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**STATEMENT IN EXERCISE OF THE RIGHT OF REPLY BY
MR. DMITRY POLYANSKIY, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
RUSSIAN FEDERATION, AT THE 1580th MEETING OF THE
OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

8 October 2026

On Ukraine

I am taking the floor in exercise of the right of reply and shall read 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 the Kyiv regime in the course of last week.

As always, I shall start with the figures. Between 28 September and 4 October, the artillery, missile and drone attacks carried out by the Ukrainian “fighters” claimed 235 civilian casualties: 206 civilians were injured, including 19 minors, and 29 people were killed, including two children. In total, the Ukrainian armed formations fired more than 8,300 munitions at civilian objects on Russian territory during that seven-day period.

In the course of last week, strikes by Ukrainian unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) claimed 230 civilian casualties, accounting for 98 per cent of the total number of such casualties. Using long-range fixed-wing drones, the Ukrainian armed forces attacked civilian infrastructure facilities in areas far from the combat zone. The geographical scope of the strikes stretched from the Belgorod region, which borders on the combat zone, to the Samara and Astrakhan regions.

Let us now turn to the most heinous crimes committed by Zelenskyy’s henchmen.

Yesterday, a father of 13 children and his 15-year-old daughter were killed by a Ukrainian armed forces drone 120 km from the front line. They were sitting in their car when the drone operator deliberately targeted them.

On the evening of 3 October, the “fighters” launched a barrage attack using drones against residential areas and the centre of Belgorod with the aim of inflicting as much suffering as possible on the civilian population. One woman lost her life and seven other people, including three children, were injured. In particular, a four-year-old girl and an 11-year-old boy sustained shrapnel wounds to their legs, while a 16-year-old lad suffered penetrating wounds to his chest and abdomen. Damage was caused to 135 apartments in seven apartment buildings; 30 houses; communal and commercial facilities; and 47 cars. Relevant photographs can be found in the attached folder.

In the early hours of 5 October, the Ukrainian “fighters” carried out yet another attack on the Zaporozhskaya nuclear power plant. The roofs of two on-site facilities were damaged. The strikes hit a laboratory building and a radioactive waste processing plant. There was no risk of radiation leakage, but the driver of a vehicle delivering food for the nuclear power plant’s staff was killed.

In addition, near the settlement of Chernukhino in the Perevalsky municipal district, a 16-year-old girl succumbed to the injuries she sustained when a UAV belonging to the Ukrainian armed forces struck a car in which a group of young people were travelling. Two teenage boys – aged 19 and 17 – were also injured.

In the town of Trubchevsk, 12 people were injured as a result of a UAV strike launched by the Ukrainian armed forces against a milk tanker near a dairy plant. The victims included nine students from the Trubchevsk Automotive Technical College.

The Kyiv regime and its sponsors are continuing with their cynical, utterly repugnant and inhumane media campaign exploiting the situation in the front-line city of Alyoshki in the Kherson region. I would remind you that the Kyiv regime has been shelling this population centre almost incessantly and preventing nearly 2,000 residents from evacuating, while leaving them without adequate food, drinking water, medicines and basic healthcare. Yet, contrary to the facts and common sense, the Kyiv regime and the European Union are trying to pin the blame for this war crime on Russia – the country which controls this territory and is trying to save the lives of these people.

For instance, the European Commission, which has been shedding crocodile tears over this affair, recently called upon Russia – rather than Ukraine – to urgently ensure humanitarian access to Alyoshki, describing the situation as unacceptable and hypocritically urging that civilians be given the opportunity to evacuate. The very same civilians who are being killed by shells and mines that Europe is supplying to Ukraine.

Of course, the authorities in Brussels did not say a word in this connection about the ongoing mining of roads by the Ukrainian “fighters” or the Ukrainian side’s incessant, targeted shelling of local civilians when they venture into neighbouring settlements to get food.

Thus, on 2 October, a group of civilians attempted to leave Alyoshki by themselves, as the European Commission is recommending to the civilian population, but they stepped on and detonated some Ukrainian landmines. Four people were injured. Sixty-eight civilians have been killed in attacks by the Ukrainian armed forces on the city of Alyoshki and its surroundings. However, no practical proposals for assistance have been forthcoming from international organizations. The governor of the Kherson region, Vladimir Saldo, has invited their representatives to visit the city in person, rather than drawing their information from the media.

