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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

1117th FSC Plenary Meeting

(15 October 2025)

Agenda Item 2, General Statements

Mr 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 on the issue of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine.

Seven months ago, Ukraine unconditionally accepted a proposal put forward by the United States to establish a ceasefire. It was a timely and responsible initiative that could have opened a genuine pathway toward ending the aggression and restoring long-awaited peace in Europe.

Regrettably, despite Ukraine's openness and constructive approach, that peace remains elusive – not because of Ukraine, but because of Russia's clear and persistent unwillingness to negotiate in good faith. Instead of choosing dialogue, the Kremlin has chosen escalation. Instead of seeking peace, it continues to intensify its military operations while hiding behind fabricated "reasons" for this war – reasons that change with every new statement from Putin or his spokesperson Peskov.

Almost every week, the Russian delegation repeats here at the Forum, automatically, its false narrative about the so-called "Istanbul Agreements" of 2022. Let me be clear: what Russia presents as "agreements" were in fact nothing but ultimatums – demands for Ukraine's capitulation, dressed up as diplomacy. These so-called "deals" exist only in the imagination of Putin and serve one purpose: to shift responsibility for the continuation of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine and for the genocide of the Ukrainian people.

Mr Chairperson,

Between 8 and 14 October alone, Russia launched 1,134 attack UAVs, 14 ballistic missiles, 12 Iskander-K cruise missiles, 4 Kh-59/69 guided air missiles, and 2 aerobalistic missiles Kinzhal against Ukraine. The Kremlin's regime continues to escalate its terror campaign, and its goal is clear: to deprive Ukrainians of light, warmth, and dignity – to make suffering a weapon.

On 13 October, Russia caried out another series of brutal attacks targeting our energy facilities and civilian infrastructure, in particular:

- Russian aircraft dropped bombs on a municipal hospital. 57 people were injured. It was an absolutely terrorist, cynical attack on a place where lives are saved;
- In the Kirovograd region, civilian infrastructure was damaged, including railway facilities in two settlements;
- In the Sumy region, energy and industrial facilities were hit.

On 14 October, Russian forces once again demonstrated their contempt for international law by attacking a clearly marked United Nations humanitarian convoy in the Bilozerka community of the Kherson region. The convoy of four white UN trucks – delivering food and essential supplies to civilians – came under targeted drone and artillery fire. One vehicle was completely destroyed, another severely damaged. Fortunately, no humanitarian staff were injured. This was a deliberate and cynical strike against those bringing aid, and yet another blatant violation of IHL and the Geneva Conventions.

Ukraine strongly condemns those attacks and calls on all partners to increase pressure on the aggressor state.

Esteemed Colleagues,

Putin personally fears a ceasefire, because ending hostilities would make it difficult for him to resume war later – economically, socially, and politically. For now, he chooses war. But this war can be stopped. What is needed is more pressure – real, sustained, and coordinated pressure – to make Russia's cost of war exceed any possible gain. Pressure works when the aggressor begins to lose more than it can afford to lose.

Ukraine supports and will continue to support all genuine peace initiatives – because that is the right and responsible course. However, as long as Russia wages war, Ukraine will defend itself, conduct deep precision strikes, and call for stronger

sanctions to force peace through strength. This war is not abstract geopolitical contest – it is daily struggle between truth and lies, civilization and barbarism, rule of law and impunity.

Ukraine does not fight for the sake of fighting, unlike Russia, which wages war for conquest and extermination. We fight for survival, justice, and freedom. Unlike Russia, we seek peace. And while even "Hamas" has demonstrated an ability to negotiate, Putin continues to stall – driven by ambition, arrogance, and imperial delusion.

But that will not last forever. International law and truth are on our side.

I thank you, Mr Chairperson.