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**STATEMENT BY
MS. FATÈNE BENHABYLÈS-FOETH, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF
FRANCE TO THE OSCE, AT THE 1569th MEETING OF THE
OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

25 June 2026

On the G7 Leaders' Summit in Évian

Mr. Chairperson,

France hosted the G7 Leaders' Summit in Évian from 15 to 17 June. On that occasion, the leaders adopted a joint statement on geopolitical issues, from which I should like to read an excerpt to the Permanent Council:

“We, the Leaders of the G7, stand united in our unwavering support for Ukraine in defending its freedom, sovereignty, and territorial integrity. We reaffirm our solidarity with the Ukrainian population suffering from attacks on their critical infrastructure and cultural heritage. We commend Ukraine for its resilience and progress on the battlefield in recent months and emphasize there is now a new momentum.

“To support and accelerate this new momentum, we agree to increase the delivery of air defence capacities, additional systems and interceptors, and long-range capabilities. We are also ready to consider extending to Ukraine the benefit of licences to allow for an increase in Ukraine's military production.

“We stress the importance of energy resilience, on the basis of the needs and priorities expressed by Ukrainian authorities. We agree to provide further support to get the country through next winter.

“We commit to increase the pressure on the Russian war economy. In this context, we will strengthen our sanctions, including those on the oil and gas sectors.”

In a national capacity, allow me to add that:

Simply changing the title of the current issue under which Russia speaks here is not enough to change the reality.

Russia's aggression against Ukraine is a historical and material fact recognized by 141 Member States of the United Nations General Assembly.

In the face of this brutal reality, which has lasted longer than both world wars of the twentieth century, what do our Russian counterparts have to say? They quote the words of our authorities. Yet these words do have a meaning – in this case, a defensive and deterrent one. The G7 statement I have just read forms part of this framework of defence and deterrence.

Lastly, I should like to point out that beyond words, we expect action, starting with an immediate and unconditional ceasefire.

I would be grateful if you could attach this statement to the journal of the day.