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**STATEMENT BY
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THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, AT THE 1394th MEETING OF THE
OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

13 October 2022

On the Kyiv regime's terrorist attacks against critical infrastructure with the direct support of a Western alliance of OSCE participating States

Mr. Chairperson,

On 9 October, shocking footage from Kupiansk in the Kharkiv region spread around the world. It was posted by Maksym Zhorin, a member of the Ukrainian armed formations and former commander of the neo-Nazi Azov unit. It shows the bodies of executed civilians being thrown into a ravine. Zhorin himself wrote that they were residents of Kupiansk in the Kharkiv region. And he added: "payback will come". The metadata of the video shows that it was written a little more than half an hour before publication. The dead residents of the Kharkiv region are dressed warmly for autumn, and the natural conditions in the footage correspond to October. Russian troops, it should be recalled, have been absent from the city since 10 September. Everything points to an extrajudicial massacre of residents who were eliminated by Ukrainian neo-Nazis as part of so-called "mopping-up" operations in the city.

The publication of evidence of these atrocities against the civilian population has provoked strong reactions almost everywhere except in the OSCE leadership. Fearing an even stronger reaction, Zhorin hastily corrected the entry, adding that it had been made on the phone of an "occupier". This did not work, and a day later neo-Nazis posted a two-second video clip showing the body of one of the victims being carried into a ravine by people in Ukrainian camouflage fatigues but supposedly wearing red armbands, as used by our allied forces. A closer look at the "armband" reveals crude computer editing. In the doctored addition to the video, the leaves and branches of the trees the camouflage-wearing militant is walking past are also painted in the same red colour. Why engage in this kind of editing? Clearly to deflect blame from the perpetrators who have revealed themselves in this way.

Incidentally, the author of the video clip is the same Zhorin who back in March boasted about the murder of several politicians from the opposition Ukrainian political party Patriots for Life, who disappeared in Sievierodonetsk on 7 March. On his social media pages, he posted photos of their heads showing signs of brutal violence, supposedly indicating that they could have "shot themselves in the head".

At the last Permanent Council meeting, we drew attention to an open video message published on 4 October by 38 servicemen of the Eighth Company of the Third Regiment of the 25th Airborne Assault

Brigade of the Ukrainian Armed Forces. In it, they reported receiving criminal orders to massacre civilians in the Kharkiv region. We also mentioned the recent official statement of the Ukrainian Ministry of Internal Affairs, which referred to measures to search for “enemies of Ukraine”. The report said that up to 40 “potential collaborators” were being detained in settlements in the Kharkiv region every day and interrogated by the intelligence services in unknown conditions.

There are clear signs of the organized extermination of members of the local population suspected of being disloyal to the Kyiv regime. A straightforward question: where is the reaction of the leadership of the OSCE and its specialized institutions? Have they taken note of the public and written appeals to the OSCE by Valery Fadeyev, head of the Russian Presidential Council for Civil Society and Human Rights?

In that context, the joint press release by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the OSCE Chairmanship Troika, the OSCE Secretary General Helga Schmid and the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly President Margareta Cederfelt and Secretary General Roberto Montella of 10 October is particularly noteworthy. It speaks of support for “the noble cause” of the Ukrainian nation in the defence of “our shared values and core OSCE commitments”. I should first like to ascertain whether they equate the Ukrainian nation with the neo-Nazi Kyiv regime. And what are these “values” – the killing of civilians by neo-Nazis? If not, where is even a word of condemnation of neo-Nazi atrocities?

Those who claim that neo-Nazism in Ukraine is “an invention of Russian propagandists” can take a look at the post of 6 October by the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, Valerii Zaluzhnyi, on his official account. He has no scruples about wearing and displaying a swastika and promises a kind of “war of annihilation”.

Let us dwell in more detail on what “values” are defended today in Kyiv by those who claim to represent the interests of the Ukrainian people.

This is an undeclared terrorist war against civilians in Ukraine and Russia, and a violent suppression of dissent in order to forcibly bring about a change in identity through acts of intimidation, including political assassination. Dozens of local government leaders have been victims of or affected by such actions over the past few months. A recent example is yesterday’s attempted assassination of Andrey Koshelev, deputy head of the administration of the Bilozerka settlement in the Kherson region. On 20 August, social activist Darya Dugina was murdered in Moscow in a bold attack. And there are many, many other examples.

The message disseminated by Ukrainian officials that “as many Russians as possible need to be killed” to achieve their political goals does not seem to be of any concern to the OSCE leadership – at least to date there has been no reaction condemning these calls. Does that mean you support this idea?

