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Delegation of Canada to the OSCE

Délégation du Canada auprès de l'OSCE

STATEMENT BY MARIE-JOSÉE RHÉAUME, CHARGÉE D'AFFAIRES UNDER AGENDA ITEM:

The Russian Federation's ongoing aggression against Ukraine

1525th MEETING OF THE PERMANENT COUNCIL

19 June 2025

Madame la Présidente,

Tout d'abord, nous aimerions remercier la troïka pour sa déclaration du 18 juin.

Depuis notre dernière réunion du 12 juin, l'Ukraine a été confrontée à une nouvelle vague de violence qui s'est intensifiée.

Dans la nuit du 16 au 17 juin, la Fédération de Russie a lancé une nouvelle attaque brutale contre de nombreuses villes ukrainiennes. Des missiles ont frappé des infrastructures civiles causant vingt-huit morts et plus de 100 blessées. À Kyiv, des habitations et des infrastructures civiles ont été endommagées ou détruites. À Odessa, une école maternelle et un centre pour enfants ayant des besoins spéciaux ont été endommagés.

Lors du sommet du G7 à Kananaskis, le premier ministre Carney a rencontré le président Zelenskyy et a condamné ces attaques barbares. Je me fais l'écho de ses paroles et j'adresse nos plus sincères condoléances au peuple ukrainien et à nos collègues ukrainiens ici présents aujourd'hui.

Madame Chair,

Over three years ago, Russia chose war over diplomacy. Today, Russia chooses escalation over peace.

The sheer scale and repeated pattern of damage to Ukraine's civilian infrastructure over the past three years—thousands of schools, hospitals, homes, and energy facilities—raises legitimate questions about the credibility of Russia's justifications and its professed interest in peace.

This war is illegal. But beyond legality, Russia's conduct reveals a blatant disregard for human life.

Madame Chair,

Ukraine is defending itself. That is its sovereign right, enshrined in Article 51 of the UN Charter. And Canada stands fully and firmly with Ukraine.

At the G7 Summit earlier this week, Prime Minister Carney announced a boost of \$2 billion in new military assistance, \$2.3 billion in loans backed by frozen Russian assets and \$57.4 million in additional security support for Ukraine.

We are also tightening the screws on Russia's war machine with our most comprehensive sanctions package yet. We've sanctioned more individuals and entities who were dodging our restrictions and brought the number of Russia-linked shadow fleet vessels fuelling the aggression on our sanctions list to over 300. The new measures ban any services related to these ships, and target 15 new enablers.

We've also added nearly 1,000 new dual-use goods and technologies to our sanctions list, as well as key financial entities that move Kremlin funds in and out of Russia to pay for death and destruction in Ukraine.

We will continue dismantling the economic engine driving Russia's aggression and remain determined to block all financial pathways that fuel it.

Madame Chair,

This is a clear message. Canada will keep up the pressure. We will not let up.

President Zelenskyy has agreed to come to the table in pursuit of peace. This week could have marked 100 days of a ceasefire. The United States put forward a proposal. Ukraine accepted. Russia refused.

Instead, Russia chose more missiles. More deaths. More destruction. It repeatedly broke its own records for the scale of its attacks.

The Ukrainian people continue to defend their land, their homes, and their freedom. And we must continue to support them in doing so.

And we will.

Thank you, Madame Chair.