



Statement by the Delegation of Ukraine at the 771-st FSC plenary meeting

(19 November 2014 at 10.00, Hofburg)

Mr. Chairman,

The ever-growing list of escalatory actions taken in recent days by the Russian Federation and the illegal armed groups it supports continue to constitute clear and serious violations of the Minsk Protocol and Memorandum. The illegitimate so-called “elections” on November 2 in parts of eastern Ukraine were immediately followed by the illegal transfers of heavy weapons and fighters to the so-called “DPR” and “LPR” and by the movement of unmarked Russian convoys into the sovereign territory of Ukraine.

Artificial Donetsk and Luhansk "people's republics", which rely on rude force of illegal armed groups, became the centers of concentration of Russian mercenaries, professional fighters and subversive groups, which are backed up by increased influx of Russian military personnel and hardware to Donbas from across the border. The inflow includes small arms and light weapons, heavy armored vehicles and tanks, multiple launcher rocket systems "Grad" and "Urahan", which are regularly used by terrorists for shelling not only at camps and checkpoints of the ATO forces, but also at residential areas, resulting in killing of peaceful citizens.

Distinguished colleagues,

Against the backdrop of significant concentration of Russian military and militants around Donetsk and Luhansk, continuous provocations and violations of cease-fire the President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko in his interview to the German Bild stated that “Ukraine only wants peace, but, unfortunately, it is forced to consider worst-case scenarios.”

He pointed out that “...there are thousands of Russian soldiers, hundreds of tanks and heavy artillery in my country. One of the largest armies in the world threatens us and the whole of Europe. Ukraine is fighting for European values, but Russia does not adhere to any agreements. ...Russia, however, promises one thing and the next day it does just the opposite”.

Distinguished colleagues,

Despite consistent endeavors of Ukraine and the OSCE community to safeguard a peaceful resolution on the basis of the Minsk agreements, illegal armed groups, with the Russian support, have significantly intensified their dangerous provocations in Donbas.

Let me bring to your attention some facts of continuous violations by the pro-Russian terrorist groups, which were registered from 13 till 18 November:

-on 13 November, militants using tanks, artillery, grenade launchers, mortars and light weapons attacked the areas near the cities of Donetsk, Debal'tseve, Pervomaisk and Mariupol. These attacks left 3 Ukrainian servicemen killed and 13 wounded;

-on 14 November, pro-Russian militants continued their fierce attacks on the Donetsk airport. These attacks left 2 Ukrainian servicemen and 3 civilian people killed and 6 wounded. The situation in the city of Donetsk remains extremely tense;

-on 15 November, the terrorists shelled the settlements of Zolote, Hirs'ke, Vil'hove and Saryi Ajdar (Luhansk oblast) by mortars, artillery systems and MLRS "GRAD". During this day 5 Ukrainian military servicemen lost their lives with 22 wounded;

-on 16 November, during the day in the fighting in eastern Ukraine 3 Ukrainian servicemen were killed and 5 injured. In total the militants carried out 39 attacks;

-on 17 November, terrorists attacked check points in the vicinity of Kryms'ke, Debal'tseve, Nikishene, Troits'ke and Avdiivka. Those attacks were repelled. Attacks on the Donetsk airport continued. During the day 6 Ukrainian servicemen were killed and 9 wounded;

Since September 5, Ukrainian forces and civilians have been shelled over **3000** times. **136** Ukrainian servicemen were killed. Some bodies are still to be recovered and identified. Over **680** have been wounded. There are also at least **71** casualties among civilians.

Mr. Chairman,

As we engage for months now in this FSC dialogue on contributing to resolving the crisis in and around Ukraine, caused by aggression of the Russian Federation, let me recall Russia's initial denials that the troops, the "little green men", who illegally occupied Crimea in February-March, thus committing an act of aggression, were Russian soldiers. It was very soon publicly acknowledged by President Putin. The integral part of Ukraine - Crimea and Sevastopol remain illegally occupied and annexed by Russia, which we condemn.

In an interview to the German ARD before the G-20 summit in Australia Russian President Vladimir Putin again confirmed that the Russian army blocked the Armed Forces of Ukraine during the Russian occupation of Crimea.

At the same time, the Russian leader did not deny Russian support for mercenaries in Ukraine's east with troops and weapons, noting instead "in today's world, anyone waging a fight that they believe is just, will always find weapons."

Dear Colleagues,

Let me show the photos of a few examples of weaponry produced in Russia and used by Russian army and the militants in the east of Ukraine. The photos came from east of Ukraine (attached).

- tank T-72B. This model of tank is in service in the Russian Armed Forces. Russian third-generation battle tank is a modernisation of T-72;
- 12,7 mm "Cord" machine gun. It is a large calibre machine gun designed in the Russian Federation in 1997 to fire 12,7x108 mm bullets from an ammunition belt. It has been produced since 1998 by Degtiariov 'ZID' Public Corporation;
- AGS-17 Plamy (Flame) 30mm Automatic Grenade Launcher. It was designed to operate from a tripod or mounted on an installation or vehicle.

I would like to ask the Russian delegation where in Russia such weapons can always be found, what measures are taken to prevent their illegal circulation on the black market and illegal transfers across the international borders?

Mr. Chairman,

The Russian Federation has once and again declared in various formats its interest in peaceful resolution of the crises in and around Ukraine. These declarations have not yet been backed up by meaningful practical steps. In particular, they should include pulling back Russian Armed Forces from the Ukrainian territory, withdrawal of troops from the state border with Ukraine, voluntarily hosting of inspections under the Vienna Document to effectively dispel concerns about the Russian military activities along the borders with Ukraine, undertaking meaningful steps in implementing de-escalatory measures in accordance with the Minsk arrangements, also signed by Russia.

We are confident that the most effective means to solve the crisis in and around Ukraine is the renewal of fulfillment by the Russian Federation of norms and principles of international law and OSCE principles and commitments which remain flagrantly violated by this participating State.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Russian Federation Armed Forces' weapons and military equipment on the territory of Ukraine

1. 29.10.2014, a column of Russian Army armoured vehicles were sighted leaving the town of Snizhne (Donetsk region) toward Donetsk city. The column included **T-72B tanks** flying Russian flag. This model of tank is in service in the Russian Armed Forces.



Picture1. A Column of T-72B



Picture2. T-72B flying Russian flag.

T-72B, Russian third-generation battle tank, is a modernisation of T-72. It is equipped with 'Contact' dynamic protection system, more up-to-date fire control system with two-axis 2E42-2 gun stabilizer allowing it to continue moving while conducting fire as well as 9K120 Svir guided missile system with 1K13-49 laser rangefinder.

2. 12.7 mm “Cord” machine gun – is a large calibre machine gun designed in the Russian Federation in 1997 to fire 12,7x108 mm bullets from an ammunition belt. It has been produced since 1998 by Degtiariov ‘ZID’ Public Corporation.



Picture3.

12,7 mm “Cord” machine gun is not in service in the Ukrainian Armed Forces.

3. AGS-17 Plamya (Flame) 30 mm Automatic Grenade Launcher.
AGS-17 Plamya (Flame) 30 mm Automatic Grenade Launcher designed to operate from a tripod or mounted on an installation or vehicle.



Picture4.



Picture5.