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PC.DEL/564/26/Rev.1
15 June 2026

ENGLISH
Original: RUSSIAN

Delegation of the Russian Federation

**STATEMENT BY
MR. DMITRY POLYANSKIY, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
RUSSIAN FEDERATION, AT THE 1568th MEETING OF THE
OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

11 June 2026

**On the ongoing attempts by OSCE participating States to undermine efforts at finding
a long-term and sustainable peaceful solution to the Ukrainian crisis**

Mr. Chairperson,

Over the past week, our Western opponents have not been remiss in issuing empty calls for peace and making hypocritical assurances about being committed to diplomacy. Yet, in reality, with every action of theirs they have merely made the prospect of settling the Ukrainian conflict less likely. It is quite clear that this is a deliberate, systematic policy aimed at preventing a long-term and sustainable peaceful resolution to the Ukrainian crisis, which was provoked by NATO countries. We are, instead, being offered a freezing of the conflict and the preservation of the Kyiv regime in its current form, with all its rotten core – a Russophobic, neo-Nazi and humanity-hating core.

In recent days, an authorial production entitled “Zelensky’s Open Letter to the President of Russia” has been playing exclusively at European theatres large and small; excerpts from it were even recited to us here in this room today. Of course, this pantomime has nothing to do with diplomacy. Serious proposals for conflict resolution are made quietly through diplomatic channels, and they are divulged to the public only with the consent of all parties involved.

When everything is turned upside down and “megaphone diplomacy” is employed, such actions amount to nothing less than a deliberate provocation. The President of Russia has replied to it personally; I see no point in repeating his response.

We would not need to further mention this farce today, had it not been supported by the leaders of the United Kingdom, Germany and France, who met with Zelensky in London on 7 June. Their support took the form of a joint statement, which was obviously meant to be an ultimatum to Russia, wrapped in diplomatic packaging. I shall not enumerate its utterly absurd provisions, which are completely unacceptable to us; I will merely say that they appear quite inappropriate given the catastrophic front-line dynamics facing the Ukrainian armed forces, which I spoke about in my previous statement.

I would also point out that it is clear from today’s statement by EU representatives that both this attitude and Zelensky’s theatrical production are supported by all Member States of the European Union

without exception and by the EU-dependent countries aligned with them. And in this context, it is worth noting how the piece so hyped up by Kyiv's ringleader concludes – namely, with a specific nationalistic slogan glorifying Ukraine, which in 1941 was officially adopted by the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (OUN) as its main greeting and is essentially equivalent to the *Sieg Heil* salute used by the German Nazis, with whom the OUN collaborated very closely in those years. This, ladies and gentlemen, is a historical fact that you can easily verify.

Returning to the topic of the “values” shared by Ukraine and European countries, which I touched upon at our last meeting, what, then, are we to make of this? That all European countries, at the instigation of the leader of the Kyiv junta, are endorsing a greeting used by Ukrainian nationalists while they were murdering Jews, Poles, Russians, Roma and others whom they regarded as “aliens”. It is also being endorsed, as far as we can tell, by the representative of Poland, hundreds of thousands of whose compatriots were killed by the followers of Melnyk and Bandera during the horrific Volhynia massacre of 1943–1944. Is this not straight out of the theatre of the absurd?

And is it not also the epitome of absurdity that this slogan is endorsed by Zelenskyy himself, who would never have become president under Melnyk, before whose remains he went down on his knees on 25 May? After all, under the draft constitution of 1939 drawn up by Mykola Stsiborskyi, an associate of that anti-Semite, people of Jewish nationality would not even have been granted Ukrainian citizenship!

Do you really not realize, colleagues, where this flirtation with Ukrainian nationalism and neo-Nazism – which today appear to you like promising tools in your geopolitical struggle against Russia – will lead to? Has history taught you nothing at all?

You are not deviating from this irresponsible course, which is suicidal for Europe, even when confronted with the crimes of present-day Ukrainian neo-Nazis, from which the populations of your own countries are already beginning to suffer. I am referring, in particular, to the high-profile incidents involving Ukrainian drones and missiles landing on the territory of NATO member countries. There have been dozens of such cases. Yet, you stubbornly try to ignore them, or, contrary to the facts and common sense, try to lay the blame for these actions on Russia.

For instance, on 5 June 2026, a Ukrainian maritime drone exploded in Constanța, Romania's largest port on the Black Sea. Ukraine itself has confirmed that the drone belonged to it.

