



Permanent Mission of Ukraine
to the International
Organizations in Vienna

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF UKRAINE
ON RUSSIA'S WAR OF AGGRESSION AGAINST UKRAINE**

1106th FSC Plenary Meeting
(21 May 2025)

Agenda Item 1, General Statements

Madam Chairperson,

I would like to deliver a statement on the subject of Russia's ongoing war of aggression against Ukraine – a war that violates the core principles of the United Nations Charter, the Helsinki Final Act, and every foundational norm of international law.

As the country that bears the full weight of this unprovoked and unjustified aggression, Ukraine desires peace more than any other nation. Since the outset of Russia's full-scale invasion, Ukraine has consistently demonstrated its unwavering commitment to a diplomatic resolution. We have taken every possible step to bring about a comprehensive, just, and lasting peace.

The facts speak clearly.

In 2022, President Volodymyr Zelenskyy presented the 10-Point Peace Formula – a principled and inclusive roadmap grounded in international law and the UN Charter.

In 2024, together with Switzerland, Ukraine convened the Global Peace Summit in Bürgenstock. This landmark event brought together 101 delegations from all continents. The resulting Joint Communiqué expressed broad and unified international support for peace – not on Russia's terms, but on the basis of law, justice, and sovereignty.

Every single day since the beginning of this war, Ukraine has worked tirelessly to end hostilities. Our position remains consistent: peace must be just,

comprehensive, and sustainable. This requires, as a first step, a full and unconditional ceasefire.

Ukraine continues its constructive engagement with partners around the world to realize this objective. However, Russia has pursued an entirely different path – one of continued aggression, deception, and escalation.

Time and again, Moscow has proposed so-called “short-term ceasefires,” cynically timed to coincide with dates like Easter or Victory Day – not as genuine overtures for peace, but for propaganda purposes. These gestures are hollow. They are not intended to stop the war, but to mask it. Even during its self-declared ceasefires, the Russian military has continued launching missile and drone attacks against Ukrainian civilians – including over Easter and from 8 to 10 May.

Most recently, Russia proposed negotiations in Istanbul on 15 May. In good faith, Ukraine agreed. President Zelenskyy travelled to Türkiye, demonstrating once again Ukraine’s readiness for dialogue. There was a real opportunity to take a significant step toward ending the war. A high-level meeting could have laid the foundation for a ceasefire and the beginning of a just peace. Unfortunately, this opportunity was missed. The Russian leadership dispatched a delegation devoid of any mandate to make decisions, and President Putin himself failed to appear. This was not only a deliberate obstruction of diplomacy but also a sign of open disregard for the mediation efforts of Türkiye and the United States.

Such actions expose Russia’s ongoing strategy: to feign engagement, manipulate international opinion, and undermine genuine efforts for peace. President Putin’s refusal to participate in direct dialogue, and his rejection of a proposed 30-day ceasefire, leaves no doubt as to where the obstacle lies.

Despite this, we welcome the agreement reached in Istanbul on the exchange of prisoners of war – one thousand for one thousand. This is a step forward, albeit one that is long overdue. We hope it will be implemented swiftly and fully.

Madam Chairperson,

If the aggressor refuses to give diplomacy that chance, the international community must create it. We call on all participating States to utilize every available instrument – political, economic, and legal – to compel Russia to change course.

Moscow must understand that there is no path forward other than through genuine negotiations based on international law. A full, unconditional ceasefire is the

minimum step required to build trust and begin a credible process toward ending the war.

In the 21st century, there is no room for wars of conquest, for the redrawing of borders by force, or for the domination of one state over another. All states – regardless of size or power – must adhere to the principles enshrined in the UN Charter and the Helsinki Final Act: sovereignty, territorial integrity, inviolability of borders, and the freedom of every nation to determine its own future.

Any deviation from these principles threatens not only Ukraine, but the entire international order. That is why this war is not just a European issue – it is a global one. Ukraine is grateful to all states that continue to stand for a rules-based international order, and against the return of imperialist aggression.

With unity, resolve, and adherence to principle, we believe that peace can and will be restored – in Ukraine, in Europe, and beyond.

Thank you, Madam Chairperson.