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FSC.DEL/345/23/Add.1  
28 September 2023

ENGLISH  
Original: RUSSIAN

Delegation of the Russian Federation

**STATEMENT BY  
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RUSSIAN FEDERATION TO THE VIENNA NEGOTIATIONS ON MILITARY  
SECURITY AND ARMS CONTROL, AT THE 1056th PLENARY MEETING OF  
THE OSCE FORUM FOR SECURITY CO-OPERATION**

27 September 2023

**Agenda item: General statements  
Subject: Special military operation to demilitarize and denazify Ukraine**

Madam Chairperson,

Nine years ago, propelled by the example of the soldiers in the Great Patriotic War – an example that is sacred for us – the Donbas militia embarked on a new struggle with Nazism for the right to defend their land, culture, language and heritage. While some are putting their lives on the line for a safe future for themselves, others are encouraging a criminal policy aimed at casting oblivion over the bestial nature of Nazism and its ideology. This is vividly confirmed by the images from Ottawa that went round the world showing how the Canadian Parliament – with the Kyiv regime’s leader Volodymyr Zelenskyy, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and Western diplomats in attendance – feted Yaroslav Hunka, a 98-year-old Ukrainian ex-member of the 14th Waffen Grenadier Division of the SS (Galicia Division), as “one who fought against the Russians”.

This disgraceful Russophobic act of glorifying a fugitive Nazi, who in effect swore allegiance to the Third Reich, sent shock waves through the international community, which holds sacred the memory of the tens of thousands of victims of the Waffen-SS troops, found guilty by the Nuremberg Tribunal of genocide against Jews, Poles, Ukrainians, Belorussians and Russians. No apologies have as yet been forthcoming from the Head of the Canadian Government. This incident shows that in the Anglo-Saxon world they are ready to openly and brazenly support those who, through their war crimes, are inspiring the current neo-Nazi leadership in Kyiv to fight against its country’s own people and to destroy everything Russian.

We strongly condemn what has happened and demand that international organizations, including the United Nations and the OSCE, accordingly take a stand against attempts to rehabilitate and celebrate fascism, aggressive nationalism, chauvinism and anti-Semitism, together with the militarism that goes hand in hand with them, all these being contrary to the provisions of the OSCE Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security, which was adopted at the highest level.

Madam Chairperson,

The “Brown Plague” must be stopped. That is what the Russian armed forces are working on as part of the special military operation. Our army and navy have taken up the gauntlet and are mounting a fitting response. The unfolding combat success, which builds on the broad-based support of the Russian Federation’s multi-ethnic people, means but one thing for the West, namely the systematic demilitarization of their “Ukrainian project” and the grinding-down of the NATO military machine.

The Russian army continues with active operations aimed at defeating the enemy. The area under our control near the settlements of Synkivka and Petropavlivka has been significantly expanded in the direction of Kupiansk. The Ukrainian armed forces’ attempts to attack the Russian positions in the direction of Krasnyi Lyman, Kherson and Donetsk and to the south of Donetsk are failing. In the course of this month, more than 2,700 weapons and pieces of military equipment belonging to the enemy have been destroyed, including seven US-made Bradley armoured infantry fighting vehicles, 77 artillery systems of the M777 type, 51 self-propelled artillery pieces from Germany, France, Poland and the United States of America, two German-made Leopard tanks and one British-made Challenger tank. Open season has been declared on the Abrams tanks handed over to the Kyiv regime after nine months of promises. Our US colleagues need not worry about the subsequent fate of those tanks: they will either be turned into a pile of burning metal or be taken to our military laboratories for in-depth examination.

Despite the failure of its anti-Russian strategy, the “global minority” that is the collective West continues to incite Ukraine to engage in a gruelling, attrition-based conflict, thereby effectively prodding the country into self-destruction. That self-destruction has already begun. The United Kingdom’s decision to supply the neo-Nazis with depleted uranium munitions has led to the toxic contamination of water and soil across extensive areas. However, the “arbiters of Ukraine’s fate” on the banks of the Thames did not stop at that. The UK Ministry of Defence has confirmed shipping armoured vehicles to Ukraine whose chassis contains the toxic material asbestos, which can cause a severe form of respiratory distress and cancers. Thanks to the UK Government’s peerless “generosity”, Ukraine is galloping at full speed towards its transformation into an uninhabitable land. The Ukrainians must understand that what the British are delivering is poison, full stop, and they must demand that these toxic munitions and weapons systems be removed from their country as soon as possible.

