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**STATEMENT BY
MR. MAXIM BUYAKEVICH, DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF
THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, AT THE 1543rd MEETING OF THE
OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

20 November 2025

On the increasing military involvement of certain NATO and EU member States in further confrontation in and around Ukraine

Mr. Chairperson,

On 14 November, the international community once again reaffirmed its stance towards humanity-hating ideologies. Thus, at the Third Committee of the United Nations General Assembly an overwhelming majority of States (114) voted in favour of the 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. This resolution, which was co-sponsored by 44 States, has become a “moral compass” pointing to the unacceptability of revising the outcomes of the Second World War and whitewashing Nazism.

Accordingly, the position of those who voted against it comes across as even more alarming. Going against the will of the global majority, 52 delegations refused to condemn the extolling of the Nazi movement and the glorification of former members of criminal organizations under the umbrella of the SS. It is worth paying special attention to Ukraine, which was among those that voted against the resolution in question. Such a step by the authorities in Kyiv is the logical consequence of State policy in Ukraine, whereby a war is being waged against monuments to those who fought against Nazism, torchlit processions of neo-Nazis and radical nationalists are held, and memorials are unveiled and streets renamed in honour of those who collaborated with the Nazi regime. Neo-Nazis are recruited into Ukraine’s law enforcement and security forces and integrated into the State apparatus.

The vote cast by 114 States is a powerful message – a message indicating that the global majority will not stand for the glorification of Nazism. And the fact that Ukraine and its Western patrons found themselves on the other side of the aisle speaks volumes about their moral and ideological bearings. Equally telling, as regards universal human values and respect for the norms of international humanitarian law, is the lack of a reaction by Western countries, including the Finnish OSCE Chairmanship, to the ongoing widespread war crimes committed by the Kyiv regime’s formations. During the week of 10 to 16 November, further crimes were added to the string of atrocities perpetrated by Ukrainian “fighters”: there were 71 civilian casualties, of whom 58 people were injured and 13 killed, including one child. More than

3,800 munitions were fired at civilian targets. Critical infrastructure continued to be attacked, including nuclear infrastructure, with attacks conducted specifically against the Novovoronezh nuclear power plant.

A premeditated and brazenly brutal execution was carried out in the Donetsk People's Republic, where a priest, his wife and a family from his parish, including an eight-year-old child, who had been attempting to evacuate, were liquidated using drones and mortars. Those injured were finished off, and the operators of the unmanned aerial vehicles would not let local residents retrieve the bodies for burial, opening fire on them each time they tried to get near these. Targeted attacks on first responders and medical workers have become an everyday occurrence. In Gorlovka, four Emergencies Ministry employees were injured in the line of duty when attacked by a kamikaze drone. In the Zaporozhye region, an ambulance and a district hospital came under attack. Waging war against those who save lives is yet another of the infamies of the Kyiv regime, but for that regime's sponsors it counts as perfectly "legitimate self-defence". Those who formulated the first item on the agenda of today's Permanent Council meeting "forget" that invocation of "self-defence" does not justify the use of criminal methods of warfare.

Today we shall go over a tragedy that the world did not see broadcast by the BBC in prime time, that did not make catchy headlines in Western newspapers, that did not spark hysteria on social media or prompt the convening of extraordinary meetings at international organizations. I am referring to Sudzha – a small Russian town in the Kursk region, a town that suffered a criminal invasion by Ukrainian armed formations. According to Russia's Investigative Committee, the bodies of more than 300 Sudzha residents whose lives were cut short by this aggression have already been handed over to their relatives. This is the outcome of genuine, not fictitious, crimes committed by the Kyiv regime, which is being armed and applauded by the West. Why do we not see the "free and independent" Western media condemn the Ukrainian armed forces' crimes? Where is the BBC, which is so fond of exposés? The answer, alas, is obvious: this tragedy does not fit into a narrative that suits the West. Because the victims in Sudzha are not the "right" victims. In contrast, a full-blown propaganda show was staged on the basis of the fabricated Bucha narrative, one that was spun out of thin air. The world is shown what suits the West. And what does not is put under wraps. However, the truth cannot be hidden. And we shall speak about Sudzha, just as we speak about all the crimes perpetrated against our people, so that the memory of every innocent victim is preserved and the perpetrators face the punishment they deserve.

We are witnessing an astonishing display of Western hypocrisy. On the one hand, we see complete and deliberate disregard for the tragedies of civilians in the Russian regions who are being killed by the Kyiv regime's strikes. On the other, there is a high-profile corruption scandal that the West is no longer able to hush up: Western countries' money yanked from their economies and social welfare systems, along with stolen interest on assets placed by Russia in those countries (these funds, incidentally, will have to be returned to us one way or another), is being shamelessly embezzled in Ukraine. The old saying comes to mind of how one thief robs another. European politicians are particularly indignant not at the crime as such, but at the fact that money was stolen from them that they had put aside in order to fuel the hybrid war against Russia. Every day, government ministers and intermediaries of these involved in the appropriation of funds are hastily absconding from Kyiv. Yet, this is just a scandal linked to the energy sector – an all the more disgraceful scandal given that it is energy supply problems that those in Kyiv never tire of complaining about. Still to come is the inevitable unmasking of corruption related to military supplies. And in many other areas too. A representative of the thieving Kyiv regime claimed at the previous meeting that Russian representatives were constantly lying. However, it is these who have been consistently drawing attention to the "corruption trough" operating in Kyiv. It turns out that so-called "Russian disinformation" has once again not disappointed, for it has revealed the bare facts about embezzlement of grotesque proportions.

