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**STATEMENT BY
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RUSSIAN FEDERATION TO THE VIENNA NEGOTIATIONS ON MILITARY
SECURITY AND ARMS CONTROL, AT THE 1115th PLENARY MEETING OF
THE OSCE FORUM FOR SECURITY CO-OPERATION**

1 October 2025

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

Madam Chairperson,

In this room attempts are being made to convince us of the peace-loving, defensive intentions of the NATO bloc, whose members are continuing their all-out sponsorship of the Kyiv regime so as to prolong the hostilities against the Russian Federation. I should therefore like to open today's statement with some quotes by European politicians that fully reflect the current state of affairs as regards politico-military security in the OSCE area.

February 2023. Former German Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock: "We are fighting a war against Russia ..."

February 2024. Belgian Prime Minister Alexander De Croo: "We will win this war together."

August 2025. German Chancellor Friedrich Merz: "We are already in a state of conflict with Russia."

September 2025. Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk: "The biggest and most important task for all our public opinion leaders today is to make [people] realize in the depths of their minds and hearts that ... this is war."

The aforementioned statements, with their by now default signalling of the West's readiness for direct confrontation with Russia, raise concerns for the future of international peace and security, all the more so since political figures in Brussels and the capitals of certain other EU and NATO countries are already starting in earnest to speak of a third world war as a likely scenario. At the same time, they are doing everything they can to present the international community with an upside-down state of affairs, according to which it is supposedly Russia that is revving up the flywheel of escalation. The facts say otherwise.

The “drone provocations” that have been staged over the past few weeks are being used in Europe as a convenient pretext for boosting the European military-industrial complex. The more talk there is in the European Union about “mysterious drones” in Poland, Romania, the Baltic States and so on, the more money from local taxpayers can be thrown at procuring air defence systems and electromagnetic warfare equipment and at developing such assets of one’s own. Decisions are being taken in the blink of an eye on further dangerous militarization of the Baltic Sea and NATO’s eastern flank. Amping up the narrative of a “Russian threat” is advantageous to the European elites not least because it enables a closing of ranks among allies and makes it possible to secure support for sanctions and the provision of military aid to the Kyiv regime.

Reports continue to come in about the Kyiv regime preparing new, high-profile false-flag operations in an attempt to draw European NATO countries into armed confrontation with Russia. The reason for these actions by Volodymyr Zelenskyy is simple – it has to do with the fact that the routing of the Ukrainian armed forces by our troops is taking place no longer at the tactical level, but is becoming a defeat at the operational level. Earlier this week, Hungarian media reported that the Kyiv regime was preparing to launch yet another batch of previously intercepted or downed Russian unmanned aerial vehicles to strike major NATO logistics hubs in Poland and Romania. We are also in the possession of information from the Russian security agencies indicating that the Kyiv regime, together with the Polish intelligence services, is devising a simulated attack by sabotage and reconnaissance parties, ostensibly made up of personnel from Russian and Belarusian units, against critical infrastructure facilities belonging to Poland. The plan is that, once Polish security forces have “detected and disarmed” the sabotage and reconnaissance parties, the members of one such team will appear before the media and make “confessions” implicating Russia and Belarus in being engaged in an attempt to destabilize the situation in Poland. The key thing for the Kyiv clique is to find a *casus belli* for Russia and NATO, to entangle them in the snares of armed conflict. Speaking about the clique’s leaders in a recent interview, former Polish President Andrzej Duda openly stated: “From the outset they have been trying to drag everyone into the war. That is obvious; it is in their interest, and for them it would be best if they managed to drag NATO countries into the war. It is obvious that they are looking for those who would actively fight on their side against the Russians. This has been going on since day one.” (September 2025). And now, by the looks of it, over in Kyiv they are counting on inducing the countries of Europe to mount a response to Russia that is as tough as possible, preferably a military response. Faced with inescapable defeat, the Zelenskyy regime, taking cover behind the Europeans, is prepared to pull out all the stops.

It is understandable that the West, as it moves down the dangerous path of escalation, is no longer bothered about the lamentable situation in which the OSCE’s politico-military dimension finds itself. Nowhere else in the world, in no other conflict are indisputable violations of export control mechanisms and international humanitarian law during arms transfers ignored so systematically as in the case of the Kyiv regime. Blinded by the idea of inflicting a “strategic defeat” on Russia, European countries are wilfully disregarding the Kyiv regime’s use of its own citizens as human shields and its stationing of air defence assets in urban areas. The Kyiv regime is deliberately not moving major military facilities of the Ukrainian armed forces out of built-up residential areas – on the contrary, it is expanding their operations and concentrating air defence systems and electromagnetic warfare equipment along city boundaries. This is leading to tragic incidents as a result of fragments of surface-to-air missiles falling on residential buildings. In February 2022, a Ukrainian air defence missile hit an apartment building in Kyiv. In November 2024, Ukrainian Patriot surface-to-air missile systems pounded residential areas in Odessa, and in July of that year a missile from a Norwegian-made NASAMS system hit the building of the Okhmatdyt Children’s Hospital in Kyiv. In June 2025, a Ukrainian air defence missile hit an apartment building in the Kyiv region. One could cite scores, if not hundreds of such examples. Perhaps the champions of international humanitarian law in this room would care to explain how this can be squared with the principle laid down in the OSCE Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security whereby commanding officers are responsible for

any operational orders issued? The authorities in Kyiv not only do not care about their compatriots getting killed, but are even trying to exploit this to their advantage by using such incidents to demonize Russia.

