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Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the International Organizations in Vienna

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF UKRAINE ON RUSSIA'S WAR OF AGGRESSION AGAINST UKRAINE

1116th FSC Plenary Meeting

(08 October 2025)

Agenda Item 1, General Statements

Madam Chairperson,

[Ukraine aligns itself with the Statement, delivered by Denmark on behalf of EU-26 under this agenda item. In my national capacity, I wish to add the following remarks.]

I would like to deliver a statement on the subject of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine.

Today marks 1,323 days of Russia's unprovoked and unjustified full-scale invasion of Ukraine – a war we did not start. A war in which imperial ambitions have shattered the global order and the rule of law.

Between 1 and 8 October alone, Russia launched 1,389 attack UAVs, 18 ballistic missiles, 63 Iskander-K cruise missiles, 7 guided air missiles Kh-59/69, and 9 Kalibr cruise missiles against Ukraine.

On 1 October, while Ukraine celebrated the Defenders of Ukraine Day and the religious Feast of the Intercession of the Holy Virgin, Russia carried out a cruel strike on one of our energy substations in Slavutych. The attack caused a three-hour blackout at facilities of the former Chornobyl Nuclear Power Plant, including the New Safe Confinement over reactor unit 4 and the storage site for spent nuclear fuel, which contains over 3,250 tonnes of radioactive material.

The Russians could not have been unaware that a strike in this area would create direct risks for Chornobyl. On this direction alone, they used more than 20 Shahed drones.

At the same time, the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant has been under blackout for 15 consecutive days following Russian shelling in the area. Russia is doing absolutely nothing to restore power supply, deliberately creating the risk of a radiological incident.

Ukraine hosts five nuclear power plants, and every one of them is under constant threat from Russian missiles and drones. Russia has shown that nuclear power plants are, for them, the same kind of target as hospitals or schools – all of which they cynically label as "military targets" and proudly report as destroyed. We need a strong collective response and increased pressure on the Russian Federation to protect human life, and we thank all those who do not remain silent.

The most recent public threats by the so-called president of the Russian Federation to strike nuclear power plants in Ukraine, articulated during his speech at the Valdai International Discussion Club on 2 October 2025 are another cause for profound concern. The tenor and timing of these statements create acute risks for nuclear safety and security, aggravate an already fragile situation around Ukrainian nuclear installations, and stand in clear contradiction to the purposes and principles of the IAEA Statute and to the universally shared norm that civilian nuclear facilities must never be used as instruments of coercion or targets of attack.

On 3 October, Russia launched yet another strike against Ukraine's energy infrastructure, just ahead of the heating season, seeking to pressure civilians. But what they fail to understand is that such terror only unites Ukrainians further and deepens their hatred toward the aggressor. In one single strike on an energy facility, Russia launched 35 missiles, including ballistic ones. Unfortunately, only half of them were intercepted.

On 4 October, Russia carried out a brutal drone strike using Shahed UAVs on the railway station in Shostka, Sumy region. Once again, Russia knew it was targeting civilians. One person was killed and at least seven were injured, including three children. This was yet another terrorist act by a terrorist state – one the world cannot afford to ignore.

On 5 October, Ukraine came under another massive combined Russian attack — more than 50 missiles and about 500 attack drones. Russia struck with cruise missiles, Shaheds, and Kinzhals, targeting critical infrastructure. The main targets were Lviv and its suburbs, as well as the Ivano-Frankivsk and Zaporizhzhia regions. Four people were killed and eight injured. One of the strikes hit a residential building in the village of Lapaivka, Lviv region, killing an entire family of four, including a 15-year-old girl.

Another missile hit the Sparrow Industrial Park, a purely civilian site designed to develop modern logistics and production facilities.

Esteemed Colleagues,

In line with Article 51 of the UN Charter, Ukraine continues to exercise its right to self-defence. Our Defence Forces have conducted a series of successful strikes on Russian military and critical infrastructure facilities that directly support the Kremlin's war machine.

On 4 October, Ukrainian strikes hit the "Kirishinefteorgsintez" refinery in the Leningrad region — one of Russia's largest oil facilities — as well as a "Buyan-M" missile ship in Karelia, a "Garmon" radar complex, and an Iskander transport vehicle in the Kursk region. A command post of Russia's 8th Army in the temporarily occupied Donetsk region was also destroyed.

On 6 October, Ukrainian forces targeted an explosives and ammunition plant, an oil transshipment complex, and the "Sverdlov Plant", one of Russia's largest producers of explosive materials. Ukrainian strikes also hit the "Marine Oil Terminal" in temporarily occupied Feodosia and an ammunition depot of the 18th Combined Arms Army in Crimea.

Let us be clear: every Russian strike on Ukraine will receive an appropriate and proportionate response. Ukraine will continue to defend its people and its sovereignty with determination and precision. We will deprive Russia of the resources, capabilities, and impunity it relies on to wage this war.

Distinguished Colleagues,

Russia continues to ignore or reject every single opportunity that could end this war and restore peace. For context: in September alone, Russia carried out 5,575 drone attacks on civilian and critical infrastructure across Ukraine. This figure does not include the use of missiles, guided bombs, or other weapons that Russia launches daily against frontline and near-frontline cities of Ukraine.

The so-called president of Russia, Putin, wants to continue this war – and to fight it precisely through terrorist methods. His recent cynical speech at the Valdai Forum, in which he once again threatened Europe with escalation, only confirms this.

Russia's actions prove that it does not seek peace – it seeks dominance through destruction. That is why the only effective response is strength, unity, and pressure.

I thank you.