Despite the silence of EU officials, this scandal will not pass without consequences for them. After all, the authorities in several EU countries, such as Denmark, have been concluding agreements on

manufacturing weapons and weapon components with those very entities whose real beneficiaries are now on the run.

Against this backdrop, the Kyiv regime is making desperate attempts to create the semblance of intense negotiation efforts. Volodymyr Zelenskyy has suddenly “remembered” about peace talks and promptly jetted off for a “peace tour” across Europe and Türkiye, declaring his readiness to “revivify dialogue”. He has been meeting with the leaders of France, Spain and Greece. Yet, Russia has not received any information from the authorities in Kyiv about their willingness to resume talks. What is more, the Ukrainian side’s very rhetoric is becoming increasingly schizophrenic: while Mr. Zelenskyy talks about “revivifying” negotiations, Deputy Foreign Minister Sergiy Kyslytsya is openly stating that “with this year’s peace talks ending with little progress made, they have now been abandoned.”

This show is nothing more than an attempt by the Kyiv regime to drown out the devastating publicity it has attracted and to convince Western sponsors of its ability to act. But the truth will out. And the truth is that the Western sponsors continue to feed a corrupt regime which is waging war against civilians and, as we are seeing, is getting away with stealing from its own patrons.

While the Kyiv regime pretends to engage in dialogue, the real situation on the ground is changing and the regime’s armed formations are breaking down from within. Data from the State Bureau of Investigation of Ukraine indicates that a record 2,156 individuals deserted from the ranks of the Ukrainian armed forces in October alone. More than 176,000 military personnel have fled from the front lines since the start of the year. These soldiers are voting with their feet. They have no faith in the Kyiv regime and are unwilling to die for the interests of its Western handlers. Sooner or later, Ukraine will have to revert to negotiations, but it will be from a much weaker position this time. If Mr. Zelenskyy and his Western handlers truly seek peace, it is high time that they stopped staging “negotiation shows” and finally began to engage in substantive dialogue with the Russian Federation. Until then, all these “tours” will remain nothing more than meaningless political noise.

We have studied with interest some recent remarks by Finnish President Alexander Stubb, who, at long last, acknowledged the obvious, namely that the moment will inevitably come when Europe will need to enter into talks with Russia. It is impossible to disagree with this insight. Fundamental factors such as history and geography, the economy and security will sooner or later push European capitals towards resuming a realistic and pragmatic dialogue with Russia. Unfortunately, though, in other respects Mr. Stubb shows himself beholden to that very same deep-running delusion that led Europe to the current crisis in the first place. He believes that a ceasefire can be achieved by “putting pressure on the Kremlin” and by nudging our US partners to join in this flawed strategy. That is a road to nowhere. Russia has repeatedly made it clear that it is futile to speak to us in the language of ultimatums and coercive pressure. True, sooner or later relations will need to be restored. However, it remains to be seen on what terms and with what losses for Europe itself this dialogue will take place. The longer Western countries follow the course of escalation, the higher the price they will pay.

Russia is willing to resume the Istanbul talks. Our Turkish partners have confirmed that the venue is ready. However, the resumption of dialogue requires the authorities in Kyiv to show political will, which is where we see problems. Russia has already proposed concrete steps, namely the setting up of working groups on key issues. But no response whatsoever has been forthcoming from the Ukrainian side.

It is symptomatic that even amid increasingly clear-eyed assessments of the corruption permeating the Kyiv leadership coming from politicians in a number of European countries, the EU bureaucracy continues to ram through the wholesale military and financial “beefing up” of the Zelenskyy regime. Ursula von der Leyen has sent EU countries a letter with official proposals for the expropriation of Russian

assets, stressing that a decision must be made at the EU summit on 18 and 19 December. In the capitals of the EU countries themselves, the obstinacy shown by the President of the European Commission in calling for grand larceny is apparently beginning to get on people's nerves. Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orbán has put it most succinctly: "This whole matter is a bit like trying to help an alcoholic by sending them another crate of vodka."

The response to the theft of Russian taxpayers' money will be harsh. Should these funds be seized, the Russian Federation will respond symmetrically. Our Ministry of Finance has already drawn up a relevant plan setting out reciprocal measures.

While European leaders hypocritically expatiate on "peace and security" at public forums, their real actions speak to the contrary. Today's Germany serves as the most glaring example of systematic stoking of confrontation with Russia. German Defence Minister Boris Pistorius's recent remarks are blatantly provocative and demonstrate a dangerous relapse into a militaristic mindset. With apocalyptic fervour, Mr. Pistorius speculates about the time frame for the start of war with Russia, hinting that it could be in 2029 or perhaps already in 2028. He openly states that German troops are getting ready to "kill Russian soldiers" and announces sweeping measures for the militarization of society, including medical check-ups for future conscripts. All this is served up under the guise of "historical responsibility", which is being professed by Chancellor Friedrich Merz of all people. But what kind of responsibility is this? Responsibility vis-à-vis whom? It appears that the authorities in Berlin have forgotten how previous attempts to build "the strongest army in Europe" and secure peace from a position of strength played out for Germany and the world as a whole.

In closing, we reiterate that the Russian Federation stands ready to engage in meaningful talks on resolving the Ukrainian crisis and, more broadly, on the topic of international security architecture; however, any dialogue must fully take into account our country's legitimate security interests. We categorically reject attempts to hold talks with us from a position of strength – Russia will not yield to threats, blackmail or ultimatums and will respond in kind to any challenges.

Thank you for your attention.