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FSC.DEL/329/26
21 September 2026

ENGLISH
Original: RUSSIAN

Delegation of the Russian Federation

**STATEMENT BY
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FEDERATION TO THE VIENNA NEGOTIATIONS ON MILITARY SECURITY
AND ARMS CONTROL, AT THE 1145th PLENARY MEETING OF THE
OSCE FORUM FOR SECURITY CO-OPERATION**

16 September 2026

**Agenda item: General statements
Subject: Deliberate escalation of military and political tensions in the OSCE area by
NATO/EU countries**

Mr. Chairperson,

We categorically reject the unsubstantiated allegations made by the delegation of Germany in connection with the events at Leipzig/Halle Airport on 4 August this year. We regard this latest episode of anti-Russian hysteria in Europe as a pre-planned escalation tactic that was authorized by EU and NATO leaders, who are all linked to one another in a circle of complicity, and has nothing to do with an objective investigation. It is clear that the aim of such actions is to maintain a high level of Russophobia within European society – a Russophobia that is meant to mask the gross political and economic blunders of the European elites and justify, in people's eyes, the allocation of vast resources to fund Ukraine and to accelerate the expansion of European countries' military-industrial complex under the pretext of preparing for a supposedly inevitable armed conflict with our country.

Today we should like to clarify a situation that puts the delegations which have just taken the floor in a most unfavourable light, all the more so since, at the instigation of European countries that are ratcheting up tensions, it is having an extremely negative impact on the politico-military stability of the OSCE area.

On 1 September this year, without presenting any verified data, the German authorities accused our country of involvement in an incident relating to an attempt to deploy an explosive-laden unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) at Leipzig airport. The German Government stated that the supposed "attack" had failed owing to a faulty detonator, but refused to respond to demands from the parliamentary groups of the Greens, the Left Party, the Sahra Wagenknecht Alliance and the Alternative for Germany to provide clear evidence, calling for "trust in the authorities". At a joint press conference, Federal Interior Minister Alexander Dobrindt and Federal Foreign Minister Johann Wadephul were also unable to produce any proof of Russian involvement in the incident – speaking along the lines of "highly likely", they merely pointed to the overall weight of "circumstantial evidence".

Incidentally, the German media, citing the Federal Criminal Police Office, report that the UAV found at the airport was a homemade drone, assembled from readily available parts or components manufactured using a 3D printer. The device was fitted with a 4G module and was controlled remotely via a mobile Internet connection. What is more, the pilot could have been sitting in front of a computer anywhere in the world. And no special skills were required to launch the UAV. There are no signs that the device is of Russian origin.

However, none of the points just mentioned prevented the German side from taking escalatory steps, specifically from announcing the closure of the Russian Consulate General in Bonn and the Russian House of Science and Culture in Berlin. Among the priority measures it was also stated that the European Union would ramp up its financial and military aid to the Kyiv regime, this on top of the hundreds of billions of dollars that have already been sent down the Ukrainian black hole.

According to reliable information in our possession, many people in the West are currently merely pretending to believe the German leadership as it throws around unsubstantiated accusations. After studying the circumstances of the incident, the Alliance countries' intelligence services informed their national authorities that there was not even the slightest evidence of Russian involvement. Government agencies were advised to refrain from making categorical, let alone public, statements attributing blame to Russia. Yet the Germans went down a different road.

In such situations, it is normal to ask: who needs this? Who stands to gain from it?

The German authorities have once again come up with a "convenient" pretext for wringing out money to be spent on militarization of the continent, but also for the psy-ops manipulation of voters in the run-up to and following the election in the federal state of Saxony-Anhalt, where, amid the plummeting of Federal Chancellor Friedrich Merz's approval ratings, opposition forces gained ground. Against such a backdrop, it cannot be ruled out that, in order to further their self-serving aims, German or Ukrainian operatives may simply have planted "evidence" near a Ukrainian military cargo plane in a high-security area at Leipzig airport. On a separate note, we would point out that there are numerous indications of a "Ukrainian connection" in this incident – something that is also confirmed by Western intelligence services. The ensuing European media circus of condemnation of Russia was all too predictable – it was exactly the reaction that was desired in order to lay the groundwork for escalatory moves.

