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**STATEMENT BY
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THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, AT THE 1541st MEETING OF THE
OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

6 November 2025

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

Mr. Chairperson,

The supporters of fanning the flames of confrontation in and around Ukraine are trying to obtain some breathing space for the Ukrainian armed forces, suffering defeat as these are, and prevent Volodymyr Zelenskyy's regime from collapsing. They preach the "establishment of a ceasefire as soon as possible" and a freezing of the front line. The 12-point "European peace plan" for Ukraine has nothing to do with a genuine settlement. The European Union and the Kyiv regime are evidently not ready to work on eradicating the root causes of the conflict. Their approach remains beholden to the logic of military confrontation. Under the guise of slogans about an "immediate ceasefire" and "security guarantees", the authorities in Brussels are seeking to secure an opportunity for the Kyiv regime to regroup its forces, receive fresh armaments and restore the Ukrainian armed forces' combat capability.

It is also obvious that the European Union has no intention of lifting sanctions or returning frozen Russian assets. Instead of concrete obligations, we are being offered wishy-washy phrases about a "gradual lifting of restrictions as the plan is being implemented". That plan completely ignores key issues: it does not call for the discriminatory laws against the Russian language to be repealed; it does not provide for the persecution of the canonical Ukrainian Orthodox Church to be stopped; it disregards the results of the referendums on the new territories' incorporation into Russia. If the Western partners really were striving for peace, their plan would include reinstatement of the rights of the Russian-speaking population, recognition of the territorial realities, and guarantees of a neutral status for Ukraine.

Russia cannot support a proposal that makes a deferred war likely and constitutes but the latest veiled attempt to impose capitulation on our country. We have consistently advocated a political and diplomatic settlement of the conflict in Ukraine, which should focus on eliminating the conflict's root causes and concluding a fully fledged peace treaty that takes into account our country's legitimate security interests. It is on this basis alone that Russia is willing to also discuss security guarantees for Ukraine itself. We wish to emphasize that Russia's territorial integrity is not negotiable.

What counts is meaningful dialogue, not symbolic summits. We are aware of the Finnish President's suggestion regarding a potential meeting in South Africa and remain convinced that any talks must be prepared carefully and have a clear agenda. An operational meeting between the Russian and US Presidents is possible, but at this stage it is important to hammer out the details of the conflict settlement process. Substantive contacts with the US side continue.

The Kyiv regime and its European patrons are not demonstrating readiness to engage in honest dialogue. NATO continues to expand its war machine towards the Russian borders, flagrantly violating its previous undertakings not to move "one inch" eastwards and flouting the principle of the indivisibility of security. We would remind you that the proposals presented by Russia in 2008 and 2021 for the creation of a system of legally binding security guarantees were ignored. What is more, direct threats to use force against Russia are increasingly to be heard nowadays. During NATO exercises, for example, scenarios involving a blockade of the Kaliningrad region have become routine.

Hiding behind the mantle of European countries' purported peace plans is a determination to stoke confrontation in and around Ukraine. The European Union continues to pursue destructive policies, adopting yet another package of so-called sanctions against Russia – the 19th such package and still counting. These actions, which are illegitimate from the standpoint of international law, serve as direct proof of the fact that the Brussels bloc is not striving for a settlement. The Council of the European Union had hardly finished reaching agreement on the 19th package when the head of the European External Action Service, Kaja Kallas, suggested drawing up the 20th. Does this not indicate that over in Brussels they do not have much faith in the effectiveness of sanctions? As for the "desire for peace" professed by the UK Government, that desire is ever so beautifully illustrated by its transfer of a fresh consignment of Storm Shadow missiles to the Kyiv regime for strikes against Russian territory and by its plans to provide more than 4.5 billion pounds sterling worth of military support (in the form of weapons and munitions) to the Zelenskyy junta in 2025.

While our country's diplomatic overtures fail to be reciprocated, the Russian armed forces continue implementing the goals of the special operation. The successful combat operations near Krasnoarmeysk (Pokrovsk), along with measures to ensure that journalists are provided with unhindered access to that area as proposed by the Russian President, belie the myth of the Russian army being "on its last legs" that the Zelenskyy regime is trying to propagate on the international stage. The facts testify to a serious crisis in the Ukrainian armed forces' defence system. The Ukrainian forces are having trouble holding on to their positions in key segments of the front, specifically near Krasnoarmeysk, near Kupyansk, near Konstantinovka and near Liman. The formation of an encircled pocket, or "cauldron", near Krasnoarmeysk could turn out to be the severest defeat for the Kyiv regime since the Russian army's liberation of Mariupol.

