



Permanent Mission of Ukraine
to the International
Organizations in Vienna

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF UKRAINE

1537th meeting of the OSCE Permanent Council

Agenda Item 1, “The Russian Federation’s Ongoing Aggression Against Ukraine”

(9 October 2025)

Mr Chairperson,

Since last week, when Russia’s war of aggression was discussed in the Permanent Council, the aggressor state has continued its campaign of terror, further targeting the civilian population and critical infrastructure without any military necessity.

Constant Russian drone and missile attacks, as well as regular artillery shelling of the territories along the frontline, have already caused a severe humanitarian catastrophe in many regions of Ukraine - a situation that is becoming particularly dire with the onset of the winter season.

In the Sumy region, daily bombardments have left several local communities without electricity. The attacks have also damaged energy infrastructure in the Chernihiv, Donetsk, Kharkiv, Sumy, and Zaporizhzhia regions, temporarily cutting off power to nearly 250,000 consumers. As a result of these acts of intimidation by the aggressor state, thousands of civilians have been left without proper access to basic necessities, which is particularly critical at a time when temperatures are already dropping.

On 4 October, in the town of Shostka in the Sumy region, a railway station was hit, killing one civilian and injuring dozens of others, including children, passengers, and railway workers.

During the night of 5 October, Russia killed at least five more people across Ukraine, and around ten others were reported injured. In the Lviv region, a Russian strike killed a family of four, including a 15-year-old girl. In total, within a single day, the Russian forces launched 549 drones and missiles against Ukraine.

Distinguished colleagues,

Ukraine deeply appreciates and consistently reaffirms its readiness to engage with all initiatives aimed at achieving peace and restoring international law. On numerous occasions, this readiness has been demonstrated both in words and in actions by my Government. But it was not Ukraine that started the war and it is not Ukraine that can stop it alone.

And what has been the response of the Russian side to the peace efforts of the international community? The only response from Russia has been further threats, ultimatums, and demands.

This was explicitly illustrated by the Russian president at the recent meeting of the Valdai Discussion Club, where he not only unequivocally reaffirmed his intention to continue the war and his efforts to reshape the world order, but also threatened Ukraine with further escalation, including strikes against nuclear facilities.

Regrettably, Ukraine's bitter experience teaches us that such threats should not be underestimated, as Moscow has repeatedly demonstrated that its strategy of total terror knows no limits.

Already now, the Russian Federation persistently escalates the situation around Ukraine's nuclear facilities in order to increase pressure and coercion. In particular, on 1 October, a Russian strike on an energy substation in the city of Slavutych (the Kyiv region) caused a blackout lasting more than three hours at the Chornobyl Nuclear Power Plant. This affected the New Safe Confinement, which protects the environment from the remnants of the reactor destroyed in the 1986 explosion.

The escalation around the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant is even more alarming, as the risks of a large-scale nuclear disaster does not deterred Russia from regular shelling that disrupts the Plant's normal power supply. To date, the ZNPP has been without an external power supply for more than two weeks.

We call on our partners to adopt additional collective political and sanctions-based measures to stop Russia's nuclear blackmail and to prevent a catastrophe that would have cross-border consequences for the entire European continent.

Ukraine, for its part, will continue close coordination with the IAEA and international partners to minimise risks, maintain operational repair readiness, and restore proper nuclear and radiation safety conditions at the Plant as swiftly as possible.

Russian attempts to turn the issue of nuclear safety and security into yet another subject of political bargaining is nothing more than political blackmail that puts the entire world at risk. As stated in the recent statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine: "Nuclear safety must never be a bargaining chip."

Mr Chairperson,

As Russian forces continue to bombard Ukraine's civilian population and persist in their nuclear blackmail, the Armed Forces of Ukraine remain resolute in their defence, steadily degrading the military capabilities of the aggressor state.

The most recent successful operations include strikes against one of Russia's principal factories producing explosives for a wide range of ammunition, and against an oil terminal in the temporarily occupied territory of Crimea that fuels Moscow's war effort.

In addition, several attacks were carried out against logistical hubs and field headquarters of the Russian army. These include the destruction of an ammunition depot belonging to Russia's 18th Combined Arms Army in temporarily occupied Crimea and a command post of the 8th Army in the temporarily occupied Donetsk region.

By striking Russian military assets, arsenals and supply depots essential to sustaining a prolonged campaign, Ukraine has significantly disrupted Russia's ability to maintain offensive operations. Ukraine remains steadfast in its defence, and we rely on the unwavering support of our partners in upholding the principles of sovereignty, territorial integrity and international law.

Regrettably, Russia continues to disregard the lives of its own soldiers and persists in its war effort. That is precisely why actions on the ground must be matched by sustained political and sanctions pressure. Measures should target military, oil, financial and other sectors that are critical to Russia's ability to wage war and to the survival of the Kremlin's regime.

Russia's hostile actions demand a robust response as Moscow understands only strength. To achieve a just peace, ensure lasting security in Europe and counter the Kremlin's imperialist ambitions, we must employ all available tools.

Thank you, Mr Chairperson.