Most tellingly, it takes NATO countries and the entire Western "minority" no more than a few days, and sometimes even just hours, to accuse our country of "provoking incidents" and "committing crimes". Whether or not there is reliable evidence is irrelevant. Everything follows the same well-worn pattern: cause a splash in the media and then adopt sanctions.

In that regard, it is no longer a matter of surprise that the drones crashing down in Romania, Poland, the Baltic States and elsewhere are "shaking to the core" the foundations of NATO and the European Union, as we keep being told here, whereas the uncrewed surface vessel (USV) packed with 300 kg of explosives that was spotted by Greek fishermen in the Ionian Sea is systematically hushed up, as are the Ukrainian UAV and USV that exploded, respectively, in Bulgaria and in the waters off Constanța; the gaping hole in the wall of the largest nuclear power plant in Europe as a result of an attack by the Ukrainian armed forces; and the numerous other war crimes, terrorist activities and egregious violations of fundamental humanitarian norms that the Kyiv regime has been engaging in.

As the adage has it, the most important thing in any investigation is not to implicate oneself. For example, it took Germany almost four years to "investigate the circumstances" surrounding the sabotage of the Nord Stream 1 and Nord Stream 2 pipelines. In an official press release from the Office of the German

Federal Public Prosecutor, concerning the indictment issued on 30 June this year against the Ukrainian national Serhii K. in the case of the blowing-up of those gas pipelines in the Baltic Sea in September 2022, it is stated that he and his accomplices, as members of the military, organized and carried out that act of terrorism “by order of Ukrainian State agencies”. We thus have the tragicomic situation where the country’s public prosecution service is accusing a member of the Ukrainian armed forces of blowing up gas pipelines at the behest of “Ukrainian State agencies”, yet no one is even considering closing Ukrainian diplomatic missions in Germany. What is more, the German authorities continue to rob their own population and hand over tens of billions of euros to the Kyiv regime, which, by their own admission, was in cahoots with Serhii K. to destroy key energy infrastructure facilities in Germany that were bringing in a sure profit of tens of billions of euros for the country.

While the “hybrid” threats from Russia were being hyped up, the authorities in Berlin were busy at work ramping up shipments of UAVs to Ukraine for the launching of strikes deep into Russian territory. On 2 September this year, Federal Chancellor Merz and Volodymyr Zelenskyy held a telephone conversation, partly to wrap up their latest deal on the production of drones. On 3 September, a joint venture between the German company Auterion and the Ukrainian manufacturer Airlogix began producing drones with a strike range of 1,500 km (for those who are not aware, the distance from Kyiv to Moscow as the crow flies is 750 km). In addition, Germany is funding the production of 50,000 Shrike unmanned combat aerial vehicles by the Ukrainian company SkyFall; these devices began to be put into the Banderite terrorists’ hands in July. One could go on with this list.

We should like to demonstrate, specifically for the benefit of the delegates from Berlin present at the Hofburg, the consequences of their Kyiv protégés’ use of UAVs against the civilian population of the Russian Federation. Namely, the lives of three children cut short as a result of a drone attack on a children’s centre in Krasnodar (24 August this year); four people killed and 29 injured as a result of a UAV raid on Novorossiysk (9 September). In the Belgorod region (3 and 7 September) the Ukrainian armed forces deliberately targeted buses in Shebekino. One person was killed; a further five were injured. Also in Shebekino (3 September) the Ukrainian armed forces carried out a premeditated attack on an ambulance, killing a doctor and a paramedic.

Just between 27 July and 13 September this year, 2,420 non-combatants, including 139 children, were injured as a result of attacks by the Ukrainian armed forces, while 354 people were killed, including 28 minors. In total, the Ukrainian armed forces, with the complicity of Germany and other NATO member States, fired at least 51,000 munitions at civilian objects on Russian territory during this period. It is clear that Germany’s erstwhile zeal for upholding international humanitarian law and the Geneva Conventions of 1949 has vanished without a trace.

