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**STATEMENT BY
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RUSSIAN FEDERATION TO THE VIENNA NEGOTIATIONS ON MILITARY
SECURITY AND ARMS CONTROL, AT THE 97th JOINT MEETING OF THE
OSCE FORUM FOR SECURITY CO-OPERATION AND THE
OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

26 November 2025

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

Madam Chairperson,

The week since the previous meeting has been an eventful one.

A huge corruption scandal has been raging in Ukraine, involving the highest echelons of power in Kyiv. There have been demands that members of the organized criminal group from Volodymyr Zelenskyy's inner circle be held accountable.

Those who value historical memory marked the 80th anniversary of the start of the Nuremberg Trials, which condemned not only the criminal acts of the leaders of the Third Reich but also Nazism itself as a social phenomenon. We are convinced that Europe still has lessons to learn from this process.

This same week, information emerged about Donald Trump's 28-point peace plan. His previously proposed peace plan to resolve the situation in Ukraine was discussed even before the meeting in Anchorage, and the United States of America asked Russia to make certain compromises and show flexibility. The main takeaway from the Alaska meeting in August of this year was that, despite certain difficult issues and complications, our country agreed to these proposals.

After the summit meeting, there was somewhat of a pause on the US side, which was linked to Ukraine's *de facto* rejection of the peace plan proposed by President Trump. This resulted in a reworked 28-point version of the plan.

According to the President of the Russian Federation, Vladimir Putin, who expressed his opinion during a meeting with the permanent members of the Russian Security Council on 21 November of this year, this document could also form the basis for a final peaceful settlement. However, it has not yet been discussed with us in detail for the same reason just mentioned – because of the illusions of Ukraine and its European sponsors regarding the possibility of inflicting a strategic defeat on Russia on the battlefield.

Judging by subsequent events and articles published, in Kyiv and Brussels they would like to see the agreements reached in Anchorage erased from the peace plan.

For example, on 24 November, Verkhovna Rada (Ukrainian Parliament) speaker Ruslan Stefanchuk, addressing the Crimea Platform summit in Sweden, effectively rejected some of the conditions proposed by the United States. He thus stated that official recognition by other countries of a number of territories as Russian, restrictions on Ukraine's defence and on its future alliances (implying Ukraine's renunciation of NATO membership) were "red lines" for his country.

A number of the US provisions have also been openly rejected by the Europeans, who have become noticeably more active with their counter-proposals over the past few days. While talks were under way in Geneva, European leaders put forward their own amendments to the US peace plan, with London, Paris and Berlin setting the tone as is tradition. According to various sources, the European version provides for purely symbolic limits on the size of the Ukrainian army and stipulates that any Russia-Ukraine negotiations on territory must begin with a ceasefire along the front line. This has always been a "red line" for the Russian side, as we regard it as an attempt to avoid addressing the root causes of the conflict and to give the Ukrainian armed forces some breathing space while simultaneously pumping Ukraine full of new weapons and equipment.

I consider it inappropriate to comment on individual European ideas here and will merely say that they are utterly unrealistic.

We are seeing various statements regarding the effectiveness of the talks held by the US and Ukrainian delegations in Geneva, which were attended by European representatives. However, we prefer to judge the results of such meetings not on the basis of statements, but on the basis of concrete documents produced during these events and the actions taken by the parties.

Madam Chairperson,

There have also been calls here for Russia to meet the Kyiv regime halfway, meaning that the Russian side should take the next step regarding the peace plan. I should like to draw the attention of those present to the fact that the Russian Federation, unlike many other countries, has always been open to dialogue and is seeking a diplomatic settlement of the differences. Let me give you some examples.

In December 2021, Russia submitted two draft treaties to the United States and NATO: a bilateral treaty between Russia and the United States on security guarantees and a multilateral agreement on measures to ensure the security of Russia and NATO member States. Among other things, Russia called upon the United States and its allies to commit to a legally binding renunciation of further NATO expansion, to withdraw US nuclear weapons from Europe and to pull the North Atlantic Alliance forces back to their 1997 positions.

