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**STATEMENT IN EXERCISE OF THE RIGHT OF REPLY BY
MR. DMITRY POLYANSKIY, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
RUSSIAN FEDERATION, AT THE 1579th MEETING OF THE
OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

1 October 2026

On Ukraine

I am taking the floor in exercise of the right of reply by reading out an abridged version of my statement. At the end of our meeting we will distribute the full version containing a detailed list of all the crimes committed by Zelenskyy and his clique last week, the very crimes that our Western colleagues continue to studiously ignore with maniacal obstinacy.

The terrorist nature of the Kyiv regime is confirmed by the daily statistics regarding attacks on civilian objects on Russian territory. During the week of 21 to 27 September 2026, artillery, missile and drone attacks by Zelenskyy's "fighters" claimed 315 civilian casualties: 274 civilians were injured, including nine minors, and 41 people were killed.

All in all, the Ukrainian armed formations fired more than 8,000 munitions at civilian objects on Russian territory over that seven-day period, including rockets from 122 mm multiple rocket launchers, artillery shells of 152 mm and 155 mm calibre (some of them with cluster warheads), mines and grenades. They also made active use of unmanned combat aerial vehicles, first-person view (FPV) drones and small arms. The overwhelming majority of these armaments were manufactured and supplied by Zelenskyy's Western accomplices, who are doing everything in their power to try to keep him afloat.

The Kyiv regime's "fighters" deliberately targeted medics, emergency services personnel and volunteers. Eight healthcare professionals were injured in the course of that week, one of whom died. In the Zaporozhye region, a terrorist attack on a civilian vehicle transporting humanitarian aid killed three volunteers from the Omsk region and injured a further volunteer. Near the village of Malaya Belozerka, a Ukrainian drone attacked an ambulance, killing the driver and injuring three paramedics.

I will cite just a few heinous examples from the period in question.

On 25 September, in the village of Zozuli in the Borisovsky municipal district of the Belgorod region, an FPV drone struck a car, killing a married couple on the spot.

On 27 September, a woman was killed in the village of Berezovka in the Borisovsky municipal district when an explosive device detonated on her property.

On 21 September, a man was killed in the village of Andreikovichi in the Pogarsky district of the Bryansk region following a kamikaze drone attack on a residential building.

On 25 September, in Gorlovka (Donetsk People's Republic), a civilian woman was killed in an attack by an unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) on a market in the Nikitovsky district; another woman was killed during a strike on a retail site in the Tsentralno-Gorodskoy district. Eleven civilians, including a girl born in 2008, were injured.

In Vasilyevka in the Zaporozhye region, a woman born in 1990 was killed in a UAV attack and her 16-year-old daughter was injured. The deceased woman also leaves behind two young children.

On 25 September, in Ulyanovsk, 15 people were injured as a result of UAV attacks, including three teenagers. Industrial and civilian infrastructure, apartment buildings, the tramway overhead line network and a section of the district heating pipeline suffered damage. On the Kuybyshev Railway, the locomotive and first carriage of a passenger train travelling from Moscow to Tolyatti were damaged; the train driver was injured.

On 25 September, in Lugansk, Ukrainian UAVs deliberately attacked a DIY superstore several times. A major fire broke out, and one of the city's largest shopping centres was completely destroyed.

On 24 September, in the Novoposkovsky municipal district of the Lugansk People's Republic, an electrician who was working to restore the heating supply to homes, schools and community facilities was killed when a UAV struck a public utility infrastructure facility.

I should like to address separately the situation in the city of Alyoshki (Kherson region), where the Kyiv regime is deliberately creating a humanitarian disaster. In the course of last week, Ukrainian armed formations carried out around 500 UAV strikes on the Novaya Kakhovka urban district of the Kherson region alone. As a result of these strikes, administrative buildings, retail facilities, warehouses, blocks of flats and detached houses, garages and vehicles were damaged. Damage was caused to civilian electricity and gas supply facilities.

Civilian residents of Alyoshki are unable to move about safely or receive humanitarian aid and have been deprived of electricity and gas. This is not a question of military necessity, but a deliberate strategy aimed at strangling the civilian population. At the same time, as we shall see shortly under a separate agenda item put forward by Ukraine, the Kyiv regime is cynically attempting – in the finest traditions of the Goebbels school – to use its own actions against the civilian residents of Alyoshki to argue that Russia is to blame for the situation there.

It is important to understand that all the crimes being committed by the Zelenskyy regime against Russian civilians are not “collateral damage” resulting from attacks on defence industry facilities in Russia, but deliberate actions against civilian infrastructure and the civilian population, which are intended – as Zelenskyy himself and his acolytes have stated – to provoke unrest in Russia and to undermine our governing order and society.

In the wake of one such “40-day campaign” of similar “decisive provocations”, the head of the Kyiv regime announced a second campaign just before the high-level week of the 81st session of the United Nations General Assembly, which took place last week. In doing so, he has once again, despite all our warnings, sacrificed the interests of his fellow citizens and his country, and traded their security in an attempt to impress his Western sponsors and wheedle more money and weapons from them.

The residents of Kyiv, who have begun to experience the might of our Aerospace Forces for the first time since the start of the special military operation, have every reason to be grateful to him. You were able to learn the details from the statement delivered by my Ukrainian colleague; just bear in mind that the Ukrainian authorities are seeking to pass off the actions of their own air defence systems as Russian attacks, even in the face of obvious facts. For example, on 19 September in the Kyiv region, a woman and her two-year-old son were killed by an air defence missile; the munition did not explode, but, unfortunately, struck the very spot where the family was sitting on the sofa. The dead woman's husband spoke to Ukrainian media outlets about this, but, as journalists would discover, official reports still attributed responsibility for the deaths of his loved ones to a "Russian drone".

Colleagues, by provoking Russia through their actions and pronouncements, Zelenskyy and his Western sponsors are, in effect, continuing to hold Ukraine's civilians hostage. Opinion polls indicate that a clear majority within Ukrainian society are in favour of peace, which could have been achieved long ago on the proviso that it would be a long-term and sustainable peace and that the peace settlement would address the root causes of the Ukrainian crisis, which we have identified on numerous occasions.

But the Ukrainians, as we are well aware, are today deprived by Zelenskyy, who has usurped power in the country, not only of the right to speak their native language, but also of the right to vote and to freedom of movement. All the rights of Ukrainian men, for example, are now reduced to the "right" to be forcibly conscripted and thrown into the senseless "meat grinder" on the front line. And you know this full well.

If even a shred of democracy had remained in Ukraine after the 2014 coup d'état, the Ukrainians would surely have found a way to make it clear to their corrupt President that he had no right to trade away their lives or announce campaigns for inflicting "crushing blows" against Russia. But it is others who are making decisions for the Ukrainians nowadays – in particular, the European sponsors of the "anti-Russia" project – and, judging by your statements today, peace between Russia and Ukraine still does not feature in their plans. And that is why our special military operation will continue until the "war party" in Europe is sidelined and the European elites stop throwing a spanner in the works when it comes to efforts to achieve genuine peace. Or until the Kyiv regime suffers a complete military collapse. And given the pace at which the Russian troops are advancing and the military capabilities of the Ukrainian "fighters" are being destroyed, the second scenario now actually appears more likely than the first.

Thank you for your attention.