

Delegation of the Russian Federation

**ADDITIONAL REMARKS BY MR. ANDREY RUDENKO,
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FEDERATION, IN CONNECTION WITH THE AGENDA ITEM OF
THE 1072nd MEETING OF THE OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL ON
THE SITUATION IN UKRAINE AND THE NEED TO
IMPLEMENT THE MINSK AGREEMENTS**

22 October 2015

**On violations of the Minsk Package of Measures by the
armed forces of Ukraine**

Today's discussion once again demonstrated the politicized approach of our partners, who place the responsibility for the violation of the Minsk Package of Measures exclusively on the militia. In that connection, we should like to draw attention to the latest reports by the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine (SMM). Evidently they are not being read, or else they are being read without glasses.

On 14 October near Stantsiya Luhanska, the SMM observed the aftermath of the shelling of a militia checkpoint by 82 and 120 mm mortars coming from a northerly direction, i.e. from positions occupied by the Ukrainian armed forces. On 19 October, monitors confirmed the existence of craters caused by a grenade launcher near a militia checkpoint in the village of Kalynove. The fire came from the west, i.e. from positions occupied by the Ukrainian armed forces.

Ukraine is also systematically violating the provision of the Minsk Package of Measures regarding the withdrawal of heavy weapons. Between 16 and 19 October, SMM monitors noted the absence of 14 gun mounts, including multiple-launch rocket systems, from Ukrainian armed forces depots. In spite of repeated requests by the head of the SMM, Kyiv has still not presented an updated list of depots and the inventory numbers of large-calibre artillery held there.

Weapons that are not covered by the Minsk Package of Measures and the Addendum to it but are located close to the security zone exist on both sides. In particular, we should like to draw attention to the concentration of Ukrainian armed forces in the east of Dnipropetrovsk region. According to the SMM, there are at least two battalions of the Ukrainian armed forces, more than 20 tanks and some armoured personnel carriers in the village of Melioratyvne.

The SMM mentions violations by Ukraine of the freedom of movement of OSCE monitors. The Ukrainian security forces have repeatedly stopped SMM vehicles, refused them access to depots and openly shown disrespect and aggression towards members of the Mission. On 18 October near Toshkivka, a Ukrainian soldier pointed a machine gun at the monitors and held his finger on the trigger while his colleagues searched the SMM vehicle. A Schiebel unmanned aerial vehicle has repeatedly carried out intensive electronic surveillance of Ukrainian territory, most recently on 19 October near the villages of Pryvilne, Polkove and Shevchenko.

At the same time, there has been a reduction in the number of instances of restricted movement of monitors on the territory controlled by the militia. As Mr. Hug, deputy head of the SMM, confirmed in his briefing on 16 October, the monitors have been able to move freely on practically the entire territory of Luhansk region. The SMM regularly visits the Ukrainian-Russian border. Last week alone, monitors visited the Uspenka checkpoint three times, on 14, 16 and 19 October, where they were able to see a stream of Ukrainian civilians entering the territory of the Russian Federation.

Thank you for your attention.