It is telling that foreign mercenaries, who previously came to Ukraine to fight alongside the Ukrainian armed forces, have already recognized the stalemate nature of the real situation on the battlefield and are exiting in their droves. In particular, US legionnaires interviewed by *The Daily Beast*, a media outlet, have stated that the situation in the zone of hostilities is far more dangerous than was the case during NATO’s military campaigns in Iraq and Afghanistan. There they were at least not used as cannon fodder. Meanwhile, the sorry state of the Ukrainian economy and the medieval-style plundering of defence funds, not least of funds from financial packages granted by the West, are forcing the Ukrainian Government to go to extremes, including not paying mercenaries’ subsistence costs.

Many soldiers of fortune did not realize that they had become embroiled in a deadly adventure until they witnessed the widespread theft of weapons and ammunition within the ranks of the Ukrainian armed forces. In an interview with the newspaper *The Kyiv Independent* a number of legionnaires accused their Ukrainian commanders of selling on small arms. According to a Canadian mercenary going by the name of “Shadow”, who spoke with the US television and radio network CBS, this led to an increase in the number of legionnaires liquidated – they simply had nothing with which to defend themselves. Casualties are in the thousands. Moreover, the newspaper *Mysł Polska* confirms that at least 10,000 Poles have been killed in Ukraine, most of them military personnel from the regular Polish Army. The same fate lies in store for the Germans driving Leopard tanks.

At meetings of the Forum for Security Co-operation, the US delegation often stands up for soldiers of fortune, arguing that their rights must be respected. We now understand where that concern is coming from. It is known that the Kyiv regime, at the US Government's instigation, has been recruiting fugitive murderers and ultra-radicals involved in headline-grabbing street brawls and disturbances into the ranks of the Ukrainian armed forces. Wounded US legionnaires have now begun to be treated at the US Army's medical centre in Landstuhl, Germany. That will not do them much good. The provisions of the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and the Protocols Additional to these do not apply to mercenaries. Through their actions they are putting themselves outside the law and, consequently, the harshest measures will be meted out to them. As promised, we will give them short shrift.

Realizing that there is no way of turning the situation on the battlefield around in the Ukrainian armed forces' favour, the US and German Governments are, by the looks of it, preparing to put technologically sophisticated long-range ATACMS operational-tactical missiles and Taurus air-to-surface cruise missiles into the hands of the Kyiv war criminals. According to reports, the German weapons are already ready to be shipped to Ukrainian territory, where it will then be a matter of waiting for the go-ahead from Berlin for their deployment. However, as with the delivery of Anglo-French Storm Shadow missiles, this US and German hardware will not prove to be a silver bullet and alter the balance of power on the battlefield – rather, it will become a nail in the coffin of the Zelenskyy junta.

We urge the Kyiv regime's Western handlers to temper their zeal in this anti-Russian agony and to set about mitigating the real risks of an escalation of the politico-military situation in Europe that are arising from their unrestrained arms transfers to Ukraine. However, if the Ukrainian-Western "allied troops" are willing to have the conflict expand and do use the aforementioned missiles against the Russian Federation, against our people in our historical territories, then they must be prepared for harsh retaliatory measures. And these will be taken.

US strategists currently continue to give criminal orders to the Ukrainian armed forces to carry out barbaric strikes against civilian buildings in the Donetsk, Lugansk, Zaporozhye, Kherson, Kursk and Belgorod regions of the Russian Federation. The widest possible range of NATO weapons are being used for that purpose – from heavy artillery to combat drones. If our colleagues want to know how we are responding to these flagrant terrorist attacks, we recommend that they ask their protégés in Kyiv for footage showing the results of the work performed by Russian long-range high-precision weapons – namely, blazing ammunition depots and storage sites for foreign-made armaments, and obliterated reconnaissance stations, training centres for Ukrainian saboteurs and deployment sites of the Ukrainian armed forces and foreign mercenaries.

Madam Chairperson,

Here we should like to take the opportunity of demonstrating how Ukraine, the United States, Canada and the European Union are, not in words but in practice, "bringing peace closer" and "forging security" in the OSCE area. Now, what do the principal Russophobes and Nazis of Europe – Ukraine, the Baltic States, Poland and, oddly enough, Germany, which went through denazification once – all have in common? Unconditional and submissive toadying to the United States in all respects, even to the detriment of the national interests of their countries and at the cost of the lives of ordinary people in the OSCE area. One can apply to them a modern-day reading of these verses by the Russian poet Nikolay Nekrasov: "Those who are lackeys by calling | At times not men but hounds | The crueller their masters beat them | The more their devotion knows no bounds."

