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**STATEMENT BY
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RUSSIAN FEDERATION TO THE VIENNA NEGOTIATIONS ON MILITARY
SECURITY AND ARMS CONTROL, AT THE 1130th PLENARY MEETING OF
THE OSCE FORUM FOR SECURITY CO-OPERATION**

11 March 2026

**Agenda item: General statements
Subject: Special military operation to demilitarize and denazify Ukraine**

Madam Chairperson,

Over the past three decades, the foundations of international law have been dealt repeated blows by the West. We may recall 1999 and the NATO bloc's aggression in Yugoslavia, and then the first decade of the twenty-first century, punctuated by the invasions of Iraq and Libya, and the military operation in Syria. Then came 2014, when the Western part of the international community interfered in the internal affairs of a sovereign State and brought a bunch of political rogues to power before going on to quite literally trample underfoot one of the fundamental principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, namely the right of peoples to self-determination, as in the Crimeans' right to choose their own path into the future.

The events currently unfolding in Ukraine and beyond indicate that Western countries would like to establish the law of "might makes right" and impose their will. However, this will not work with Russia and will, undoubtedly, lead to an aggravation of the international situation and to chaos, even to the point of new, large-scale military conflicts.

This is precisely what the leaders of the "Coalition of the Willing" – the United Kingdom, Germany and France – are pushing for, as they do their utmost to derail the Ukrainian settlement. They are attempting to insert terms and conditions that are completely unacceptable to Russia into the system of future peace agreements. What is more, terms and conditions that not only fail to eradicate the root causes of the crisis in Ukraine, but also substantially complicate the international situation. However, the derailment of peace agreements is not the only objective pursued by the globalist elites. Leaders from a host of European countries are trying, both collectively and individually, to persuade the United States of America to bankroll their ambitions and once again assume the role of principal sponsor of the Kyiv regime. They are trying to mislead the US authorities into believing that Russia is somehow not interested in peace. But in reality, it is they who are throwing up obstacles to the settlement process.

Suffice it to say that truthful information about the war crimes committed by the Ukrainian armed forces is causing considerable discomfiture here to the Western handlers of the Kyiv regime. After all, it is because of this information that all those NATO and EU playbooks based on "Russian aggression" are being

rendered worthless. Especially when the Ukrainian armed forces use unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) to mercilessly conduct targeted strikes against ambulances (as in Gorlovka on 5 March) or against a bus carrying schoolchildren (as in the Zaporozhye region on 9 March), when they use French-made SCALP-EG missiles to pound a children's hospital (as in the Kievsky district of the city of Donetsk, also on 9 March this year).

Or perhaps according to the warped logic of EU Member States, launching missile and drone attacks on the busy streets of Russian towns and cities is a contribution to the achievement of peace?

Only yesterday, on 10 March, six people were killed and at least 42 injured as a result of a deadly missile attack against Bryansk by the Kyiv regime's "fighters". This was a targeted strike on a large gathering of civilians that, according to the information available, was conducted using British-made Storm Shadow long-range missiles. The head of the Kyiv regime, Volodymyr Zelenskyy, has already publicly briefed his handlers about this barbaric act, describing it as a "successful operation" by the Ukrainian armed forces and cynically thanking commanders for its execution.

As we have repeatedly pointed out, the use of high-tech Western weaponry is impossible without the direct involvement of foreign specialists guiding their operation and targeting, and without the necessary intelligence data being provided by individual NATO countries. This use of British-made weapon systems is taking place while political and diplomatic efforts regarding the Ukrainian crisis are intensifying within the tripartite format bringing together Russia, the United States and Ukraine. The aim of the authorities in London and other Western capitals is clear: to derail the peace process and bring about an escalation of the hostilities through a large-scale provocation involving civilian casualties. Nor was it mere chance that this attack coincided with signals coming out of Washington in which the hope is expressed that a "turning point" has been reached in the talks on a settlement and that achieving peace is a distinct possibility.

In total, there were more than 180 civilian casualties over the past week as a result of the Ukrainian armed forces' criminal acts, with ten minor children among them.

EU and NATO member States present themselves as peacemakers, but why, then, do they hush up all these casualties?

First, let us call a spade a spade: the overwhelming majority of the weapons being used by the Ukrainian armed forces to conduct strikes on the civilian population are manufactured and supplied by the Western accomplices in the Kyiv regime's crimes.

Secondly, the most Russophobic financial, industrial, political and military circles in European countries continue to pursue the implementation of a strategic plan that involves prolonging the war until the last Ukrainian soldier has fallen and keeping up measures of economic aggression in the form of sanctions, political pressure, disinformation operations and cyberoperations, and other hostile tools directed against our country.

But it is another matter altogether that all these exertions are not yielding the results desired by the West. The Russian army is advancing steadily along pretty much the entire front line. Russia's defence industry is developing at a rapid pace, and the economy is proving itself resilient. Above all, though, the overwhelming majority of Russian society supports the Supreme Commander-in-Chief and the armed forces of the Russian Federation.

And how are things shaping out over in the West?

Signs of an extremely negative trend in the fiscal realm are starting to appear in EU countries. According to estimates by one US analytical agency, the budget deficit in many EU Member States is set to surge in the medium term as most of them fulfil their pledges made at NATO to increase their defence spending to 5 per cent of gross domestic product (GDP) by 2035 (on average across the European Union, the deficit will already stand at between 3 and 5 per cent of GDP by 2030, while in France and Italy it will be as high as 7 per cent). An additional factor exacerbating this problem is the steady rise in the cost of servicing public debt in the European Union. As a result, EU countries will have more limited options for using fiscal space to stimulate economic growth. Belgium and France, in particular, are on course for yet another downgrade of their sovereign credit ratings, which will be followed by further deterioration of the investment climate.