At that time, our key demands were immediately deemed unacceptable both in Washington and in Brussels. The United States and its European allies refused to discuss with Russia NATO's "open-door policy" (including the drawing of Ukraine into the Alliance) and its military presence in Eastern Europe.

In February 2022, the Russian and Ukrainian parties to the conflict made attempts to settle it by diplomatic means. Many key elements were agreed upon or close to being agreed upon. As a gesture of goodwill, Russia withdrew its troops from the Kyiv, Chernihiv and Sumy regions. However, after a last-minute visit to Kyiv by Boris Johnson, who was clearly motivated by the arms lobby, the negotiation

process became deadlocked as early as the second half of spring 2022, and Mr. Zelenskyy put into effect the decision of the National Security and Defence Council stating the impossibility of holding negotiations.

Russia has proposed various options for a temporary ceasefire. At the same time, Ukraine demonstratively reneged on its commitment to observe the 30-day moratorium on strikes against energy facilities, which was in effect from 18 March to 17 April of this year. Likewise, Ukraine violated the Easter truce nearly 5,000 times. Ukraine also launched large-scale attacks in response to Russia's proposed Victory Day truce.

Despite all this, Russia proposed to the Kyiv authorities that they resume, on 15 May in Istanbul and without any preconditions, the direct talks that they had broken off in late 2022. Three meetings were held (16 May, 2 June and 23 July of this year), during which the delegations discussed memoranda on a final settlement of the conflict, the exchange of prisoners of war, the handing over of the bodies of dead combatants and the return of Russian citizens from the Kursk region who had been forcibly removed to Ukrainian territory. Russian-US contacts continued in parallel.

The results of these efforts and the stance adopted by Donald Trump give rise to some hope for a possible diplomatic settlement of the Ukrainian conflict, provided, of course, that the champions of the "rules-based order" do not interfere in the negotiation process once again. In this regard, the continuing bellicose rhetoric from official representatives, stoking militaristic hysteria in European society, is cause for concern.

For example, last week, German Defence Minister Boris Pistorius spoke of an armed conflict with Russia as early as 2028, emphasizing that "we have already had our last summer of peace." In this regard, the German official called for further strengthening of the military capabilities of the Alliance countries. In particular, Germany plans to begin comprehensive medical check-ups in mid-2027 to identify citizens who will be called up in the event of a state of emergency in the country.

The Chief of the Defence Staff of the French Armed Forces, General Fabien Mandon, spoke in a similar vein: "The French army must prepare for a clash with Russia in three or four years' time." There are reports of the planned launch of "voluntary" military service in France in the near future, which should provide for the recruitment of between 10,000 and 50,000 people per year for a term of up to ten months.

Some European countries are going to great lengths to increase their defence budgets. At the urging of NATO Secretary General Mark Rutte, the idea is already being floated that it is necessary to allocate 7-8 per cent of gross domestic product to military needs and not 5 per cent. This is overstraining the entire economy and resulting in the most severe consequences for it, which are already being felt more and more acutely by the citizens of European countries, citizens whose opinions are being completely ignored by the politicians in so-called democracies.

Let me briefly cite some data as an example. In the German automotive industry, for instance, around 50,000 workers were laid off between July and September this year alone. The total number of people employed in car manufacturing reached its lowest level since 2011. In effect, over a period of 14 years, the industry has lost everything that it had managed to build up. But the decline has not only affected the car industry. The metallurgical and electronics industries, as well as plastics manufacturing, are also seeing job losses. In a year that is not even over yet, around 120,000 employees have been dismissed from their jobs in industry. These are small details of the overall picture in just a single country, a country that was considered the driving force of the European economy.

So which of us is “rushing” into war? What intentions lie behind the “peaceful” statements by European representatives? What does the future hold for ordinary Europeans?

