



Permanent Mission of Ukraine
to the International
Organizations in Vienna

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF UKRAINE

As delivered by HE Mr Yuriy Vitrenko, Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the International Organizations in Vienna

1553rd meeting of the OSCE Permanent Council

Agenda Item 1, “The Russian Federation’s ongoing aggression against Ukraine”
(12 February 2026)

Mr Chairperson,

Nearly four years after Russia launched its full-scale war of aggression against Ukraine, it continues deliberately to attack civilians and critical infrastructure across the country, inflicting death and destruction on a daily basis. Over the past week alone, the aggressor state has launched more than 2,000 drones, 1,200 guided bombs, and 116 missiles of various types against Ukraine.

As a result, the death toll from Russian aggression continues to rise dramatically. Just this week, on 10 February, a Russian aerial bomb struck the city of Sloviansk in the Donetsk region, killing a mother and her 11-year-old daughter and wounding 16 others. Regrettably, such horrifying reports are recorded almost every day.

Overnight, Putin’s criminal regime, indicted by the ICC, committed yet another crime against humanity, brutally attacking Kyiv, Dnipro, and Odesa. Hundreds of drones and ballistic missiles targeted energy system, depriving people of power, heating, and water. Civilians were injured, including a toddler and a 4-year-old child. As Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ukraine Andrii Sybiha stated: “No one can close eyes to Russian terror. It is happening right now in the middle of Europe. Despite the Olympic Truce and US-led peace efforts. [...] The reality of the largest war of aggression in Europe since WWII. Each such strike is a blow to peace efforts aimed at ending the war. Russia must be forced to take diplomacy seriously and deescalate. This can only be achieved through unity, strength, and increased pressure on Moscow.

Those who survive Russian attacks are forced to live under constant pressure, as regular barrages of drones and missiles continue to cause widespread disruption to essential services and inflict immense suffering on the civilian population.

In an act of open energocide, Russia persists in targeting thermal power plants, electricity grid facilities, and substations, including those essential for the safe operation of nuclear power plants. By doing so, Russia defies the very principles of humanity, disregards all the norms and principles of international humanitarian law, and undermines everything this Organisation stands for.

As one Kyiv resident interviewed by Amnesty International described it: “At this point, we’re in harsh survival mode.” We encourage participating States to read this report, which documents the devastating impact of Russia’s systematic attacks on Ukraine’s energy system through a series of testimonies from survivors enduring a freezing winter without heat, electricity, or running water.

Esteemed colleagues,

Ukraine has been all along clear that it seeks to achieve a durable peace as soon as possible. Diplomacy, backed by decisive action and pressure, is critical to achieving this goal. Restrictive measures imposed against the aggressor state in response to its hostile actions have already weakened Russia.

Separately, since the start of the full-scale invasion, Russia has suffered significant losses in military equipment on the battlefield. More specifically, since February 2022, more than 11,000 tanks, over 24,000 armoured vehicles, and almost 800 aircraft and helicopters have been destroyed by the Defence Forces of Ukraine.

Ironically, a state so obsessed with projecting itself as a great power is now forced to recruit mercenaries from around the world and to seek military support from other rogue regimes in order to sustain its war effort. We must prevent all attempts by Russia to bypass sanctions through third countries, convert civilian technologies for military use, or unlawfully acquire the technologies it requires.

Ukraine extends its sincere gratitude to all participating States that continue to maintain sanctions pressure against the aggressor state and to provide Ukraine with the military assistance it needs to defend itself.

Today, more than ever, it is crucial to deprive Russia of the military-industrial capacity to manufacture new weapons and to deprive the aggressor of the means it uses to carry out its regular attacks against Ukraine.

Ukraine, for its part, continues to work closely with its partners and like-minded states to strengthen pressure on the aggressor state’s military industry and to identify and disrupt sanctions-circumvention networks. On 7 February, President Zelenskyy signed two decrees imposing additional sanctions on Russia’s military-industrial complex and financial infrastructure, specifically targeting individuals and entities that assist Russia in circumventing sanctions imposed by Ukraine’s partners in response to its aggression.

Such actions are an integral part of the global effort to safeguard our shared values enshrined in the UN Charter and the Helsinki Final Act.

Mr Chairperson,

Russian propaganda often repeats that the international community must recognise the so-called “reality on the ground”. There is something Kafkaesque in this demand, so frequently reiterated by a country that itself denies reality.

It denies reality when it prefers to ignore the fact that not a single delegation in this room has ever supported its invasion of Ukraine.

It denies reality when it ignores that, week after week, the majority of participating States strongly and decisively condemn Russia’s actions.

Finally, it denies reality when, after almost four years of full-scale invasion and twelve years of aggression, Moscow still believes it can conquer Ukraine and subjugate its people.

Regrettably, the price of Russia’s denial is paid every day by innocent civilians, who fall victim to Russian drones and missiles, as well as by the Russians themselves, who keep dying in Ukraine without even knowing what for.

Let us be honest, the only reality that matters in this context is that Russia’s aggression has been, and remains, the sole root cause of all war-related suffering and destruction in Ukraine and beyond. And it is especially cynical when Russian diplomats attempt to misuse the OSCE to shift responsibility for the bloodshed and to fabricate new justifications for the continuation of the war.

Russia’s war is built on a demand for total submission through violence. No sovereign nation could or should accept such terms. It is therefore time for Russia, not for Ukraine or any other country, to recognise reality, stop the aggression, and engage in a meaningful resolution.

Thank you, Mr Chairperson.