Meanwhile, the authorities in Berlin are not merely declaring their intention to stand at the head of the anti-Russian coalition, but are also continuing to fast-track Germany's militarization. Germany clearly intends to jettison previous restrictions on budget deficits and on public borrowing as it moves to invest 500 billion euros in rearming the Bundeswehr and modernizing critical infrastructure. According to a press release issued by the Federal Defence Ministry, German procurement officials did an "outstanding job" in 2025. A good 103 procurement proposals, each requiring an outlay of 25 million euros and upwards, were submitted to the Bundestag. More than 11,500 contracts were signed for the procurement of weaponry and military equipment, worth around 34 billion euros in total.

All these transformations in the armed forces of European countries and their sponsoring of the Zelenskyy regime are being shouldered directly by ordinary citizens across Europe. Estonia, for example, has already set a new record for the number of bankruptcies, and the number of businesses forced to close their doors is rising, leading to growing unemployment and a decline in living standards. Where they will go from here? Preparations for a war against Russia until the pockets of ordinary European citizens have been wholly emptied?

It is telling that, for a long time, Western countries strenuously denied any information pointing to their involvement, on the Kyiv regime's side, in any actions against Russia. Now, though, the masks have been dropped. French Foreign Minister Jean-Noël Barrot, for example, openly said live on France Info that almost all of the intelligence data used by the Ukrainians not only for defence purposes, but also to launch strikes against Russian territory, is being provided by France and other European countries.

Reports are also coming in via French media outlets suggesting that the Kyiv regime has apparently deployed for the first time in the zone of the special operation the Mirage 2000 fighter jets supplied by France. A video clip published on the Telegram channel "Soniashnyk", which has close ties to the Ukrainian armed forces, shows one such aircraft performing a manoeuvre and dropping two AASM Hammer bombs, a type of munition manufactured by the French company Safran. The video is accompanied by words of gratitude to France for its unwavering support and for supplying modern, high-quality equipment. French officials have not commented on this matter. At a briefing held by the French Ministry of the Armed Forces on 26 February, Brigadier General Armel Dirou, head of the task force on Ukraine, stated merely that the Ukrainians were actively using the Mirage jets "as intended". It would be interesting to learn whether the French-made SCALP missiles and Caesar howitzers were also being used "as intended" when they were striking civilian targets in Donbass?

All this is taking place against a backdrop of bellicose statements coming from the capitals of NATO countries regarding the development of weapons capable of delivering strikes reaching more than a thousand kilometres deep. This is in line with NATO's overall policy of militarizing Europe, which is being pursued under the pretext that a military clash with Russia is allegedly inevitable. On the sly, the bloc's countries are thus building up coalition forces, modifying the activation system for such forces and expanding the

production capacity of the European military-industrial complex. It goes without saying that we are carefully monitoring these threats and will respond to them promptly. The Russian Federation has all the means required for that purpose. In response to the build-up of NATO countries' military contingents along our borders, the combat capabilities of Russia's general-purpose forces are increasing. The focus is on enhancing their level of technological sophistication and their ability to fight using new methods of warfare, including the use of advanced weapon systems. Any threats to the security of Russia and its citizens will be effectively neutralized.

We have also taken note of reports about transfers of obsolete weapons from Montenegro to other countries, including Poland, Türkiye, Czechia and Cyprus. NATO member countries are obviously unlikely to be in need of such items. Given the current geopolitical climate, it appears that Ukraine will be the one acquiring, or rather receiving, them. Montenegro has already been selling ammunition directly to the Kyiv regime, specifically incendiary rounds worth 201,000 euros. It appears that the Montenegrin authorities are keen to take advantage of the situation to kill two birds with one stone: to demonstrate their solidarity with other NATO members, including through the export of weapons to the Zelenskyy regime, and at the same time to get rid in this way of obsolete military goods and bring their country closer to the Alliance's standards. But where will this hardware end up afterwards? On the black market? In order to sweep such unpalatable facts under the carpet, NATO and EU countries have since 2022 been blocking without explanation all major review events from the annual cycle that deal with this topic: there has not been a single thematic discussion on the OSCE Document on Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) (2000) at the Forum for Security Co-operation during all this time. When it suits them, Western participating States are quite willing to disrupt the smooth functioning of our pan-European politico-military platform in order to cover up their violations of international obligations and commitments with regard to a responsible export control policy, including the aforementioned OSCE Document on SALW, the Arms Trade Treaty, the EU Common Position and other agreements.

I should like to conclude on the following note. We are seeing how the armed forces of European countries are undergoing accelerated modernization, with a focus on strengthening their capabilities related to UAVs, cyberwarfare, logistics and personnel training. The propaganda manipulation of the public continues, the aim being to convince people that Russia's military defeat is inevitable and then, in defiance of all logic, to convince them also that Russia will inevitably attack Europe.

The spiralling arms race and the fostering of war psychosis and confrontational narratives are undermining the security of EU countries, making it increasingly likely that they will be sucked into a large-scale conflict.

Let me reiterate that it is future generations of Europeans who will have to foot the bill for the militarization of their continent. The debt burden they are being saddled with will prove to be a heavy one, all the more so given the highly negative demographic trends that are currently to be observed in the European Union.

The objectives set at the beginning of the special military operation will be accomplished in any case. We will not tolerate the continued presence of threats on our borders or threats to our citizens. That being said, we continue to believe that addressing security issues through dialogue and diplomacy in the OSCE area remains the most acceptable option for all. We remain fully committed to the understandings reached at the Russian-US summit in Alaska. Our US counterparts know exactly what we are referring to, as these were their proposals. We trust that no one will lead them astray in that regard, all the EU and NATO efforts notwithstanding.

Thank you for your attention.