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**STATEMENT BY  
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THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, AT THE 1493rd MEETING OF THE  
OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

24 October 2024

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

Madam Chairperson,

The Russian armed forces continue to methodically reduce the combat potential of the Kyiv regime's formations. Further tactical successes have been recorded at the line of engagement near a number of significant population centres in Donbass – Selidovo, Kurakhovo, Krasnoarmeysk and others. The Ukrainian armed forces' actions in the Kursk region have failed to slow down the Russian advance in Donbass. The losses of Volodymyr Zelenskyy's formations in the Kursk region have so far already amounted to more than 25,500 troops killed or wounded, 169 tanks, 103 armoured personnel carriers, 84 armoured infantry fighting vehicles, more than 970 armoured combat vehicles, and hundreds of units of artillery and other weapons and equipment.

Amid its defeats on the battlefield, the Kyiv regime has resumed its nuclear blackmail. On 17 October, Mr. Zelenskyy *de facto* confirmed his intention to acquire nuclear weapons in violation of the existing non-proliferation regime. It is obvious to experts that Ukraine has the capability to do this. It is obvious that such blackmail is aimed primarily at Western countries, from which the Kyiv regime wants to obtain a decision on Ukraine's invitation to join NATO as part of the promotion of its so-called victory plan. Ukraine's tough talk is in no small part also connected with the rather cautious reception of the aforementioned "plan" among the very countries sponsoring the Kyiv regime.

Mr. Zelenskyy's ridiculous attempts to accuse journalists after the fact of misunderstanding his comments do not change the main point: this is not the first time he has publicly declared his ambitions to acquire nuclear weapons in case his demands in the international arena are not met. All this could lead to the most serious crisis in the field of nuclear non-proliferation in history. It also once again confirms the justness and validity of the Russian leadership's decision to launch a special military operation. We should remind you that it is aimed at eliminating the threats to regional and international security projected by the Kyiv regime and its NATO masters from the territory of Ukraine.

It is noteworthy that the sponsors of the Zelenskyy regime preferred not to react at all to his highly publicized statement. We warn them against indulging in brazen nuclear blackmail, the main goal of which is to drag NATO countries into a direct armed conflict with Russia.

For those who today hold forth about some kind of independence of Ukraine, we recommend listening to the words of Mr. Zelenskyy himself. The other day, in an interview with the Ukrainian media, he confirmed on whom the entire current Ukrainian domestic and foreign policy depends. In particular, he expressly stated that the Kyiv regime's "plan B" is to wait for a change in the US Government's policy after the elections. I quote: "The situation is such that Ukraine's main donor is the United States of America." As for "plan A", it is known to involve an ultimatum to Russia, the rejection of realistic options for a settlement, and the continuation of hostilities.

The terrorist attacks by Mr. Zelenskyy's armed formations against civilians in Russian regions are continuing. Last week, the targeted and indiscriminate shelling of civilian infrastructure resulted in at least 73 civilian casualties, with ten killed and 63 injured, including seven minors. We recommend that you familiarize yourself with the thematic digest (SEC.DEL/451/24) by the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which we have circulated, on the Kyiv regime's most high-profile crimes committed in September of this year. We stress that none (!) of these crimes, including those against children, has received an assessment from the OSCE leadership. The Kyiv regime's atrocities continue to be deliberately hushed up for political reasons. Human life has been made the subject of insinuations: the suffering of a huge number of people is being ignored simply because they are Russian citizens.

There are fewer and fewer people willing to fight for the interests of the true masters of the Kyiv regime, both in Ukraine and abroad. The mobilization resource of the Ukrainian armed forces is being objectively depleted. Vasyl Rumak, a representative of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine (who holds the position of Head of the Department of Training at the training centres of the Main Department of Doctrine and Training), confirmed that the pace of mobilization has decreased noticeably, and the average number of simultaneous recruits in training centres has almost halved – from 35,000 at the beginning of this year to 20,000 now (we should add that these figures are not credible either).

The inability to compensate for the losses in the Ukrainian armed forces has been acknowledged despite the unprecedented physical violence used in the capture of citizens who do not want to fight. Incidentally, the documentary evidence of forced mobilization has seriously alarmed the military command of the Zelenskyy regime. On 19 October, the Command of the Ground Forces of the Armed Forces of Ukraine issued a statement that the dissemination of evidence of forced mobilization by journalists and bloggers would be regarded as media speculation and, I quote, "as distorted and unverified information aimed at inciting and destabilizing the socio-political situation". The authors of videos depicting scenes of violence against Ukrainian civilians will face criminal liability for allegedly obstructing the activities of the Ukrainian armed forces and other military formations.

The situation is no better with the replenishment of Ukrainian armed forces personnel from abroad, where the number of those willing to join the ranks of Mr. Zelenskyy's formations is at a minimum. In Poland, whose leadership not so long ago pompously announced the creation of the "Ukrainian Legion", only some 300 people have been scraped together to join the ranks of this group. According to the Polish Public Opinion Research Center, 67 per cent of Poles support the immediate dispatch of Ukrainians of conscription age to the territories under the control of the Kyiv regime. Such is the Polish "solidarity" with people who fled the conflict.