In the face of military setbacks, the Ukrainian formations are not letting up in their launching of criminal strikes against civilian objects and civilians in Russian regions – they are systematically attacking residential buildings, places of worship, hospitals, vehicles and energy infrastructure. All in all, during the week of 27 October to 2 November there were 70 civilian casualties in Russia as a result of these attacks, of whom seven people were killed and 63 injured, including four minors. Drones were again used to conduct the main strikes. The Belgorod, Bryansk and Kherson regions felt their brunt. A taxi minibus was destroyed in the settlement of Pogor, while a house in the settlement of Vygonichi was set on fire with the inhabitants inside. Attacks on energy facilities left hundreds of thousands of people without electricity. The Ukrainian armed forces continue to barbarically use Lepestok anti-personnel mines and conduct remote mining of areas.

That being said, Mr. Zelenskyy's "fighters" do not treat their fellow citizens any better. A few days ago, a heinous war crime that is impossible to justify rocked the public consciousness. Trying to escape from

Kupyansk, some civilians emerged with a white flag and began moving towards the Russian positions. They were systematically killed by Ukrainian drones. The operators of these unmanned aerial vehicles serving with the Ukrainian armed forces could see perfectly well that they were attacking a non-military target, but nevertheless resolved to murder civilians. This tragedy attests to the complete moral bankruptcy of those who claim that they are “protecting” the citizens of Ukraine. It is particularly cynical that the Ukrainian armed forces refer to people fleeing as “the waiting ones” [i.e., waiting for the Russian troops] and shoot them dead as traitors. For what? For wanting to survive? For attempting to escape a war zone?

Mr. Chairperson,

The Kyiv regime’s violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms are not seen as a problem by the European Union. On 4 November, the European Commission stated that EU accession negotiations with Ukraine could begin before the end of the year. In its review of the progress made by candidate countries, it is noted that Ukraine had met the conditions for opening most of the clusters of the negotiation process and adopted road maps on the rule of law, public administration and protection of the rights of national minorities: “Ukraine remains strongly committed to its EU accession path, having successfully completed the screening process and advanced on key reforms.”

The European Commission’s report demonstrates the real priorities of the authorities in Brussels. While the foundations of democracy are being demolished in Ukraine, while human rights are being trampled underfoot there and cultural heritage is being systematically destroyed, the European Commission is concerned about a single issue: corruption. However, a battle for influence lies behind the various glib formulations in this case too. The demands that “transparent” selection procedures be adopted for key law enforcement posts, with the involvement of “independent experts nominated by international partners”, are nothing but a striving to gain control over the law enforcement and security agencies. One gets the impression that what matters to the European Commission is not genuine progress by Ukraine on compliance with democratic norms, but merely the placement of loyal personnel in the country’s law enforcement and security apparatus so that these can look after the Western handlers’ interests.

The European Union talks about the implementation of formal procedures and road maps, but what we are seeing in practice is how freedom of speech and political opposition have been destroyed in that country, how the Orthodox faith is being extirpated and the Russian-speaking population discriminated against. Over in Brussels they have not noticed that, under the pretext of martial law, basic democratic institutions have been eliminated in Ukraine, elections cancelled, and opposition parties and media banned. Instead of a principled assessment of the situation, the authorities in Brussels prefer to talk about “technical criteria” and “formal procedures”.

The realities of contemporary Ukraine stand in contrast to the European Commission’s rosy assessments: a systematic destruction of cultural and spiritual heritage continues apace there. Under the pretext of so-called decommunization, the Kyiv regime is waging war against the country’s own history and culture. Here are just some recent examples. The great Russian writer Ivan Turgenev has been declared a “symbol of Russian imperialism”, the image of Catherine the Great equated with propaganda and the name of renowned military leader Mikhail Kutuzov consigned to oblivion. The persecution of the canonical Ukrainian Orthodox Church carries on: Metropolitan Arseniy, abbot of the Sviatohirsk Lavra, has been remanded in custody for 60 days after having dared to speak the truth about the Ukrainian armed forces’ crimes against clergy and places of worship. All this is not “decommunization” – it is complete deculturalization aimed at severing the centuries-old spiritual ties between Ukraine and Russia.

In closing, we must emphasize that Russia was and remains open to a constructive search for ways of settling the Ukrainian crisis, a search that should take Russia’s legitimate security interests into account.

However, for now, rather than meaningful dialogue, the Western countries prefer hybrid warfare that combines sanctions pressure, the provision of military supplies and an information campaign to demonize Russia. The responsibility for further escalation and further human casualties will lie squarely with those who, shrouding themselves in peace rhetoric, continue to fuel the conflict and turn a blind eye to the Kyiv regime's crimes.

Thank you for your attention.