



**Permanent Mission of Ukraine**  
to the International  
Organizations in Vienna

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF UKRAINE  
AT THE 1025<sup>th</sup> FSC PLENARY MEETING  
(12 October 2022)**

**Agenda item 1, General Statements**

Mr Chairperson,

On behalf of the delegation of Ukraine let me deliver a statement on the subject of the Russian war of aggression against Ukraine.

This week has become one of the bloodiest since the very beginning of the full-scale unprovoked and unjustified Russian war of aggression against Ukraine on 24 February 2022. In the spirit of its terrorist nature, the Russian Federation has intensified the number of its strikes against Ukrainian cities.

Being unable to win Ukrainian defence forces on the battlefield, the Russian Federation resorts to tactics that cannot be compared even to the most terrible examples of terrorist activities since none of the existing terrorist organisations has such military resources as the Kremlin has.

In recent days, the Russian armed forces conducted numerous air and missile strikes against the settlements in the Kyiv, Khmelnytskyi, Lviv, Dnipropetrovsk, Vinnytsia, Ivano-Frankivsk, Zaporizhzhia, Sumy, Kharkiv, Zhytomyr, and Kirovograd regions of Ukraine.

One of the bloodiest attacks occurred on 9 October, when the Russian Federation carried out more than 20 missile attacks against residential areas in the city of Zaporizhzhia killing at least 13 people and wounding 70, including 11 children.

The number of attacks on 10 October was even more intensive causing substantial damage and claiming numerous lives. The consequences of these strikes are horrifying.

According to the preliminary estimates, as a result of the Russian massive strikes on 10 October, 23 people were killed and 92 were injured or wounded, 117 objects, including 35 residential buildings were damaged, 15 regions of Ukraine experienced substantial problems with electricity supplies.

The Russian Federation uses the entire range of available long-range conventional weapons, including air-to-surface, ship- and submarine-launched cruise missiles and even air-defence missiles. In total, on 10 October, the Russian side launched more than 60 cruise missiles, conducted 32 air attacks, including with the use of Iranian-made «Shaheed-136» kamikaze drones and committed more than 92 MLRS strikes. Ukrainian air defence forces managed to intercept 73 targets, in particular 46 cruise missiles and 27 UAVs.

On Tuesday, 11 October, the Russian forces again launched a massive missile attack. They used almost thirty cruise missiles on our country, carried out seven airstrikes and about twenty-five MLRS attacks. Thirty-two air targets were destroyed by Ukrainian air defence: 21 cruise missiles and 11 UAVs. As a result of the massive missile attack, the infrastructure of more than ten settlements in the Lviv, Vinnytsia, Dnipropetrovsk, Zaporizhzhia and Donetsk regions were damaged.

At night, the enemy deployed eight Iranian attack UAVs in an attempt to damage critical infrastructure facilities in the Mykolaiv region. All these "drones" were destroyed by the air defence forces of the Armed Forces of Ukraine.

It is extremely cynical that the overwhelming majority of Russian strikes are aimed against the civilian population and objects of critical infrastructure. The Russian Federation launches deliberate attacks against electrical facilities, heating plants, public transport facilities and residential buildings demonstrating the terrorist nature of its methods. The entire supply chain has been hit - both electricity distribution and electricity generation systems. The enemy's goal is to make it difficult to reconnect the power supply from other sources.

The tactics chosen by the Russian president is to kill Ukrainians with cold and hunger. Russians gloat when they feel that they can destroy some thermal power plant. They are mentally stuck in the 30s of the XX century. Then, the Soviet Union committed a bloody terror, in particular against Ukrainians.

The Russian Federation continues to demonstrate its total disregard for all basic norms and principles of international law, in particular, the UN Charter and the Helsinki Final Act. The appalling actions of the Russian troops constitute a gross violation of the International Humanitarian Law provisions aimed at the protection of civilians during armed conflicts, including the Hague Conventions of 1899 and 1907, as well as the IV Geneva Convention of 1949.