Colleagues, is there no limit to your hypocrisy and your pathological hatred of all things Russian and of the Russian-speaking people who happen to be living in Alyoshki? Right now, before everyone’s eyes, you are pandering to those puffed-up politicians in Kyiv who would be only too happy to turn Alyoshki into a new Bucha, which they plan to use to stir up global public opinion and force those who still have doubts into adopting a tougher anti-Russian stance! If you really want to help the residents of Alyoshki, give the Kyiv regime a signal to that effect.

Colleagues, Zelenskyy has still not given up hope of inflicting some degree of significant damage on Moscow and the Moscow region, which could then be presented to the West as proof that Ukraine is capable of conducting military operations that can hurt our country. To that end, the Kyiv regime has been stocking

up on long-range weapons for a considerable time, anticipating that it would be able to overwhelm the Russian air defence system. Between 1 September and 5 October, almost 10,000 UAVs in total were launched at Moscow. Much to the disappointment of the Ukrainian Commander-in-Chief, the damage caused by those few drones that managed to break through and were shot down over industrial facilities was minimal. And over the past 24 hours, an unprecedented number of the much-vaunted Ukrainian Flamingo missiles – 17, no less – have been fired at the Russian capital. They were all shot down well before they reached the outskirts of Moscow.

Meanwhile, the head of the Kyiv regime never tires of threatening Russia with an escalation – one which he is incapable of bringing about – and then complains about large-scale attacks by Russia. As the well-known English proverb says, “people who live in glass houses should not throw stones.” Perhaps one of Zelenskyy’s sponsors ought to remind him of this, as that is precisely what he is doing. And naturally, he gets a response (one that is many times more powerful than the original strike), resulting in his fellow citizens suffering. Our retaliatory strikes are primarily directed at facilities that keep the Kyiv regime’s war machine going. So many targets have been hit that it is simply impossible to conceal the extent of the failure of Ukraine’s air defence.

The tragedy in Pryluky, in the Chernihiv region, was brought up today. However, my Ukrainian and Western colleagues have once again failed to mention that it was caused, once again, by the actions of Ukrainian air defence assets located in residential areas. Eyewitnesses have been posting about this directly on Ukrainian social media. The Russian Aerospace Forces targeted a nearby airfield and a plastics factory, successfully hitting both targets.

And now all those who in the past have been rejoicing at the strikes carried out by the Ukrainian “fighters” against infrastructure facilities in Russia and threatening to take out our bridges and energy sector are suddenly raising a hue and cry over facilities hit in Ukraine. It turns out that hitting bridges, power stations, railway facilities and warehouses is not allowed. Or, to be more precise, no one is allowed to do so except Zelenskyy. You really must make up your minds on your position of principle, ladies and gentlemen. For starters, though, rein in your protégés in Kyiv; otherwise, there will soon be nothing left of Ukraine’s infrastructure! Zelenskyy is ignoring the Ukrainian people’s yearning for peace; he has already stripped ordinary Ukrainians of all their basic civil rights, and he clearly has no intention of relinquishing power quietly. So, apart from you, there is no one else who can bring him to his senses.

In response to the latest attempt to cause damage to civilian objects on Russian territory, the Russian Foreign Ministry has warned of inevitable retaliatory strikes and once again strongly urged foreign diplomats to leave the Ukrainian capital. It is up to you to decide how to react to these warnings, but do not say afterwards that we did not warn you.

While the Kyiv regime’s attempts to destabilize Russia are falling flat, our troops continue to make steady advances. In September alone, Russia gained control over 27 population centres and liberated more than 1,300 square kilometres of territory. No more than 11 per cent of the Donetsk People’s Republic remains under the Kyiv regime’s control, and Russia will reclaim the remaining territory much sooner than might be expected over in Kyiv.

Colleagues, we are hearing increasingly frequent false claims from the Kyiv regime that Ukraine is ready for peace; in reality, however, this is contradicted by the aforementioned actions and rhetoric of the Ukrainian President. The authorities in Kyiv may well be ready for a ceasefire so that they can lick their wounds, stock up on weapons and regroup, but, bearing in mind the history of the Minsk agreements, no one is willing to grant the Kyiv regime and its sponsors such a favour again.

We are ready solely for a lasting and sustainable peace, and for this to happen, it is essential that no further threats to Russia and the Russian people emanate from Ukrainian territory; that no one interferes with the Russian language, which is native to the majority of Ukrainians; and that no one encroaches upon Russian identity, our faith, or our heroes who defended our land against the German fascists.

That is precisely why our special military operation was launched, and it will, without a shadow of a doubt, achieve all its objectives. And the sooner you realize and accept this, the sooner the suffering of ordinary Ukrainians, who have become hostages of the Zelenskyy regime, will come to an end.

Thank you for your attention.