet its commitments pursuant to number OSCE instrument in politico-military dimension, no substantial step was made by the Russian side to enable de-escalation and peaceful resolution of the situation in the east of Ukraine. More and more innocent civilians are paying their lives for irresponsible politico-military adventure of the Russian Federation, aimed at destabilizing Ukraine and undermining its statehood. The aggression of Russia against Ukraine and against European security architecture, of which the OSCE is an essential pillar, cannot be contained without the Russian Federation bearing the appropriate cost for its illegitimate actions. We reiterate our call for ever more concerted efforts and solidarity in stopping the threat to security of all of us.

We urge Russian Federation to return to the tenets of the fundamental OSCE principles, to respect sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Ukraine, to reverse annexation of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol.

We urge Russia to immediately halt exporting terrorism to Ukraine and stop interference into internal affairs of our country. We urge the Russian Federation to back up its declarations with practical meaningful deeds of de-escalation, which has not yet happened.

**Thank you, Mr. Chairman.**