Mr. Chairperson,

The actions of those behind the “drone hysteria” constitute nothing less than a major political blunder and a conscious choice to escalate the politico-military situation in Europe. In view of the desire demonstrated by the United States of America for a meaningful discussion of possible ways to bring about a peaceful settlement of the Ukrainian crisis, the conduct of German politicians looks like a deliberate provocation aimed at preventing any headway in that regard.

Germany’s role in destabilizing the politico-military situation in Europe is not limited to this. The current course steered by the German Government is clearly aimed at preparing the Bundeswehr, the apparatus of State, the economy and civilian infrastructure for a potential large-scale conflict with Russia. According to NATO strategists, Germany is to become a key NATO and EU logistics hub for the transfer of forces and assets to the eastern front: 800,000 troops and 200,000 heavy-wheeled and tracked vehicles. At

the same time, a concept is being devised for mobile logistics hubs for the supply of troops. The Bundeswehr, in collaboration with the Federal Ministry of Health, is working out options for receiving up to 1,000 wounded soldiers per day from the eastern front. A regulatory framework is being developed for emergency activation of the Bundeswehr's mobilization capacity. In these circumstances, it is hardly surprising that Chief of the Luftwaffe Lieutenant General Holger Neumann stated that Germany and NATO were prepared to "do battle" with Russia there and then, mentioning specific geographical locations: the Kola Peninsula, St. Petersburg, Kaliningrad and the Black Sea.

How is any of this consistent with the Treaty on the final settlement with respect to Germany of 12 September 1990? In particular, with Article 2, which states that "...only peace will emanate from German soil"? Perhaps we will get to hear today what Germany is actually getting ready for? It will be remembered that, before the start of the Great Patriotic War, the Germans were also closing their diplomatic missions in our country. And then families in Germany began receiving parcels from the eastern front containing looted goods, followed shortly afterwards by letters full of complaints and, finally, notifications about the deaths of their loved ones. And such a sequence is but logical.

Let us now return to the question as to who actually stands to gain from the "incident" under discussion today.

The answer is obvious. It can only be the military-industrial complexes of European countries and, in this case, that of Germany. Huge profits are being raked in there from the preparations for a NATO and EU war against Russia. Moreover, Federal Chancellor Merz, whose approval ratings have already plunged to 13 per cent, publicly stated the following when addressing the Bundestag on 14 May 2025: "Going forward, the Federal Government will provide the Bundeswehr with all the funding that it needs in order to become the strongest ... army in Europe." And this despite the fact that Germany's total loss in real gross domestic product over the past six years has amounted to 940 billion euros. Amid a protracted economic crisis, ordinary Germans are essentially being condemned to privations and hardships, since all resources will be diverted towards the ideologically motivated agenda of "strategically defeating" Russia. Your citizens, your taxpayers are the main losers in the confrontation being imposed by the Europe bloc.

At the instigation of the authorities in Berlin, a blow was also dealt to our bilateral relations. Naturally, the unfriendly measures taken by Germany have not gone unanswered. On 7 September this year, the German Chargé d'Affaires *ad interim* in the Russian Federation was informed that consent for the operation of the German Consulate General in St. Petersburg had been withdrawn; the Consulate General has until 18 September this year to wind down its operations and all its staff are to leave Russia. The German cultural centres known as Goethe-Institutes have already ceased to operate in our country. All responsibility for these consequences rests squarely and fully with the German Government.

Western States are painting themselves into the corner of militarization, while at the same time putting paid to the whole set of OSCE politico-military agreements. We call upon the NATO member countries and their like-minded partners to stop stoking emotions, to weigh up the real risks associated with the unchecked militarization of Europe, and to activate mechanisms for the reduction of politico-military tensions so that events do not unfold according to the most negative scenario. Indeed, the best guarantee of Germany's security would be for it to desist from complicity in the provision of support to the Kyiv regime, to stop rendering diplomatic, military and financial assistance to that regime. It is high time to realize that providing "palliative" aid to terrorists will not change the situation on the ground and cannot affect our determination to achieve the objectives of the special military operation.

Thank you for your attention.