



Permanent Mission of Ukraine
to the International
Organizations in Vienna

Statement on commemoration of 33 years of the military aggression in the Transdnistrian Region of the Republic of Moldova

As for delivery by the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the International Organizations in Vienna Yuri VITRENKO
to the 1511th meeting of the Permanent Council,
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Mr. Chairperson

First of all, I take the floor to reiterate Ukraine's full support to the Republic of Moldova, whose people keep suffering from the Transdnistrian conflict and its consequences.

A peaceful and comprehensive resolution of this conflict can only be based on full respect of sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Moldova within its internationally recognized borders with a special status for the Transdnistrian region.

Russia must withdraw its forces and munitions from the Moldovan sovereign territory as Moscow recommitted to do at the 1999 Istanbul Summit.

This was requested by Chisinau itself on numerous occasions. Ignoring such requests by Russia makes it clear that the Russian military units on the Moldovan soil are no one else but the occupants.

The OSCE Mission to Moldova should finally be provided with the possibility to monitor and report on the situation at the munition depot in Cobasna as it is envisaged by its mandate, the scope of which was expanded by the PC Decision №329/99.

Secondly. The bare fact that we mark the 33rd sad anniversary of this conflict speaks volumes about both the efficiency of the conflict resolution efforts and the Russian, dozens of years long unwillingness to stop it.

This is one of the oldest conflicts the OSCE has ever dealt with.

In an attempt to solve it there have been dialogues, numerous meetings and conferences, peace plans, confidence building measures and agreed commitments, including those in Istanbul in 1999.

But there has always been Russia, undermining any peace perspectives.

Russia recommitted to withdraw its forces from the Republic of Moldova 26 years ago. But they are still there and every deadline on almost all the other agreed issues was failed.

Now, in addition to the Transdnistrian conflict, the Republic of Moldova is continuously experiencing the negative spillover effect of the Russian war of aggression against Ukraine, including the Russian attempts to destabilise Moldova.

The recent gas crisis in the Transnistrian region orchestrated by Russia one more time demonstrates the kremlin's "no mercy policy" to achieve its goals. Only through the enormous efforts of the EU and Moldova's government the humanitarian catastrophe in the Transnistrian region was prevented.

In current geopolitical realities the Transdnistrian conflict should serve as a

pattern we must draw an obvious lesson from: Russia always violates agreements if beneficial.

Moscow does so just because it can, if nobody enforces such agreements and keeps Russia accountable for breaking them.

This understanding is very important today, as the Russian tactics and approaches are the same regarding its war against Ukraine.

Moreover, amidst different discussions about peace options Russia openly declares, including in this hall, that a just and lasting peace, based on the norms and principles of the international law, is not acceptable for it.

Putin does not abandon his plan to destroy the Ukrainian state and nation.

This doesn't leave much space for a compromise as Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity will never be compromised.

Mr. Chairperson,

The Russian Federation has fully discredited itself as a guarantor and mediator within the 5+2 negotiation format. That is why it remains dysfunctional.

Ukraine will further support the dialogue between Chisinau and Tiraspol in the 1+1 format and their commitment to solve problems in a peaceful manner.

Such contacts should be focused on gradually bringing the Transdniestrian conflict settlement process closer to the final goal – full reintegration of the Republic of Moldova within its internationally recognised borders with a special status for the Transdniestrian Region.

I thank you, Mr. Chairperson.