The spiralling arms race and the efforts to instil war psychosis and confrontational logic do not strengthen but undermine the security of the EU countries, making the prospect of their being drawn into a full-scale conflict a real possibility. At the same time, we have never threatened any European State and, in our national security policy, we prefer to assess the capabilities and specific actions of our opponents.

Madam Chairperson,

Now it is time to talk about the specific actions of the Kyiv regime “on the road to peace” down to the last Ukrainian.

Over the past few days, the targets of terrorist attacks by Ukrainian “fighters” have been civilian objects that have nothing to do with military infrastructure, namely housing and civilian vehicles, public utilities and petrol filling stations. Ukrainian formations made abundant use of various models of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), artillery and multiple-launch rocket systems to carry out their crimes.

The highest number of casualties has been recorded in the Belgorod, Kherson and Zaporozhye regions. Drone strikes by the Ukrainian armed forces were the most frequent cause of death or injury among the civilian population. The Ukrainian “fighters” actively directed their unmanned combat aerial vehicles (UCAVs) towards apartment buildings, private residential houses, commercial premises, social infrastructure and civilian vehicle traffic.

The Kyiv regime has tried to expand its long-range strikes as much as possible. Aircraft-type UAVs were used to carry out raids on civilian objects deep inside Russian territory – in the Voronezh, Lipetsk, Nizhny Novgorod, Ryazan, Samara, Saratov, Smolensk, Tambov, Oryol, Ulyanovsk and Yaroslavl regions. Air defence forces thwarted an attempt by the Ukrainian armed forces to attack Voronezh with long-range Western weapons. Four US-made ATACMS tactical missiles were destroyed as they approached the city. A drone strike on the city of Syzran in the Samara region resulted in five civilian casualties, three of whom were killed.

Up to 90 UAVs attacked settlements in the Belgorod region over a 24-hour period. Ukrainian armed forces’ drone operators deliberately targeted civilians. In Novaya Tavalzhanka, Ukrainian terrorists hit a civilian vehicle carrying a family with a young child. The couple were killed on the spot, and their four-year-old boy was hospitalized with injuries.

According to data collected and verified by Rodion Miroshnik, the Russian Foreign Ministry’s Ambassador-at-Large working on the crimes committed by the Kyiv regime, the Ukrainian nationalists’ artillery, missile and drone attacks claimed a total of 53 civilian casualties over the past week: 46 people were injured, including five minors, and seven people were killed. All in all, the Ukrainian armed formations fired at least 3,135 munitions at civilian objects on Russian territory over the past seven days, including rockets from 122 mm multiple rocket launchers, artillery shells of 152 and 155 mm calibre (some of them with cluster warheads), mines and grenades. The enemy also made active use of UCAVs and small arms. The overwhelming majority of the weapons being used by the Ukrainian armed forces to conduct strikes on civilians are manufactured and supplied by the Western accomplices to the crimes of the Kyiv regime.

Madam Chairperson,

The representatives of the Kyiv regime are sparing neither Russian citizens nor their own compatriots. Mr. Zelenskyy continues to tour European cities far and wide, begging for money and weapons to be used to his own advantage and to the advantage of his inner circle. At the same time, the situation for the Ukrainian armed forces on the front line remains difficult, if not catastrophic. In the rear, teams of territorial recruitment centre employees and police, brutalized and emboldened by impunity and acting just like the police officers who collaborated with the Nazis 80 years ago, are rounding up men, regardless of their age or health, to send them off to yet another meat-grinder offensive to prolong the lucrative conflict.

Last Saturday, at Istanbul airport, I overheard a telephone conversation between a young Ukrainian man and the person who had organized his escape abroad. He was speaking rather loudly and openly. The man was wondering why he had to pay the last instalment of 12,000 dollars after having had to swim across the border at his own risk and peril and, on the other side, to take a shared minibus taxi instead of the promised car. However, he did not refuse to pay, saying that he was “willing to pay any amount of money to get out of the country”. And the happy look on his face confirmed this. I felt happy for this young man who had chosen freedom and life. Unlike so many of his compatriots, he had drawn the lucky ticket.