The Ukrainian armed forces are pounding the city of Donetsk daily with US-manufactured M864 cluster munitions, and the casualties among the civilian population are already in double figures. On 24 September, US-made AGM-88 HARM high-speed anti-radar missiles fired from an aircraft destroyed residential buildings and left two women crippled in the city's Kuibyshevsky and Kirovsky districts. On that same day, the Ukrainian armed forces used Anglo-French Storm Shadow missiles to carry out a strike on Krasnodon in the Lugansk People's Republic, as a result of which schools and kindergartens had to be evacuated; two people were killed and three injured. On 19 September, a residential area of the Petrovsky district of the city of Donetsk was shelled using US-made cluster munitions, specifically shrapnel shells, each one of which contains more than 8,000 "arrows". You can see them on the screen. Such an "arrow" is guaranteed to take out any unarmoured targets within a radius of 500 metres.

On 25 September, the Ukrainian-US "allied troops" deployed M142 HIMARS multiple-launch rocket systems against the peaceful city of Tokmak in the Zaporozhye region. One person was killed and at least 13 injured. They included Valya, a 13-year-old girl who was admitted to hospital with her belly ripped open, and her seven-year-old brother, who lost his left hand after the landing of a projectile. A question for the United States and its satellites: what about the protection of children during conflict? Or are these children, in your view, not the "right" ones and it is permissible to launch missiles at them? Do we understand it correctly that US-made ATACMS missiles will soon begin to be fired against civilians from HIMARS systems?

We should like to draw OSCE participating States' attention to the fact that, on the margins of the United Nations General Assembly, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, Sergey Lavrov, conveyed to United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres a video message from the Lugansk schoolgirl Faina Savenkova, who some time ago was added by the neo-Nazis in Kyiv to the database of the Ukrainian website Myrotvorets, where lists of people whom the regime sees as undesirable are drawn up so that they can be "eliminated". Faina described how the Ukrainian armed forces were using Western weapons to shell peaceful towns and cities in Russia: "There are other countries apart from the Western ones ... It is necessary to tell them that Ukraine is not a victim but a conflict party, a country that is committing crimes against the children of Donbas. As for the United Nations and UNICEF [the United Nations Children's Fund], the only thing they are able to express is concern." We would add that the OSCE, its leadership, structures and Western participating States in general remain silent about this, openly abetting armed violence against minors. Now, don't you dare to teach us how we are meant to go about protecting children – all the children in the conflict zone.

In order to carry out terrorist attacks against the civilian population of the Russian Federation, the Zelenskyy regime is making active use of foreign-made drones, which are co-ordinated by, among others, reconnaissance entities of the US Navy. The active efforts by NATO States to conduct signals intelligence operations from combat aircraft in the Black Sea region continue. On 5 August, the head of the Security Service of Ukraine, Vasyl Maliuk, confirmed that the Ukrainian intelligence services were carrying out acts of sabotage on the Crimean Bridge. New strikes against Crimea were recently announced by the head of the Main Intelligence Directorate, Kyrylo Budanov. National Security and Defence Council Secretary Oleksii Danilov raves about the "liberation" of the Crimean peninsula by military means and plans to "smoke the Russians out of Crimea" with the help of weapons. Promising to deliver 50 water-surface drones, the German Government has rushed to the aid of its neo-Nazi protégés, who are still itching to send "friendship trains" into Russian territory. The Kyiv regime and its handlers evidently continue to be irked by the fact that, as long ago as 2014, the Crimeans decided to tie their future to Russia. No one in Crimea misses the neo-Nazis and their handlers, as they will yet see for themselves.

Tellingly, the citizens of NATO member States are standing up in protest against the militaristic and inhuman policies of their governments. Last week, thousands took to the streets of Amsterdam, Magdeburg,

Ottawa and Prague in demonstrations condemning the sponsoring of hostilities in Ukraine – hostilities that affect children in particular. Ordinary Dutch, German, Canadian and Czech people realize that the consequences of this anti-Russian policy are not only weighing down on them heavily but also portend catastrophic repercussions for global security. However, certain circles in the West have no need for peace in Europe – indeed, peace would be inconvenient to them.

Madam Chairperson,

I should like to close with a quotation from *The Back Channel: A Memoir of American Diplomacy and the Case for Its Renewal* by William Burns, a former US Ambassador to Russia and current Director of the CIA, who writes there that “where we made a serious strategic mistake ... was in later letting inertia drive us to push for NATO membership for Ukraine and Georgia, despite Russia’s deep historical attachments to both States.” Ever since the disintegration of the USSR and the creation of the independent States that replaced it, the United States and its allies have been grossly and unabashedly interfering in the domestic affairs of Ukraine. It is time they acknowledged their responsibility for the European security crisis and made use of those “back channels” not for the blackmailing of sovereign countries and the stoking of conflicts, but to look for constructive solutions for the benefit of international stability. Otherwise, as was the case on the eve of the Second World War, Western States may come face to face with the perilous fruits of a policy of appeasing an aggressor – in this case one who is ensconced in Kyiv.

Thank you for your attention.