Mr Chairperson,

These reckless acts should not remain without consequences. In the statement dedicated to the Russian attack against Zaporizhzhia, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine Dmytro Kuleba defined the 5 steps we expect from the international community in this regard. These steps include

1. condemnation of Russian deliberate attacks against the civilian population of Ukraine;
2. deployment of investigators and experts to the site in order to document evidence of Russia's war crimes in order to bring all perpetrators to account;
3. recognition of Russia as a state sponsor of terrorism;
4. reinforcement of international pressure through tough additional sanctions which will defund Russia's war machine;
5. provision of Ukraine with more modern air defence and missile defence systems.

The last point is of particular importance to us. The Armed Forces of Ukraine continue to do everything possible to protect Ukrainian territory from Russian aviation and missile, but the numerical superiority of the Russian troops and the scale of its attacks make it impossible to cover the entire territory of Ukraine with the available means.

As we constantly reiterate during the FSC meetings that Ukraine remains fully committed to ensuring all responsibility of all perpetrators regardless of their rank or position. Any kind of immunity from prosecution will not help the Russian leadership to avoid responsibility for each and every of 39,347 crimes of aggression and war crimes registered to date by Ukrainian law enforcement agencies (as of 11.10.2022).

However, the Russian leadership does even try to deny its responsibility. As Russian president Putin in his address on Monday: «mass strike with long-range, high-

precision weaponry» had been conducted against «energy, military command and communications facilities of Ukraine».

We have no doubt this statement of the Russian president will be used in the future special international tribunal to investigate Russian leaders and military commanders and their allies for the crime of aggression against Ukraine, which we call to establish in order to ensure responsibility and justice for all.

Mr Chairperson,

Against the backdrop of the ongoing Russian escalation, we cannot but recall the situation in and around the Republic of Belarus. We are extremely concerned with the ongoing measures of the Kremlin to engage the Belarusian regime in its war of aggression against Ukraine.

On 8 October 2022, Belarussian authorities transferred through the Embassy of Ukraine in Minsk a note in which they claimed that Ukraine is allegedly planning an attack on the territory of Belarus.

We reject these false allegations of the Belarusian side and consider its aggressive rhetoric as a direct outcome of the ongoing Russian pressure to engage Belarusian armed forces in the Russian war against Ukraine.

Belarusian allegations sound even more absurd if we take into account the recent statement of the chairman of the state border committee of Belarus Anatoly Lappo who said the Armed Forces of Ukraine had destroyed nearly all bridges and mined the roads along the Belarus border. That would have been quite a strange decision for the state that is allegedly planning a military invasion!

At the same time, we all remember how the Russian troops freely crossed checkpoints on the Ukrainian-Belarusian state border on 24 February. And, of course, we do not forget that hiding behind obligations under bilateral treaties, Belarus continues to provide the armed forces of the Russian Federation with airfields, launching grounds and logistics capabilities enabling the continuation of the war. The UN General Assembly Resolution 3314 (XXIX) "Definition of Aggression" clearly defines these actions as aggression.

Taking into account that the note verbale transferred to Ukraine on 8 October 2022 in Minsk does not contain a single piece of evidence of the alleged attack, we call on the Belarusian side to provide them here, at the Forum for Security Cooperation.

The Delegation of Ukraine considers the FSC to be an appropriate place for the Belarusian side to present concrete facts of this imaginary attack.

Mr Chairperson,

In two days, on 14 October, Ukraine will mark the Defenders Day, a national holiday established to honour all men and women who bravely defend and protect Ukraine by serving in different branches of the military, special and law enforcement services as well as volunteers.

This year this special day will be marked against the backdrop of the ongoing full-scale war of aggression. Since the very beginning of this unprovoked and unjustified war of aggression, thousands of Ukrainians have joined the Armed Forces of Ukraine and the Territorial Defence Forces in their desire to defend Ukrainian territory from the Russian occupiers. Our troops not only proved that they can do it, they do it every day and will continue so till the full restoration of Ukraine`s sovereignty and territorial integrity within its internationally recognised borders, including the territories that the Russian side attempted to annex in Crimea, Donbas, Kherson and Zaporizhzhia regions.

In conclusion let me reiterate that despite all difficulties, all Ukrainians remain truly devoted to the fight against the aggressor state. No matter how much time it requires, Ukraine will continue to do its best to counter Russian aggression.

Mr Chairperson, I thank you and ask that this statement be attached to the Journal of the Day.