



Permanent Mission of Ukraine
to the International
Organizations in Vienna

Statement on the russian federation's ongoing aggression against Ukraine: intensified, indiscriminate and asymmetrical military attacks on Ukraine's civilian population

As for delivery by Ambassador Yevhenii Tsymbaliuk, Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the International Organizations in Vienna,
to the 1393rd special meeting of the OSCE Permanent Council

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Mr. Chairperson,

Thank you for convening this special meeting of the OSCE Permanent Council.

The reason for its convocation is more than relevant for our Organization.

Our first intention was to focus on deadly missile attacks on the city of Zaporizhzhia that took place over the weekend.

On October 9, the anti-ship missile X-22 destroyed a high-raising residential building.

It seems that the russian regime does not see the difference between the warships and residential buildings. And never did.

This strike continued a series of russian missile attacks on Zaporizhzhia, which, according to President Zelenskyy, claimed lives at least of 43 people since October 3.

But it only took a day for the russian regime to reconfirm its terrorist nature in all its glory – only to receive a standing ovation from its supporters and improve putin's personal ratings after the russian military's devastating retreat on the ground.

So, yesterday Ukraine witnessed another massive missile attack, starting at 6 am Kyiv time.

14 regions across the country were under fire.

Kyiv, Dnipro, Zaporizhzhia, Lviv, Vynytsia, Mykholaiv, as well as Zhytomyr, Khmelnytsk, Sumy, Kharkiv, Ivano-Frankivsk, Odesa regions and others.

russia used land-based, sea-based and air-based missiles, as well as Iranian drones.

X-101 and X-555 missiles were fired by Tu-95 and Tu-160 strategic bombers aircraft from the Caspian region.

Caliber cruise missiles were launched from warships in the Black Sea.

"Iskander", Tornado-S, and S-300 anti-aircraft missile were fired from different directions.

A number of "Shahed-136" drones were launched from the territory of belarus.

In total, the russian regime used more than 80 missiles to hit Ukraine.

45 of them were intercepted by the Ukrainian air defense system.

Three cruise missiles, as reported by the official Chisinau, launched on Ukraine from russian ships in the Black Sea, violated Moldova's airspace.

This clearly demonstrates the scale of russia's threat to the region and the kremlin's further intentions.

And not only in the Black Sea region.

As already raised by our delegation, the launch of missiles by russia against the civilian infrastructure of Ukraine from the Caspian Region grossly violates international obligations regarding the use of the Caspian Sea for peaceful purposes only.

russia does not care about international law. But we have.

Therefore, we once again call on the countries of the Caspian Region to make every effort to force russia to fulfil its international legal obligations, in particular the Convention on the Legal Status of the Caspian Sea, and also to prevent further militarization of that region and its involvement in any armed conflict.

At the same time, in the face of russia's losses, aleksandr lukashenko decides to finally sell sovereignty of belarus to his russian patron.

By blaming Ukraine of allegedly planning an attack on belarus, it seems that lukashenka needs cover for using belarus to launch russian missiles and kamikaze drones against Kyiv.

At the same time, just yesterday he announced the deployment of a joint grouping of troops in belarus, including by hosting an additional russian contingent in the country.

Well, Minsk should ask itself how capable and trustworthy russia is?

What are real intentions of the kremlin?

Do they really think about a new attack from the North against Ukraine or do they just want to complete the occupation of belarus by deploying additional troops there?

The belarussian regime will not escape its share of responsibility for the crime of aggression, but it still has time to protect its even compromised sovereignty and save the country from the shame of full-fledged participation in the genocidal war waged by the bankrupted russian regime against the Ukrainian people.

Esteemed colleagues,

A number of victims of yesterday's brutal assault is still to be established.

However, its pattern is more than obvious – to target civilian critical infrastructure, especially energy infrastructure, and terrorize the civilians.

The fact that this deliberate attack was carried out during the morning rush hour also signalises that it was intended to cause as much suffering and casualties as possible.

But how many times have we meet here to discuss missile terror in the course of eight long months of russia's war of aggression?

It has been a part and parcel of russia's genocidal war from its first days. In total, more than 3500 missiles have been launched so far, hitting mostly civilian infrastructure.

Yesterday's attack has left thousands of children, elderly and ordinary civilians in schools, hospitals and residential buildings without heating and electricity in the mid of autumn.

And new attacks are taking place just as we are speaking here. At least, Zaporizhzhia, Odesa and Vinnytsia region have been attacked in the morning. There are also reports about intercepted missiles in other regions.

This has been done deliberately for months to sow panic and chaos and to provoke a migration crisis. And does anyone still have any doubts about genocidal intentions of putin criminal regime to eliminate the Ukrainian people?

Because kremlin's playbook has not changed from February.

Just recently, after the escape from the Kharkiv region, putin was bragging in Samarkand that 'russian armed forces delivered a couple of sensitive blows to Ukraine.

Then the electricity critical infrastructure in Kharkiv and dam in Kryviy Rih were targeted.

After further heavy losses at the battlefield, the russian war machine was disseminating a narrative of the need to destroy completely Ukraine's critical infrastructure ahead of winter.

Yesterday's propagandist shows on the russian TV even amplified this call. This tells a lot to those who still believe in a dialogue with the russian regime as it exists now.

putin is desperate because of battlefield defeats and he still believes that with missile terror he can change the pace of war in his favor.

Yesterday russia's military ministry tried to cheer up their leader by reporting that – and I quote – “the objective of the attack has been achieved, all intended targets have been hit”.

Let me name a few of them. Museums, university, pedestrian bridge, philharmonic house, office building, children's playground, buses.

I hope we will never get used to this kind of targets of russia's war criminals.

And since the envoys of the russian regime still enjoy a possibility of attending meetings of respected international organizations, I would like to state as slowly as possible, so they can write down every word.

russia. Will. Never. Break. The People. Of Ukraine.

We. Will. Never. Surrender.

We. Are Determined. As Never. Before. To Fight. And. We. Will. Win.

Dear colleagues,

We are grateful for all the words of support expressed these days.

We greatly appreciate your renewed commitment to support Ukraine in this fight.

And we also grateful to the OSCE Troika, Secretary General, OSCE PA President and Secretary General for their condemnation of russia's brutal and cruel attacks on Ukraine's civilian centres.

We know who we are dealing with.

And we know what to do to stop this regime:

- more modern air defense and missile defense systems for Ukraine
- additional technical and financial support to urgently rebuild the critical infrastructure
- new tougher sanctions that will defund russia's war machine
- full economic, political and international isolation of the kremlin regime

- inevitable accountability for the russian regime, including by establishing a special tribunal against the crime of aggression;
- designation of russia as a terrorist state.

All this will make russia's attacks on Ukraine useless and will secure a peaceful sky for Ukrainians.

And it will also bring us closer to a day when we will return to discussions about security and cooperation in Europe, as we used to do in the OSCE.

Not with the participation of this terrorist regime, but with new representatives of a new russia.

I thank you, Mr. Chairperson.