Many of those who fall into the hands of the modern-day Ukrainian equivalent of “press gangs” also end up fleeing the territorial recruitment centres, the training units and even the front line. I would remind you that, according to the Office of the Prosecutor General of Ukraine, between January 2022 and October 2025, 255,000 criminal cases were opened in the country under the article on the unauthorized abandonment of one’s unit and over 56,000 cases under the article on desertion.

There are also Ukrainian citizens who are thinking about saving their native land rather than their own lives. More than 1,000 former military personnel of the Ukrainian armed forces are liberating their homeland as part of four units of the Russian armed forces.

Madam Chairperson,

In response to Ukraine’s terrorist attacks against civilian objects on Russian territory, the armed forces of the Russian Federation conducted one barrage attack and six waves of strikes between 15 and 21 November, hitting Ukrainian military-industrial plants along with fuel and energy facilities that ensured their operation, transport infrastructure being used to serve the interests of the Ukrainian armed forces, sites where UCAVs are assembled, stored and prepared for launch, and temporary bases for Ukrainian armed formations, nationalists and foreign mercenaries. The objectives of the strikes were achieved; all the designated targets were hit.

Over the past week, Russian units have liberated the settlements of Dvurechanskoye, Petropavlovka and Tsegelnoye, along with the city of Kupyansk in Kharkov region. They continue to eliminate the Ukrainian armed forces’ formations that are encircled on the left bank of the Oskol River.

The settlements of Novoselovka, Stavki, Maslyakovka, Platonovka and Yampol have been liberated in the Donetsk People’s Republic. In Krasnoarmeysk, Russian assault groups continue to eliminate the Ukrainian armed forces’ formations that are encircled in the Tsentralny and Gornyyak districts and in the western industrial zone. Mopping-up operations continued in the settlement of Rovnoye. In Dimitrov, the Russian army is also conducting active offensive operations in the Vostochny and Zapadny districts and in the southern part of the city. Five attempts by formations of the 35th Marine Brigade to break out of their encirclement in a northerly direction with the support of armoured vehicles have been thwarted.

In addition, the Russian armed forces have completed the liberation of the settlements of Gai, Nechayevka and Radostnoye in the Dnepropetrovsk region, and Yablokovo, Ravnopolye, Veseloye and Malaya Tokmachka in the Zaporozhye region.

According to the most conservative estimates, more than 260 square kilometres of territory were liberated from the Ukrainian armed forces between 15 and 22 November, almost 390 square kilometres in the first three weeks of this month, and over 4,500 square kilometres since the beginning of the year. And this is not counting the vast “grey zone”, in a large part of which the Russian armed forces have a significant advantage.

Overall, between 15 and 21 November, the Ukrainian armed forces lost around 9,500 military personnel, 14 tanks, 110 armoured combat vehicles, 442 motor vehicles and 52 field artillery guns. In addition, 129 electronic warfare stations were destroyed, as were 117 ammunition and materiel depots. Our UCAVs, missile troops and artillery destroyed two launching platforms for US-made HIMARS multiple-launch rocket systems and two launching platforms for US-made MLRS multiple-launch rocket systems.

Madam Chairperson,

The objectives of the special military operation will be accomplished one way or another. However, we still believe that resolving security issues through dialogue and diplomacy would be a more acceptable option for everyone.

At the same time, we should like to caution those who still harbour illusions about the possibility of defeating Russia. Events that result time after time in the defeat of Ukrainian units (as is currently happening in Krasnoarmeysk and Dimitrov) will inevitably occur again in other key segments of the front. And overall, this also leads to the achievement of the goals set, but only by means of armed force. I will repeat once again that we are ready for peace talks and for resolving problems by peaceful means. However, this requires substantive discussion of all the details of the proposed plan, taking into account our priorities.

Thank you for your attention.