This also includes years of criminal shelling, both indiscriminate and targeted, of residential neighbourhoods and civilian and energy infrastructure facilities. We recall the horrific transport and economic blockade imposed by the Kyiv regime on certain areas of Donbas, depriving local residents of access to vital resources, food and medicines. Or the terrorist attacks on vital installations on the Crimean peninsula, including the destruction of the energy supply infrastructure and the total disruption of the water supply. When Crimean civilians of different nationalities suffered from these actions, few in the West were concerned. Finally, there is the recent terrorist attack involving a truck bombing on the Crimean Bridge on 8 October, which, according to the Russian Federal Security Service, was masterminded by the head of Ukrainian military intelligence, Kyrylo Budanov.

Right now there are reports of a rocket attack on a multi-storey apartment building in Belgorod, details of which are being investigated.

On 12 October, Russia's Federal Security Service prevented the Ukrainian intelligence services from preparing sabotage and terrorist acts in the Moscow region using two Igla man-portable air defence systems smuggled in from Estonia. A Ukrainian citizen with signals equipment was detained and pointed to his handlers in the Security Service of Ukraine. I would recall that NATO countries supplied these missile systems unchecked to members of Ukrainian armed formations.

On the same day, a Ukrainian citizen who was planning to commit a terrorist attack on a transport terminal in Bryansk was detained. He also came to Russia via Estonia and was in contact with Ukrainian intelligence officers.

An explosive device with projectiles went off at the main entrance to the central market in Melitopol (Zaporizhzhia region) on 12 October, targeting a crowd of civilians. Fortunately, no one was injured.

And, of course, there are the incessant acts of atomic terrorism aimed at disrupting the operation of the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant and creating an emergency situation. The intensity of shelling of the plant by Ukrainian formations from the settlements of Nikopol and Marhanets in the Dnipropetrovsk region has decreased only thanks to the presence of members of the International Atomic Energy Agency at the Zaporizhzhia plant. Meanwhile, there was another unsuccessful attempt on 12 October to enter the plant by 30 saboteurs who had arrived by boat across the Dnieper. A second such foray is reportedly scheduled for 14 October.

We note that the terrorist acts planned, committed and prepared by the Ukrainian intelligence services, and the mass killing of civilians on the territories occupied by Ukrainian formations have not met with a single word of condemnation on the part of the OSCE leadership. On the contrary, there is in fact express public support for the criminal acts of the Kyiv regime. Is this what you call a "noble struggle"? Let us emphasize that the personal reputations of the aforementioned authors of the 10 October press release are their own business. However, no one gave them the right to tarnish the credibility of the entire OSCE. Why proceed in this barbaric manner to dismantle our Organization, which has served for decades as a platform for dialogue, compromise and diplomacy?

Furthermore, we never tire of recalling the decisions of our Organization's decision-making bodies that instruct the Chairmanship and the OSCE Secretary General not to allow arbitrariness or the usurpation of authority and to be guided in their work exclusively by collectively agreed decisions, drawing their authority from consensus decisions of all OSCE participating States without exception, rather than from individual States or groups of States.

For those who today continue to harp on about some kind of phantom Ukrainian sovereignty, we recommend watching the video interviews published the other day featuring Andrii Yermak, head of the Office of the President of Ukraine, and Serhii Pashynskyi, head of the Association of Defence Enterprises of Ukraine and at the same time a "field commander" and author of several operations by Ukrainian formations. They both admitted that Ukraine is sacrificing its sovereignty in favour of external patrons from the United States of America and is conducting combat operations in co-operation with US agencies, including intelligence services, and that there even exists a "right of veto" in the United States on the actions of members of the Ukrainian armed formations. They explicitly pointed out that the United States is responsible for the actions of the Ukrainian formations, giving the green light for certain scenarios. Well, their US colleagues failed to veto the mass executions in Kupiansk.

By the way, NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg made a telling statement on 12 October. In his view, the success of Russia's actions in Ukraine would constitute a defeat for NATO. There is nothing new for us in this statement: we already know who opposes us on the territory of Ukraine, which lost full

sovereignty after the 2014 coup d'état. And it is not the Ukrainian people at all, as some individuals are trying to portray it. All of this is also confirmed by the results of yesterday's activity, already for the sixth time in succession, at the US base in Ramstein regarding military and technical supplies to Ukrainian formations.

Attempts by European Union structures to build support for Ukrainian neo-Nazi formations are also clearly destructive. It would seem that against the backdrop of the most serious socio-economic crisis, the European Union would do well to focus on its own internal problems rather than organizing what it calls a "training mission" for 15,000 Ukrainian soldiers.

We can assure you that all these efforts, just like the deployment of foreign commanders, high-tech weapons operators and mercenaries to Ukraine, will not affect the determination with which the Russian special military operation will continue to be carried out. Its objectives will be fully attained.

Thank you for your attention.