



Permanent Mission of Ukraine
to the International
Organizations in Vienna

Statement on russia's war of aggression against Ukraine

As for delivery by Ambassador Yevhenii Tsymbaliuk, Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the International Organizations in Vienna,
to the 1400th meeting of the OSCE Permanent Council
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Mr. Chairperson, esteemed colleagues,

Terrorist russia continues to wage war against the civilians.

After they run away from Kherson, russian army wants the revenge over people.

The region is under invaders' constant shelling.

On November 22, two people killed and 10 wounded.

Another torture chamber was discovered in the office centre in Kherson.

About 50 civilians, including teenagers, passed through this chamber.

Words of prayers, such as "God, give me strength and save!", were left by tortured detainees on the walls.

Words scratched on the walls are a true memorial of the godlessness and immorality of those who simply use monuments and church to justify their right to wage war and kill.

Only yesterday, a new-born baby was killed by the russian missile in the maternity ward in Vilniansk, Zaporizhzhia region. The boy was just two days old.

During 48 hours of his life, he witnessed the joy of first meeting with a loving mother and senseless cruelty of the kremlin regime.

There must be no place for the latter.

We will never forget all victims of the russian aggression.

And we want a memory about them to live forever.

But even more, we want to deliver justice to the victims and to end russia's impunity. Once and forever.

The first MH17 verdict is a remarkable event in the context of the establishment of justice and the inevitability of punishment for crimes.

It is also the verdict for russian diplomats in the Permanent Council, who lied, denying russia's responsibility for the aggression in Donbas, for eight long years.

It also sends a clear message – no lies will help escape justice.

All criminals up the russian chain of command must be held accountable.

Esteemed colleagues,

Incitement of genocide on russian state TV is in full swing.

They call for more strikes to inflict unbearable conditions of life on civilians.

putin's spokesperson, Dmitriy Peskov, openly says that russia is destroying Ukrainian critical civilian infrastructure to force Ukraine to engage in negotiations.

These ultimatums are not about peace.

They are about coercion and subjugation.

Terrorists use the same tactics – they kill innocent people and make their demands.

As they did yesterday by launching yet another missile attack.

Strategic bombers Tu-95 from the Rostov region and Caspian Sea, thus, in violation of the legal status of the region, and two warships from the Black Sea fired about 71 missiles.

Apart from Infrastructure objects, residential buildings were damaged in Kyiv and Vyshhorod.

In total, so far, we know about 10 people killed across Ukraine.

It was also reported about electricity and water supply shortage in Kyiv, Dnipro, Lviv, Odesa, Kharkiv, Zaporizhzhia, Sumy, Rivne, Poltava, Ternopil, Khmelnytsk and others.

And as we understand, there was also outage in Moldova.

There was also emergency shutdown of all Ukrainian Nuclear Power Plants.

This is an unprecedented case.

We remember also that last time two NPPs in Khmelnytsk and Rivne were affected.

Neither should we forget about the occupation of the ZNPP.

Apart from energy consequences, this occupation generates enormous risks to the nuclear safety.

This is how russia keeps the whole Europe hostage.

According to Ukraine's energy company "Ukrenergo" there are no thermal and hydro power stations not damaged by russian missiles.

Perhaps, in this way, russia wants to confirm once again that the decision of the European Parliament to recognize russia as a terrorist state was timely and fair.

So, let's read this message properly and take all necessary steps to secure ourselves from future terror.

While there are still attempts to find additional arguments why diplomatic channels with a terrorist russia should remain open, the same russia fires new missiles at Ukraine.

But let's be honest, there should be no more illusions about moscow.

And we are grateful to the Polish CIO for guarding OSCE principles and commitments in times of existential challenges.

CIO principled decisions give true credits to the OSCE and contribute to its credibility in the eyes of those who suffer from russian attacks.

As russia violates all ten principles of the Helsinki Final Act, continues to ruin security and cooperation in Europe as well as abuses OSCE platform to disseminate propaganda and disinformation – we have to strengthen moscow's isolation.

We know the kremlin's position and we haven't seen any sign of its change.

I would also like to quote Ambassador Christoph Heusgen who also decided not to invite russian officials to the Munich Security Conference in 2023.

As he said: “we will not give them a platform for their propaganda”.

Neither should we. Because it is not a diplomacy but justification of a genocidal war of aggression.

There is nothing to discuss about our future with those who today has deprived us of peace. They will do the same tomorrow.

russia must be isolated at all levels and held accountable in order to end its long-standing policy of terrorism in Ukraine and across the globe.

Maybe, in this case of isolation, the kremlin will finally find some time for open and honest conversation with its people.

A recent appeal of Olga Tsukanova, head of the Council of Mothers and Wives, is remarkable in this regard.

It is worth quoting. “volodymyr volodymyrovych [putin], are you a man or what?

Do you have the courage to meet face to face, openly, not with the pocket women, mothers you agreed upon, but with the real ones who came here from different cities at their own expense.

We are ready to meet you here in moscow [...] Will you hide again? russian mothers have a lot of questions”. End of quote.

As it has become known, the kremlin is planning a meeting with mothers of military personnel. But not with all. Should we be surprised?

Apart from russia’s isolation, it is time for comprehensive sanctions that would put the russian production of missiles on hold, as well as deprive it of a possibility to get them from other countries, like Iran.

Such sanctions together with additional anti-missile and air defence systems will effectively close the Ukrainian skies.

Also, successful Kharkiv and Kherson counteroffensives this autumn proved that real peace is achievable.

With sufficient number of modern weaponry and defensive systems the victory can be achieved very soon.

We have to defend a peace formula recently presented by President Zelenskyy.

And let’s not allow russia to get a pause now.

New accusations by Belarus against its neighbours clearly show who is the mastermind of this provocation.

russia desperately needs new resources to wage the war and it does not give up attempts to drag Belarus in as well as to mobilize population of both countries.

We also took note of remarks by Oleksandr Lukashenko at the CSTO meeting yesterday.

It seems that Minsk is assigned to a role of expressing moscow’s fears and phobia at international fora.

Excellencies,

On the 21st of November Ukraine celebrated the Day of Dignity and Freedom.

This was the day when the fight for our democracy and a right to choose the future has started. Then Ukraine was at the crossroad.

But thanks to the unity of our people Ukraine took a right turn.

Thanks to the courage of ordinary people, including of the Heavenly Hundred, we have got a chance to build a European, democratic and independent country.

Today, it seems, that Ukraine is again facing a new Revolution of Dignity.

But in much larger scale and with much higher stakes.

As it was in 2013-2014, this is about the value of human life, right to choose its future, and about who will take an upper hand – autocracy or democracy.

Then it was only about Ukraine, now it is about our common European home and even beyond.

And today we are grateful to all our partners for unwavering support and for standing by Ukraine while we are fighting literally for the right to exist.

The Revolution of Dignity has shown us when we are united, we prevail.

The same we are witnessing today, as we stand united, russia of putin is backing down.

We have to keep our unity and work together until the freedom and democracy prevail.

This is the only way to restore peace in Europe.

I thank you, Mr. Chairperson.