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Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the International Organizations in Vienna

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

1110th FSC Plenary Meeting

(18 June 2025)

Agenda Item 2, General Statements

Madam Chairperson,

I would like to deliver a statement on the subject of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine.

Today marks 100 days since Ukraine unconditionally accepted the United States' proposal for a ceasefire. This initiative, supported by our partners, was a sincere and constructive step by Ukraine toward de-escalation and a comprehensive, just, and enduring peace. Ukraine has honoured this commitment in both word and deed — fully supporting the ceasefire and demonstrating our enduring will to silence the guns.

In stark contrast, Russia has persistently obstructed every pathway to peace. Despite repeated appeals from Ukraine, the European Union, the United States, and numerous international actors, Moscow continues to reject ceasefire framework, and decline high-level meetings intended to end this war. Instead, the Kremlin wages a parallel campaign of disinformation, while simultaneously escalating its military aggression on the ground.

At the GLOBSEC Forum in Prague, Ukraine's Foreign Minister Andrii Sybiha aptly stated: "Russia continues to reject it [the U.S. ceasefire proposal]. The Istanbul meetings demonstrated that Russia continues to speak the language of ultimatums." This encapsulates Moscow's approach: negotiate only on the basis of capitulation.

Madam Chairperson,

The humanitarian cost of Russia's aggression continues to rise at an intolerable pace. According to the latest report from the United Nations Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine, at least 183 civilians were killed and 836 injured in the past month alone. This is not collateral damage; it is the direct result of deliberate, systematic targeting of civilians and civilian infrastructure.

As the report highlights, the continuation of large-scale attacks already witnessed in June suggests that this month could match or even exceed April and May in terms of total casualties. Danielle Bell, Head of the UN Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine, warned: "At this pace and scale, further loss of civilian life is not just possible – it is inevitable."

Regrettably, the current trajectory of Russia's military actions indicates that this grim prediction is realistic. So far in June, Russia has launched over 2,800 attack drones, nearly 3,000 guided aerial bombs, and 140 missiles of various types across Ukraine. These numbers do not just represent weapons — they represent shattered homes, destroyed schools, blacked-out hospitals, and lost lives.

Despite incontrovertible evidence, Russia continues to deny responsibility for these attacks, hiding behind cynical fabrications and claiming it targets only military assets. The reality tells a far more sinister story.

Since our last meeting alone:

12 June: Missile strikes on Kharkiv and Dnipro killed 8 and wounded 34. Civilian homes and energy infrastructure were hit.

13 June: A massive strike on Kyiv and Odesa killed 4 and injured 15.

14 June: Renewed attacks on Kharkiv and Dnipro left 4 dead and 15 wounded.

17 June: One of the largest-scale attacks since the beginning of 2024. Kyiv was especially hard hit. In total, 27 locations, including schools, residential buildings, and critical infrastructure, were struck, leaving 21 dead and 134 injured. This became the deadliest day in Kyiv since July 2024 when 33 people were killed including victims of the Okhmatdyt Children's Hospital bombing.

Distinguished Delegates,

Not even the catastrophic losses among its own troops deter the Russian leadership. According to Ukraine's Ministry of Defence, Russian military casualties

now exceed one million. Yet, the Kremlin remains unmoved — choosing escalation over humanity, destruction over dialogue.

Russia's objectives are clear: to exhaust Ukraine, deceive the global public, and divide our international partners. We must not allow this strategy to succeed. Each atrocity must be met with coordinated international consequences — swift, firm, and increasing in severity. Only then will the Russian leadership be forced to reckon with the cost of its actions.

In this context, Ukraine calls for:

- Strengthened and expanded sanctions, especially targeting Russia's military-industrial complex, its energy revenues, and its access to dual-use technology.
- Sustained military support for Ukraine to protect our people and reclaim our sovereign territory, as guaranteed by international law.
- Accountability mechanisms to ensure that all perpetrators of war crimes, including the Russian leadership, face justice. Justice delayed must not become justice denied.

Let us be clear: there can be no return to business as usual. Peace cannot be built on impunity. Dialogue cannot be built on deceit. Security cannot be restored while an aggressor continues to occupy another sovereign country's territory in blatant violation of the UN Charter and the Helsinki Final Act.

The world must send an unambiguous signal: aggression will fail, and the rules-based international order will prevail. We are grateful to all partners who continue to stand with Ukraine. Your support is not only a shield for our sovereignty — it is a defence of the fundamental principles that ensure peace and security for all.

Thank you, Madam Chairperson.