



**United States Mission to the OSCE**  
**U.S. Statement for the**  
**Forum for Security Cooperation:**  
**General Statements –**  
**Russia’s War of Aggression Against Ukraine**

As delivered by Deputy Arms Control Delegate Spencer Fields  
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Thank you, Mr. Chair,

This past Monday, our Russian colleagues hosted a three-hour-long side event on quote, “[the] Formation of a multipolar world order: regional and global challenges.” Given that the keynote panel featured several persons well-known for promoting Russia’s war of aggression against Ukraine, denying Ukraine’s right to exist, justifying the unjustifiable massive violations of human rights, torture, rape, deportation of children and other war crimes and crimes against humanity, which go against the OSCE principles and commitments, the United States did not attend.

Nevertheless, for the benefit of Russia’s delegation, which is here in the room with us today, here are some answers to their guiding questions.

The first two-part question asks, quote, “What are the key trends of the current world political development? What role does the development of the Eurasian security project play in this process through strengthening the positions of the CSTO, CIS, SCO, BRICS and other non-Western regional alliances?”

The United States answered this question in our statement last week, but since Russia blocked the meeting, I will try to summarize here. In terms of geo-political trends, Russia is driving instability in Europe and beyond and is using fear and coercion to pressure others into compliance and to sow chaos and disunity around the world. Moscow has also ramped up its covert sabotage campaign here in Europe. Isolated on the world stage, Russia has been violating various UN sanctions by relying on countries like North Korea and Iran for military support. Furthermore, Russia’s reliance on China for financial assistance and dual-use

technology has fed Russia's war machine. The growing cooperation between these States is only fueling instability in the world.

Considering Russia's question about its so-called "Eurasian security project" and the role and development of so-called "non-western alliances," having Russia inside any alliance would be like having a fox in the hen house. For example, while Russia may attempt to hold up the Collective Security Treaty Organization or CSTO, which it dominates, as its answer to regional security, the truth is that the CSTO is a Potemkin village that does not exist to protect any of its members. The only purpose of the CSTO is to extort financial and political support for the benefit of Russia alone at the expense of its other members.

The next question is also a two-parter. What are the root causes of the geopolitical crisis in Ukraine? What are its consequences for regional and international security?" The root cause of the geopolitical crisis in Ukraine is Russia's brutal invasion, which Moscow initiated without provocation, without justification, without necessity. The consequences are that Russia's invasion led to the deaths of tens of thousands and displaced millions from their homes, ignoring the UN charter and undermining regional and global security.

The last two questions ask, "What contribution can international organizations make to compliance with [international humanitarian law or] IHL in conflicts?" and "What are the characteristics of economic and technological confrontation under new international conditions?" On the first question, let us recall that Russia has blocked the last two FSC sessions on IHL. And on the second, Russia could have learned from the discussion on "Emerging Technologies and Military Data Collection" last week or during the Canadian Chairperson's discussion on "Information Integrity in the Military Space," but it blocked both sessions from taking place. As a result, when Russia laments in its concept note the quote, "absence of political will to have an honest dialogue," end quote, it only has itself to blame.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.