For almost two days, the Romanian authorities were at a loss and could provide no coherent explanation. It was only on 6 June that Romanian President Nicușor Dan was forced to admit that the drone was Ukrainian, though he immediately added: “Russia is responsible because Russia is the aggressor country.” How can one not recall the incoherent reaction of the Greek authorities to the discovery of an explosive-laden Ukrainian drone near the island of Lefkada in May?! We did warn you back then that more trouble would be on its way unless you put the Kyiv terrorists in their place. And now, the explosion in Constanța.

Colleagues, face up to the bitter truth once and for all! By indulging Ukrainian terrorism, you have bolstered the position of those in power in Ukraine who, without batting an eyelid, are carrying out one provocation after another with the aim of engineering a direct armed clash between NATO and Russia. Because the Zelenskyy regime simply has no other chance of survival, as it knows only too well, notwithstanding all the bluster coming from its senior figure. Today, though, there are still many in Europe who, consciously or unconsciously, are prepared to assist the regime in that endeavour, as we have seen in cases such as the Baltic States providing air corridors for Ukrainian drones or the establishment of facilities for the production of Ukrainian unmanned aerial vehicles on the territory of several European countries. All

of us understand perfectly well where this is bound to lead, but only we have the courage to speak out about it.

Meanwhile, as in Pieter Bruegel the Elder's famous painting "The Blind Leading the Blind", you are following Zelensky's lead and continuing to prepare Europe for war with Russia. These preparations are being undertaken systematically and methodically, and if the idea of an inevitable conflict with us once sounded absurd to the European public, today the elites of a number of European countries are, in effect, vying with one another to see who can come up with the most outlandish lie about Russia and devise the most sophisticated "scare stories" with which to frighten their fellow countrymen. Diplomacy has long been forgotten, having been reduced to propaganda and the churning out of anti-Russian fabrications.

The European Union is undergoing fast-track militarization and turning into a fully fledged politico-military bloc with an anti-Russian thrust. We note that in Europe, which is currently led by a former German Defence Minister, a massive brainwashing campaign modelled on the German templates of the 1930s is under way to prime the population for a major war. The authorities in Brussels are allocating over 800 billion euros for these purposes, money that will be used to strengthen the European Union's offensive capabilities. Poland and the Baltic States are leading the way in this race, having already brought their defence spending up to 3.5 per cent of gross domestic product ahead of schedule.

A logical continuation of this rapid militarization process is the large-scale NATO exercise "Ramstein Flag 2026" (RAFL26) taking place near Russia's borders. It involves military personnel and equipment from 19 Alliance countries. The main stages are taking place in Denmark, Finland, Norway, Sweden and Spain. More than 200 aircraft have been deployed, including F-35s, Eurofighters, AWACS aircraft, aerial refuelling tankers and drones, with up to 150 sorties being conducted daily. Western journalists are openly calling it a "dress rehearsal for a modern-day war with Russia". These manoeuvres are directly aimed against the security of our country.

We are also seeing attempts to curtail our legitimate economic interests and block energy supplies to global markets – it is difficult to perceive this as anything other than yet another step towards escalation, yet another facet of the hybrid war that the West is waging against Russia.

The current crop of European leaders are not lagging behind in these collective military efforts. Last week, the European Union's senior diplomat, Kaja Kallas, announced that warships from EU countries deployed in the Mediterranean as part of Operation IRINI were authorized to detain foreign tankers carrying Russian oil. I would remind you that Operation IRINI was launched by the European Union to prevent weapons from being supplied to Libya in violation of the arms embargo, and that it received a corresponding mandate from the United Nations Security Council. And now European politicians are turning it into a tool for the pirate-like seizure of civilian vessels in international waters, in breach of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. Ms. Kallas is hiding behind talk of a "shadow fleet" – a concept invented by Brussels bureaucrats that has no basis in international law – but in essence, we are dealing here with EU-sponsored State piracy.

Colleagues, I hope you understand that we will not sit idly by while you, under the guise of "fighting for peace", prepare for war with Russia. We are obliged to factor in and pre-empt such scenarios. Russia and Belarus have conducted joint exercises involving non-strategic nuclear forces. These exercises are aimed at maintaining combat readiness in view of the tense situation in Europe, which has been provoked by the actions of Western countries.

We are not threatening anyone. However, we reserve the right to defend our citizens, our infrastructure and our legitimate security interests by any means necessary. Whether we are forced to do so, or whether you will finally see sense and stop – the choice is yours!

Thank you for your attention.