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VIENNA NEGOTIATIONS ON MILITARY SECURITY AND ARMS CONTROL,  
AT THE 1087th PLENARY MEETING OF THE OSCE FORUM FOR SECURITY  
CO-OPERATION**

18 September 2024

**Agenda item: General statements**

**Subject: Deliberate use of unmanned aerial vehicles by the Ukrainian armed forces  
against civilian targets in the Russian Federation**

Mr. Chairperson,

The use of Ukrainian combat drones against Russian civilians and civilian objects has long been a cause for concern. It is the Kyiv regime that started using uncrewed systems to commit calculated, deliberate and cynical crimes against civilians. To date, unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) are second only to artillery in terms of the types of weapon most frequently used by the Kyiv junta to kill and maim ordinary people in the front-line areas of Russian regions.

At least 723 civilians have been injured as a result of strikes by Ukrainian UAVs since the start of 2024 and 124 people have been killed, according to our data. In July alone, the Ukrainian armed forces' drone operators added at least 186 civilian casualties to their "scorecard", specifically 170 injured and 16 killed. In August, there were 73 injured and ten killed among the civilian population.

As at 1 August, the greatest number of civilian casualties resulting from strikes by the Kyiv regime's UAVs was in the Belgorod region, namely 79 casualties, including six who lost their lives. The Ukrainian armed forces' drones have claimed around 48 civilian casualties in the Donetsk People's Republic (DPR), five of whom died. In the Kursk region at least four civilians have been killed and at least 29 have been maimed following similar crimes by the Kyiv regime.

The operators of Ukrainian combat drones do not spare even children. Between 1 January and today, there have been at least 43 casualties among minors in the 11 front-line regions: 34 children have been injured and nine killed. Among the most cynical crimes committed by the monsters in Kyiv is the targeted dropping of a munition on a playground in the town of Shebekino in the Belgorod region on 11 July.

Five children were hospitalized with mine blast injuries of varying degrees of severity as a result. The youngest had to undergo a difficult operation on his spine. Doctors fought for the life of the eldest for more than a week, but it did not prove possible to save this 16-year-old lad. He died of his injuries.

An exponentially rising trend over the past few months has been the way in which these Nazi drones are going after civilian vehicles and public transport. They track down private civilian cars, public buses and public utility vehicles moving on the roads and launch lethal attacks on them. Entire families with children, worker crews, and rescue and repair workers find themselves as targets.

In addition, drones are being used by the Ukrainian Nazis to launch strikes on agricultural machinery headed for the fields in rural areas and on construction vehicles at work on the rebuilding of infrastructure after shelling attacks.

Through the OSCE Secretariat, the Russian delegation has circulated among the participating States a compendium entitled “Mass Murder of Civilians by the Kiev Regime: UAVs (2024)” that was prepared by the team of Rodion Miroshnik, the Russian Foreign Ministry’s Ambassador-at-Large working on the crimes of the Kyiv regime. I shall not lay out here the detailed information, photos and video material contained in that brochure. The compendium’s title speaks for itself.

The overwhelming majority of Ukrainian UAVs have either been manufactured in foreign factories or are assembled in Ukraine in a do-it-yourself fashion using foreign components that have been brought into the country. In February-March of this year, NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg said that the North Atlantic Alliance would procure 1 million drones for the Kyiv regime. The United Kingdom and Latvia eagerly offered to lead a coalition aimed at supplying the Ukrainian armed forces with thousands of drones. It is not surprising that, inside the drones used against Russian civilian infrastructure, our specialists have discovered elements pointing to their having been manufactured in the United States of America, Canada, Sweden and several other countries from the Western coalition.

For example, in the course of analysing the electronic components in the UAVs that were used by the Ukrainians in early August of this year to attack a fuel depot in the Kamensky district of the Rostov region, it was established that the presetting of the flight controllers had been done in the United Kingdom, specifically near the city of Salisbury, right next to the headquarters of the company Callen-Lenz, and near the city of Newport, Wales, inside a hangar belonging to the British company Safran Seats GB Ltd. The aforementioned UAVs were assembled in the Vyshhorodskyi district of the Kyiv region and launched from positions not far from the city of Slavyansk in the part of the DPR controlled by the Ukrainian armed forces.

We regard this and other similar instances as confirmation that the countries supplying components for Ukrainian UAVs support the terrorist tactics employed by the Kyiv regime. They are consequently direct accomplices in these crimes.

One last thing. The Ukrainian armed forces announced quite recently that they were using drones containing a molten mixture of aluminium powder and iron oxide that reaches a temperature of 2,200 degrees Celsius. I would remind you that this technology was created by Germany towards the end of the nineteenth century and actively used by that country in the First and Second World Wars. To back up their announcement, the Ukrainian fighters published a video showing drones dropping a flammable substance.

The use of incendiary weapons by the Ukrainian armed forces runs counter to warnings from the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs, which has stated most clearly that such weapons can cause massive destruction to infrastructures and to the environment.

We can only guess as to what further cynical methods those thugs in Kyiv will resort to.

Mr. Chairperson,

Strikes against civilians by means of drones of various kinds – this is the type of crime that the Ukrainian death squads are perpetrating deliberately, cynically and in full knowledge of the consequences of what they are doing. By using, for example, UAV vision systems supplied by Western sponsors, drone operators can make out their victims perfectly. They see that there is a child, an elderly person or a woman in their cross hairs. We affirm most responsibly that the Ukrainian Nazis will be held accountable, to the fullest extent of the law, for the atrocities they have committed.

Today we are by no means setting ourselves the task of prompting the Western delegations to condemn the criminal methods of these neo-Nazis: that is impossible given the breathtaking cynicism of the NATO-EU delegations at the Forum for Security Co-operation. Our main goal, though, is to convey the truth about what the Kyiv regime is getting up to with the backing of its Western handlers. All the aforementioned facts are being relayed to our partners among the Majority World countries so that they can understand more precisely the processes that are taking place in Ukraine. We are doing this, and will continue to do so going forward, because we owe it to the memory of the civilians who have been maimed or killed.

Thank you for your attention.