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Delegation of the Russian Federation

**RIGHT OF REPLY BY
MR. MAXIM BUYAKEVICH, DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF
THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, AT THE 1379th MEETING OF THE
OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

23 June 2022

**In response to the statement by Mr. Michael Carpenter,
Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the OSCE**

Mr. Chairperson,

As you all know, for procedural reasons we do not usually exercise our right of reply under this item on the agenda of a Permanent Council meeting. But today I will make an exception, because the statement by the Permanent Representative of the United States of America was so “extraordinary” that, taking advantage of his presence in this room, I should like to respond to it.

We are already accustomed to a number of delegations in this room using manipulative techniques, accusing Russia of what they do themselves. Imperialists who have bled half the globe accuse our country of imperialism. Neocolonialists who, like the United States, have carried out over 70 military interventions in sovereign States during the past hundred years accuse Russia of neocolonialism. And now we are being accused of neo-Nazism.

But who is doing this? The representative of a State that, year after year, votes against the United Nations General Assembly resolution on combating glorification of Nazism, neo-Nazism and other practices that contribute to fuelling contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance. Only two States oppose this resolution – the United States and Ukraine.

And here is why. A non-exhaustive list of neo-Nazi, fascist and racist organizations that are protected by the United States Constitution: the American Front, the American Nazi Party, the Aryan Brotherhood, the Aryan Nations, the Atomwaffen Division, the Base hate group, the White Separatist Religion, the National Alliance and finally the National Socialist Movement – and there are dozens more like them. And here is the United States making accusations of neo-Nazism against Russia, where, unlike in the United States, Nazi ideology is outlawed. Some Russian political movements are cited that have nothing to do with Nazism.

I could remind the US Permanent Representative of whom the American mercenaries in Donbas fought alongside not so long ago. They could be seen in the photos we recently distributed in booklets in this room, which someone has shamefully removed from the shelves. These photos show members of the Azov

battalion tattooed from head to toe with Nazi swastikas. The US mercenaries who took part in the hostilities at their side will, I am sure, soon face the punishment they deserve.

In this room today we have been hearing accusations of neo-Nazism made against Russia. But strangely, US Customs and Border Protection thinks otherwise. One of its recent documents to other federal services states that Ukrainian nationalist groups are actively recruiting members of racially or ideologically motivated violent groups to join volunteer Ukrainian battalions. In other words, US border guards fear the return to the United States of neo-Nazis who have gained combat experience in Ukraine and who will strengthen the ranks of the already many thousands of fascist and Nazi groups in their country.

The Russian Federation, as part of its special military operation in Ukraine, is in fact eliminating those Nazi battalions which your country, esteemed Permanent Representative of the United States, trained and financed together with colleagues from Canada and other countries. Such as the Azov battalion. So next time you talk about neo-Nazism, take a look at the US Constitution, or better yet, look in the mirror.

Thank you for your attention.