New evidence is being uncovered that Ukrainian citizens are resorting to desperate measures to avoid mobilization. Allow us to draw attention to two notable stories that will further help us understand the extent

of corruption in the territories under the control of the Kyiv regime against the background of the brutal mobilization of the population.

In the Kharkiv region, the head of the local medical and social assessment board and 12 of her accomplices were arrested for issuing documents that allowed men of conscription age to avoid being drafted into the Ukrainian armed forces. All of the young men had been accorded fake disabilities. During the search, more than 500,000 US dollars, 80,000 euros and more than 1 million hryvnias in cash were found in the woman's possession.

The head of the assessment board in the Khmelnytskyi region, Tatiana Krupa, and her son were detained after cash in different currencies equivalent to over 6 million US dollars was found at their home. The woman kept over 90,000 US dollars more in cash at her workplace. She has reportedly been making bogus diagnoses for the past ten years. The detained woman helped at least 67 prosecutors from the Khmelnytskyi region and their close relatives to obtain category II disability documents.

Such examples paint a very revealing picture of the West's external control of Ukraine following the coup d'état on the Maidan. As does the telltale "result" of numerous budgetary and extrabudgetary programmes under the banner of the OSCE, ostensibly aimed at upholding justice and the rule of law.

One further point. We are outraged at the lack of response by the OSCE leadership and relevant institutions to yet another egregious example of harassment on religious grounds using violence. At the behest of the Kyiv regime, the clergy and parishioners of the canonical Ukrainian Orthodox Church are being brutally persecuted in the territories under the regime's control, accompanied by a campaign to physically seize the Church's property.

On 17 October in Cherkasy, during the night liturgy in St. Michael's Cathedral, paramilitary fighters in camouflage burst into the cathedral with the full connivance of the authorities. Shouting neo-Nazi slogans, they used force against clergymen and parishioners – video footage of the incident was published by Russian and Ukrainian media. The attackers used firearms, rubber truncheons and gas canisters against civilians. They beat up anyone who was in the cathedral legally and did not want to leave the church service. It should be especially noted that the police officers who arrived on the scene stood by and did nothing to stop the lawlessness.

The Metropolitan Theodosius of Cherkasy and Kaniv was seriously injured: after the assault, doctors diagnosed him with a concussion, first-degree corneal burns and skin burns. Moreover, after the incident, employees of the "Security Service of Ukraine", following the Kyiv regime's policy on religious persecution, placed the Metropolitan under round-the-clock house arrest. So why is the OSCE leadership once again keeping quiet? Why is it covering up the Kyiv regime's atrocities?

To sum up. It has long been obvious that the diplomatic isolation of our country, which is so dreamed of in the West, is, by definition, unrealistic. Therefore, the attempts of our opponents to monopolize international organizations and to subordinate them at any cost to the task of implementing the Western-centric neocolonial "rules-based order" are becoming increasingly fraught. By diluting the essence of these organizations and preventing them from fulfilling their true purpose, Western countries are simply destroying their credibility. Such assessments are increasingly being heard in the course of collective international events organized by representatives of the "global majority" countries together with Russia.

In the Ukrainian crisis, the Kyiv regime and its Western sponsors have led themselves into diplomatic, military and economic deadlocks. They realized long ago that a military victory over Russia on the Russian battlefield is impossible, and investment in armed confrontation will never pay off. But they

continue to support Mr. Zelenskyy's militaristic fantasies by supplying his formations with weapons and equipment.

Moreover, NATO countries seek to further distort the existing balance by demonstratively violating their own international legal obligations in the area of non-deployment of weapons and military infrastructure. To give you an example, NATO's regional naval command centre in Rostock, Germany, will officially open on 21 October. This city is located in the federal state of Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania, formerly part of the German Democratic Republic. This, therefore, raises the legitimate question as to how the actions of NATO and the current German authorities correlate with the provisions of the Treaty on the final settlement with respect to Germany of 12 September 1990, in particular, Article 5, paragraph 3, which states that foreign armed forces and nuclear weapons or their carriers will not be stationed or deployed on East German soil.

None of this brings us any closer to resolving the Ukrainian conflict and achieving sustainable peace. We believe that the Kyiv regime's sponsors should think now about how they will explain to their own population the allocation of huge funds for NATO's military preparations and the maintenance of the bloody Ukrainian conflict instead of solving the problems concerning their own and global socio-economic development.

We must emphasize that any attempt to use Ukraine as a battering ram against Russian statehood and to talk to our country from a position of strength are doomed to failure. As are all ongoing and planned military adventures of the puppet regime in Kyiv on the line of engagement and away from it. We warn Mr. Zelenskyy's sponsors against condoning his insane initiatives that jeopardize the entire region. Russia's legitimate security interests will be ensured either politically and diplomatically or militarily. All the objectives of the Russian special operation will be achieved in full.

Thank you for your attention.