



**Statement by the Delegation of Ukraine  
at the 765-th FSC plenary meeting  
(8 October 2014 at 10.00, Hofburg)**

**Mr. Chairman,**

Since the last FSC plenary meeting the situation in parts of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts of Ukraine remained tense and tended to further aggravation in spite of the cease-fire in place.

The Ukrainian side fully observed the cease-fire regime, while we again witnessed violations on the part of the illegal armed groups, their continuous attacks on and shelling of the Ukrainian military and civilian areas that have already led to loss of life.

As a result of these constant violations by the Russia-backed separatists and terrorists, starting from 5 September **64** Ukrainian servicemen were killed and **364** wounded. Dozens of civilians lost their lives following these armed provocations by militants after the ceasefire was set.

On 2 October during shelling by terrorists the International Committee of the Red Cross representative, Swiss citizen was killed near the office of this organization in Donetsk. MFA of Ukraine issued a statement in which expressed its condolences on the tragic death of the ICRC employee and emphasized that this case is intended to intimidate international organizations which help restore peace and tranquility in Donbas.

During last week, Russian troops and terrorist groups in Donbas have been trying to accomplish three main tasks:

- to push out the Ukrainian Armed Forces from their current positions in the area of Donetsk in the western direction, at the same time to seize the Donetsk airport and the village of Kruta Balka;
- to take under control the area of Debaltsevo and to defeat the Ukrainian troops in the south of Nikishino;
- to find weaknesses in the defense to the north of Mariupol acting by force of raiding and reconnaissance groups and firing from tanks and artillery systems.

Numerous violations of the Minsk agreements were registered by the Ukrainian side during the first week of October, such as:

- several servicemen of 100<sup>th</sup> reconnaissance brigade of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation were identified in the vicinity of Novoazovs'k, Donetsk oblast. The permanent station of the above brigade is in the Northern Osetia;

- up to 80 pieces of the Russian armored vehicles and numerous military trucks concentrated near Tel'manovo, Donetsk oblast;

- activity of an electronic warfare station has been registered at the town of Stakhanov, Luhansk oblast;

- 1 tank, 18 infantry fighting vehicle and 20 military trucks illegally crossed the Ukrainian border at the Izvarine border crossing point;

- several units of the 15<sup>th</sup> separate motorized infantry brigade of the AF of the RF from Samara region remain present near the settlement of Akatnovka in Rostov oblast of Russia that is just 20 km from Ukrainian border.

According to the information of the Ukrainian competent authorities, there are about three thousand Russian soldiers on the territory of Donbas. Rotation of Russian troops in the eastern part of Ukraine continues. During last days illegal armed groups in the area of the Donetsk airport received 10 pieces of Russian armored vehicles. Similar supply was registered in the area nearby Avdiivka. There are also about 20 thousand Russian soldiers deployed in the regions, adjacent to the Russian-Ukrainian border.

In addition, Donbas became a testing ground for modern weapons and prohibited ammunition of the armed forces of the Russian Federation. Russian mercenaries and terrorists use army ammunition with high capacity, armour-piercing ammunition and guns with armour-piercing bullets and bullets with increased disruptive ability, which were supplied by Russia.

Mr. Chairman,

All allegations of the Russian side that the local militants in Donbas may act without Russian help were invented in Moscow. It is well known that before the crisis there were only very few military units of the Armed Forces of Ukraine permanently located in the Luhansk and Donetsk regions. Therefore, the stories that the militants seized a huge amount of tanks and armoured vehicles, artillery, and ammunition are nothing but nonsense.

So, if someone believes in the existence of the so called «third party» in Donbas, which actively shells from cannons, «Grad» rocket launchers, tanks and mortars, then it is unclear, where were these weapons taken from?

And secondly, where do these «independent» fighters take ammunition and fuel in unlimited quantities? We are confident that the «third party» is actively supported by Russia to continue to destabilize the situation in Donbas.

**Distinguished colleagues,**

I would like to use this opportunity to inform the FSC that yesterday on 7 October 2014 we received notification format F10 from Canada informing Ukraine about Canada's intention to conduct an event according to para 144 of the Vienna Document and based on a bilateral agreement, intended to dispel concerns about unusual military activity in the area of application of CSBMs. A multinational Canada-led inspection team which will be including representatives of Estonia, France and Montenegro is supposed to arrive in Ukraine on 11 October.

We welcome the decision of Canada to arrange such an event and the decision of Estonia, France and Montenegro to join the mission. We are confident that its results will help to provide clarity related to the regional security situation in certain areas of Ukraine.

**Mr. Chairman,**

Ukraine facilitates the activities of the Joint Center on Control and Co-ordination of issues related to the cease-fire regime and the stabilization of the situation, with the participation of representatives of Ukraine, the Russian Federation and the OSCE. This mechanism, set up on 28 September under the agreement of the Trilateral Contact Group, aims first of all at

introducing a full-fledged cease-fire regime to be respected by all sides, in particular by the Russian troops and militants.

Regrettably, so far we have significant doubts about Russia's commitment to de-escalation. Despite commitments under the Minsk protocol and the Minsk memorandum, also signed by the Russian Federation, the Russian military equipment and hardware, including tanks and multiple rocket launcher systems, continue to encroach on the territory of Ukraine.

We call on international community to contribute to ensuring **full and good faith implementation** of the Minsk agreements by all parties, first of all by the Russian Federation.

We particularly insist on Russia's withdrawing its troops from Ukraine, releasing all hostages, including Ukrainian citizens abducted and illegally jailed in Russia, halting reinforcement of the terrorist groups with Russian weapons and mercenaries, and creating of buffer zone on the Ukrainian-Russian state border, thus reestablishing full and effective control along the border.

**Thank you, Mr. Chairman.**