



EUROPEAN UNION

OSCE Forum for Security Co-operation N°1093 Vienna, 20 November 2024

EU Statement on Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine

1. Mr Chair, yesterday we marked the tragic and previously unimaginable milestone of 1 000 days since Russia started its unprovoked, unjustifiable and illegal full-scale invasion of its sovereign neighbour Ukraine on 24 February 2022. It has also been almost 4 000 days since the start of Russia's aggression against Ukraine in 2014.
2. On his last visit to Ukraine as the European Union High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, Josep Borrell witnessed first-hand the atrocities and destruction Russia's savage war of aggression has brought to Ukraine: 'having been in Bucha, and now we're in Yahidne, and now in Chernihiv [...] what happened here brings us to the darkest moment of the history of Europe. Moments that we believed that they were forgotten and they [would] never happen again. But unhappily, they happened again. They happened here in Ukraine with the Russian invasion.'
3. Mr. Chair, it is critical for all participating States to keep addressing these matters related to the politico-military dimension in this Forum as a priority. This is the FSC's purpose, as we are mandated to meet weekly, here in Vienna. One of the biggest aerial attacks launched by Russia on Sunday, targeted civilian infrastructure and, in particular, electricity systems. This again confirmed that we need to address these issues at our regular FSC meetings.
4. The EU and its Member States will continue to support Ukraine. At their latest meeting in October, EU Leaders reiterated their resolute condemnation of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine. This war constitutes a blatant violation of the UN Charter and the Helsinki Final Act. Leaders reaffirmed their continued support for Ukraine's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity and have also emphasised the right of Ukraine to choose its own destiny and commended the people of Ukraine for their courage in defending their country.

5. We will continue to provide Ukraine with multifaceted support for as long as it takes and as intensely as needed. On 8 November, the Council adopted a decision extending the mandate of the European Union Military Assistance Mission in support of Ukraine (EUMAM Ukraine) for a further two years, until 15 November 2026. So far, EUMAM Ukraine has trained 63 000 Ukrainian Armed Forces' soldiers, an equivalent of ten brigades. The mission will bring the total number of soldiers trained to over 75 000 by the end of winter 2024/2025. In line with the modular and scalable approach of the mission, the future training targets of EUMAM Ukraine will be continuously adjusted in terms of number of troops to be trained and skills necessary, in accordance with Ukraine's combat requirements. The EU and its Member States have also supplied Ukraine with more than 980 000 shells and plan to pass the goal of 1 million rounds of ammunition by the end of this year.
6. Mr Chair, we strongly condemn the repeated violation of the airspace of the Republic of Moldova by Russia's missiles and drones, targeting Ukraine's critical infrastructure, on 17 November.
7. Mr Chair, the EU and its Member States reiterate that Russia must immediately stop its war of aggression, put an end to this unbearable suffering and devastation, and completely and unconditionally withdraw all of its forces and military equipment from the entire territory of Ukraine within its internationally recognised borders.
8. We strongly condemn the continued support for Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine provided by third countries, such as the DPRK, Belarus and Iran. We also condemn in the strongest possible terms the DPRK unlawful arms transfers to Russia for its use in attacking Ukraine and the deployment of DPRK troops to Russia, supporting Russia's illegal war of aggression.
9. We urge all countries to cease all assistance, including the provision of dual-use goods and sensitive items that sustain Russia's military industrial base, for Russia's war of aggression, which is a blatant violation of international law, including the UN Charter, and the OSCE core principles and commitments.

Thank you.

The Candidate Countries NORTH MACEDONIA*, MONTENEGRO*, ALBANIA*, UKRAINE, the REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA, BOSNIA and HERZEGOVINA*, and GEORGIA, the EFTA countries ICELAND, LIECHTENSTEIN and NORWAY, members of the European Economic Area align themselves with this statement.

*North Macedonia, Montenegro, Albania, and Bosnia and Herzegovina continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process