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

1 October 2026

**On the ongoing hybrid war waged by
NATO and the European Union against Russia**

Mr. Chairperson,

I shall read out an abridged version of our statement; we will circulate the full version after the meeting.

The past week has provided further evidence that European countries are continuing with their extremely dangerous ratcheting-up of the spiral of escalation against Russia and are disposing their protégés in Kyiv accordingly. Simultaneously, they keep on using the bogeyman of a “Russian threat” to frighten their citizens, brainwashing them in the spirit of primitive Russophobia and rejection of all things Russian.

The European media, neglecting elementary principles of journalistic ethics, have actively taken part in these efforts. New anti-Russian fables are constantly being churned out, while no one even bothers to refute the old ones, the absurdity of which is becoming glaringly obvious.

For example, the Spanish newspaper *El Mundo* planted a blatantly fake story claiming that the CIA had warned about a possible Russian drone attack from the sea on Spain, France and Italy. This proved too much even for the Italian Defence Minister, Guido Crosetto, who refuted the report and quite rightly pointed out that “it benefits no one to pour oil on the fire”. Unfortunately, with Europe in the grip of a “Russophobic frenzy”, nobody is listening to such voices. The demand nowadays is for ever more sensational stories about Russian agents, drones, saboteurs and special forces operations.

Germany seems unable to calm down after the “Leipzig hoax”: they are now trying to pass off any drone fragments, even fragments dumped in a rubbish tip, as corroboration of Russia’s destructive activities. Now, Mr. Rutte made a momentous contribution to this paranoid campaign by offering the following advice to his NATO colleagues on what to do in such cases: “Hey, when able, when you are sure it is the Russians, or almost sure it is the Russians, attribute it to the Russians.” Consequently, Estonia, Romania and Poland are bound to go into hysterics. It has got to the point where ordinary Europeans, unable to get through to their elites or to change the suicidal course being steered by these, are again actively posting “The Russians did it” memes, in which children and various cute little animals try to blame Russia for their naughty pranks.

All this would be amusing if every irresponsible move, every provocation by the Russophobic European elites, did not bring us one step closer to a full-scale European conflict – after which there might be nowhere left to post these cute pictures and no one who could take care of that.

Meanwhile, we are viewing with particular concern not only the further and further steps towards the militarization of Europe, but also the attempts to get the non-EU neighbours of Ukraine to cater to the Kyiv regime's military needs. In particular, the attempts to militarize Moldova and turn it into a logistics hub to serve the needs of the Ukrainian armed forces are becoming increasingly conspicuous. Verified data indicates that supply routes are already operating within Moldova for unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) assembled in Europe, and that there are plans to set up drone assembly facilities. It has been reported that Moldova is also planning to equip medical centres on its territory specifically to meet the Ukrainian army's needs. As a result, Moldova is becoming increasingly involved in military logistics, effectively turning into Ukraine's rear base. Responsibility for all the obvious risks arising from such reckless behaviour – to which the Moldovan people have not given their consent – lies entirely with the current Moldovan leadership, which has consciously chosen a path of confrontation and provocation vis-à-vis Russia.

We are no less concerned about Ukraine's growing destructive terrorist presence far beyond Europe – in particular, in Africa. US media outlets have repeatedly reported that Ukrainian instructors and UAV operators are active in Mali, helping terrorists to mount resistance against the legitimate authorities and the Russian military personnel belonging to the Africa Corps. Reports have also been confirmed regarding the presence of Ukrainian UAV operators in Libya, where they are using a base in Misrata to carry out attacks on Russian ships. Ukrainian experts have also been heading for the Middle East. The Kyiv regime is thus systematically exporting instability, seeking to align itself with anyone who would benefit from a weakened Russia.

It is noteworthy that some of the so-called peace initiatives currently coming from Europe are accompanied by a cynical caveat stating that their aim is to secure victory for Ukraine on the battlefield. It was exactly this kind of co-operation that Finland and France announced a few days ago. This is obviously nothing more than further confirmation of how the European elites are banking on a military solution, thereby merely compounding the suffering of the Ukrainian people and pushing the prospect of a sustainable settlement further out of reach.

Incidentally, we saw the true face of our Finnish neighbours – the one they have been showing to the world since 2022 – when Finland joined the French “forward nuclear deterrence” initiative, which is essentially aimed at blurring the boundaries between non-nuclear-weapon States and nuclear-weapon States in Europe. Any sensible expert realizes that such actions pose extremely serious additional risks to regional security. The upshot is that, instead of a strengthening of the non-proliferation regime, we are witnessing the creeping spread of nuclear threats and a growing potential for confrontation in the immediate vicinity of Russia's borders.

In addition to this, NATO is conducting air exercises near Kaliningrad, with the stated aim being “control over the Russian exclave”. The Polish Defence Ministry publicly describes this as a “demonstration of rapid response capabilities”. The Lithuanian Foreign Minister even claimed that NATO has the means to “raze to the ground” the Russian military installations in Kaliningrad. Colleagues, only an irredeemable cynic or someone who is blind could, in the face of such statements, claim that NATO's actions are defensive in nature – they constitute nothing other than a direct and entirely undisguised threat of force. Since we have come to this point, I should like to remind you that Russian doctrinal documents contain provisions governing the potential response to a blockade of the Kaliningrad region. They unambiguously

provide for a nuclear response to such actions. Do you doubt our resolve? Fine, go ahead, but you will only have yourselves to blame then!

Colleagues,

Yesterday marked 88 years since the day that Great Britain and France, entertaining the illusory hope that they could deflect the threat of Hitler's aggression from themselves, concluded an agreement with Nazi Germany that ushered in the Second World War. Czechoslovakia was sacrificed back then. This infamous pact subsequently came to be known as the "Munich betrayal".

I would remind you that slightly earlier, in March and May 1938, the Soviet Union had put forward a proposal to convene an international conference at which, *inter alia*, it had been proposed to discuss the idea of establishing a collective security system in Europe; however, these measures were arrogantly rejected by the leading European powers.

Does this sound familiar? How many times have we proposed, both within and beyond this Organization, both before 24 February 2022 and since then, that we should, before it is too late, set about doing what the OSCE was, in fact, created to do – establishing a system of collective security on our continent? Instead, all we have been seeing so far is anti-Russian hysteria and attempts to disregard the security of Russia and its allies!

Europe today claims that it shares common values with the Kyiv regime, which is reburying Nazi collaborators. And some politicians, in particular the current Polish President, are making unequivocal statements to the effect that Russia is, I quote, "displaying the same imperial hubris that in the past led to unimaginable suffering and the tragedy of two world wars".

In other words, we are now effectively one step away from its being affirmed at the EU level that it was the USSR which attacked Nazi Germany. All the more so as Germany is again trying on the dented armour of "champion of all Europe" and its current leader is declaring that his country must once more become Europe's leading military power. How do you think that such statements – coupled with the provision of direct aid to a regime that has proclaimed its goal to be to exterminate everything Russian – are perceived in my country, which lost 27 million lives in the Second World War?

You seem to be determined to prove to us yet again that you are incapable of learning the lessons of history, even though history is a teacher that knows no mercy. By the looks of it, the current generation of Europeans will end up having to pay the price for your old/new delusions. We very much hope that you will give us grounds to reach a different conclusion in the nearest future.

Thank you for your attention.