



## United States Mission to the OSCE

# The Russian Federation's Ongoing Aggression Against Ukraine

As delivered by Chargé d'Affaires Katherine Brucker  
to the Permanent Council, Vienna  
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Russia, through its relentless violence, has killed countless civilians in Ukraine and displaced millions. It has razed Ukraine's infrastructure and is threatening global food security. Russia undermines our collective work to advance economic security in the OSCE region.

Russia's forces have waged a systematic campaign against Ukraine's agricultural sector, destabilizing global food markets. Moscow has sought to break Ukraine's exports at every link of the supply chain, whether destroying the food itself or the means to produce and ship it. Russia has set fire to fields, mined seabeds and farmland, torn up roads, bombed grain silos, and reportedly rendered millions of hectares of Ukraine's farmland unusable.

Let me give you some statistics that demonstrate the damage done:

- According to the World Food Program, Ukrainian agricultural products could feed annually 400 million people around the world before Russia's invasion.
- The World Food Program now expects the disruptions and destruction caused by landmines and unexploded ordinance to reduce agricultural and food exports by 4.3 billion dollars. That is enough money to provide one nutritious meal per day for a year to 30.1 million people facing famine.
- As of September 2024, more than 25 percent of Ukraine's territory reportedly needed to be surveyed to ensure it would be safe to farm. This has forced farmers to abandon large swathes of land.
- Finally, the World Bank estimates that fully demining Ukraine will cost as much as 35 billion dollars.

Madame Chair, let me be clear. Russia needs to pay for the damage it is inflicting on Ukraine. That is why President Biden led a G7 effort to commit 50 billion dollars in loans to Ukraine backed by the profits of immobilized Russian sovereign assets. As part of the G7 initiative, the United States announced on October 23rd that we will provide 20 billion dollars in loans to Ukraine that will be paid back by the interest earned from these Russian assets.

These loans will support the people of Ukraine as they defend and rebuild their country. Our efforts should leave no doubt: tyrants will be held responsible for the damage they inflict.

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