Moreover, those in the West continue to take no notice of the Ukrainian armed forces' strikes on civilian objects in Russian towns and cities, of their deliberate bombardment of residential buildings, schools, kindergartens and hospitals on the territory of the Russian Federation. These attacks are conducted daily using rockets and artillery, unmanned combat aerial vehicles, various types of remote mining devices, cluster munitions and engineering ammunition, and booby traps, including weapons and devices that have been manufactured by NATO member countries. You can see on the screens evidence of the use of NATO weapons against our country for terrorist purposes. Our cities, towns and villages are regularly criss-crossed by US-made 227 mm calibre GMLRS guided missiles of the M30A1 and M31A2 types, by ATACMS missiles of the MGM-140 type with M47 scatterable fragmentation submunitions (also US-made) and other types of munitions.

In addition, the Ukrainian armed forces are using mines manufactured by NATO countries when laying remotely delivered mines in residential areas, cemeteries, beaches, summer cottage garden plots and farmlands. In that regard, the demining operations in the Kursk region serve as a case in point. Our troops have discovered an "alphabet soup" of NATO-standard mines there: MIACAH F1 side attack mines (French-made), PT Mi-Ba-III anti-tank mines (Czech-made), DM-11 anti-tank mines (German-made), MAT-62B anti-tank mines (Romanian-made), Mini-MPIMS Hailstorm directional mines (Finnish-made) and L18A1 track-disabling mines (British-made), among others.

Against this backdrop, the States supplying weapons used by the Ukrainian armed forces for terrorist strikes against civilian targets are making a hue and cry at international platforms and raising the threat of a military clash between Russia and NATO whenever they imagine that they are seeing an allegedly Russian "unidentified flying object" in the sky. Shocking double standards. They should not forget that, as purveyors of weapons to the Kyiv regime, they share with it the responsibility for violations of international humanitarian law, for armed violence against women and children, for any casualties among the civilian population of our country.

If certain OSCE participating States had not yet again blocked the annual discussion on the implementation of the 2000 OSCE Document on Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) and the 2003 OSCE Document on Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition (SCA), then we would now be able to also openly discuss the threats due to NATO countries' weapons exiting Ukraine and ending up in illicit circulation.

In the absence of that event from the annual cycle, we propose to consider today at the Forum for Security Co-operation how members of the Security Service of Ukraine are involved in smuggling schemes, for which they are making use of their well-established connections abroad and contacts with criminal rings, built up drawing on the experience in doing shady business gained by such State-owned enterprises as Ukrspecexport, the specialized foreign trade firm PROGRESS, Ukroboronprom and Ukroboronservice. As one of the main transit hubs for the trafficking of illegal weapons and military equipment from Ukraine we may single out Moldova alongside certain other OSCE participating States. These "goods" are subsequently reshipped to Romania, Bulgaria, North Macedonia and also Albania, where a veritable smuggler's den for Ukrainian weapons is up and running. Suffice it to say that, as reported by Europol, there have been a number of instances where Ukrainian armed forces personnel seeking to sell off foreign weaponry and military equipment to third countries have managed to sneak camouflaged weapons even past official checkpoints and used caches to hand them over in border areas. Do the members of the "Coalition of the Willing" care to know where the weapons supplied by them to Ukraine have been popping up afterwards? On which continents and in the hands of which extremist groups?

It is becoming increasingly obvious that, for the sake of ratcheting up the spiral of escalation with the Russian Federation, Western participating States are willing to dispense with politico-military agreements reached at the OSCE. Here they hardly ever bring up the Vienna Document 2011 on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures. The OSCE Documents on SALW and SCA are gathering dust. The Code of Conduct is invoked in ways not consonant with its original purpose. A thief crying “Stop thief!” is a well-known tactic – it is one that gives those fanning the flames of confrontation a free hand to carry on waging and expanding the proxy war against Russia.

Madam Chairperson,

We can see that the irreconcilable anti-Russian wing of Western countries has formed into a “Coalition” that is sparing no efforts to drag out the conflict and undermine attempts to bring about a settlement while, at the same time, engaging in accelerated militarization domestically. The leaders of several European countries are hindering peace efforts by egging the Kyiv regime on to make unrealistic demands. They themselves are presenting Russia with “all or nothing” conditions that are patently impossible to fulfil, essentially demanding that our country capitulate. This path for them is doomed to failure; it is a road to nowhere.

Our country is prepared for a political and diplomatic settlement of the crisis. At the same time, it is essential to understand that for there to be genuinely lasting peace, all the parties concerned must also take into account, among other things, the new territorial realities that have arisen after the incorporation of new regions into the Russian Federation.

Yesterday, on 30 September, our country celebrated the Day of Reunification of the People’s Republics of Donetsk and Lugansk and the Kherson and Zaporozhye Regions with the Russian Federation. The choice made by their inhabitants to become part of Russia was not only an act of restoration of historical justice, but also an expression of the will of peoples, of their desire to be with those to whom they are bound by centuries of traditions, culture, language and shared history. The referendums held in Crimea in March 2014 and in the four other territories in September 2022 took place in full accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, the International Covenants on Human Rights from 1966 and the CSCE Helsinki Final Act of 1975. The reasons for what happened are to be found in the systematic Russophobic policies pursued by the terroristic regime in Kyiv, which came to power with the support of a number of Western countries and which left them no other choice.

The goals set at the start of the special military operation and outlined in detail in the speech given by the President of the Russian Federation, Vladimir Putin, on 14 June 2024 will be achieved in any case. The longer our adversaries and their patrons carry on with their attempts to “inflict a strategic defeat on Russia”, to drag Russia into an arms race and direct military confrontation, and, last but not least, to daunt our people through acts of intimidation, the harsher the objective “conditions on the ground” they will have to deal with.

Thank you for your attention.