



Delegation of Canada  
to the OSCE

Délégation du Canada  
auprès de l'OSCE

**STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR JOCELYN KINNEAR  
ON THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION'S ONGOING AGGRESSION AGAINST UKRAINE  
1387<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE PERMANENT COUNCIL  
1 September 2022**

Mr. Chair,

It is increasingly clear that the Russian Federation, its military, and its population are paying a high price for Putin's war of aggression.

It is of course Ukraine's civilian population that is paying the highest price. Over the six long months since the launch of the Russian Federation's unjustified invasion of its peaceful neighbour, we have not seen a week go by without another egregious attack against Ukraine's civilian population.

We have borne witness to six months of:

- missile barrages against civilian centres across the country – such as Kyiv, Kharkiv, Sumy, Mariupol, Kherson, Zaporizhzhia, Severodonetsk, Dnipro, Odesa, Lviv; the list goes on;
- the use of cluster munitions in populated areas, including against the inhabitants of Mykolaiv;
- the slaughter of innocent civilians, including in Bucha and Irpin;
- the brutal use of siege tactics, for example in Mariupol and Kharkiv;
- the bombings of hospitals, malls, schools and churches;
- the mistreatment of Prisoners of War, including show trials;
- so-called “filtrations” and reports of torture of those in temporarily-occupied areas;
- and missile assaults against civilian infrastructure such as the Kramatorsk station, and now, Chaplyne, railway stations, amongst many, many others.

We condemn all of these senseless attacks.

The latest massacre, in Chaplyne, which killed at least 22 of those fleeing Russia's conflict in Eastern Ukraine, happened on the day Ukraine celebrated its independence. Ukraine is fighting to protect that independence against the Kremlin's attacks, and to protect its freedom, its population and its national identity. Ukrainian soldiers and Ukrainians from all walks of life believe in that fight. Their determination and resolve in defending their country is remarkable. And Russia's attacks over the past six months have clearly only served to make them stronger and more united than ever.

Mr. Chair,

These attacks are not the signature of a professional, disciplined military, but rather of one with little or no respect for human life; one that uses private military contractors to do its dirtiest work; one that uses fear and abuse as weapons; and one which has lost over 70 000 soldiers to death and injury over the past six months, according to reports, and which struggles to replenish its ranks. While the Russian military sees declining manpower, disorganisation, and desertion, their brutal tactics have only strengthened the resolve of Ukrainians to fight back, and of the international community to support Ukraine.

As we saw with the liberation of territory across northern Ukraine, Ukraine's military is now pushing to liberate areas of its South. It is attacking far behind enemy lines and has destroyed ammunition and fuel depots, command posts, and military vehicles. It is taking back territory and liberating its population from the oppression of the occupying army. Russia cannot win its imperialist, colonialist conquest against a population so intent on defending its territory, families, and way of life.

Russia has a choice. It can pull its troops out of all of Ukraine's territory and act in accordance with the concept of indivisible security and international law. Or, Russia can continue to see attrition of its ranks and the destruction of its aircraft, tanks, and ships; continue to increase its internal restrictions and human rights abuses against its own population; and continue to isolate its people and force them to face economic hardship.

Either way, as evidenced by my Prime Minister's latest announcement last week with German Chancellor Olaf Scholz, Canada will continue to work with its OSCE partners to support Ukraine in the short and long term in its fight against Russian imperialism.

Mr. Chair,

In its ongoing invasion of Ukraine, Russia has failed to uphold its responsibilities and commitments under multiple articles of the Geneva Conventions, the Budapest Memorandum, the UN Charter, the Helsinki Final Act, and International Humanitarian Law. We call on Russia to abide by its OSCE and other commitments, especially in respecting others' sovereignty and territorial integrity. We reaffirm our unwavering commitment to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders, including Crimea.

Mr. Chair, before I conclude, I would like to join you and others in welcoming the news that the IAEA mission has arrived in Zaporizhzhia today.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.