



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
July 18, 2024

Last week, we witnessed another international outpouring of support for Ukraine, this one in Washington, D.C. Support to ensure Ukraine's success. So let's talk about what a successful Ukraine looks like. A successful Ukraine remains sovereign and independent, and is increasingly integrated into Euro-Atlantic institutions like the European Union and NATO. A resilient and strong Ukraine on its own feet, militarily, economically, and democratically. Ukraine is on a trajectory to accomplish these goals.

Militarily, Ukraine has one of the largest and most experienced armies in Europe. International support remains strong. F16s will soon protect Ukraine's skies from Russia. Ukraine is the first place where NATO has a dedicated command to help a country that aspires to join the Alliance. On July 11th, President Biden launched the Ukraine Compact at the Washington Summit. This historic Compact creates a unified and comprehensive security architecture to support Ukraine today and into the future, in war and in peace. The Compact affirmed that the security of Ukraine is integral to the security of the Euro-Atlantic region and beyond, and that Allies and partners intend to support Ukraine until it prevails against Russia's aggression.

Economically, Ukraine has tremendous capacity for sustained and robust growth. It has the capability to develop both a strong defense industrial base -- one that will provide security for itself and also contribute to the security of the region -- and a strong innovation-driven economy. We're working with allies and partners to make sure private sector investment is being driven to Ukraine. According to a May European Bank for Reconstruction and Development report, Ukraine's economy is set to expand by 3 percent this year. Ukraine's economy is growing.

And finally, Ukraine's democracy is deepening. Ukraine is advancing with key political reforms as part of its EU accession and NATO membership processes. Political reforms that the Ukrainian people strongly support. We welcome the Support Program for Ukraine's contributions towards achieving this goal. Ukraine's reforms will make its democracy stronger and more resilient and ensure Ukraine realizes its citizens' aspirations for full integration into the Euro-Atlantic community -- the best possible rebuke to Putin.

Madam Chair, a strong, democratic Ukraine matters to the security of the OSCE region. Ukraine's success is the fastest way to peace, and we're fully committed to it. As the United States and all NATO countries stated in the July 10 Washington Summit Declaration, "we reaffirm our unwavering solidarity with the people of Ukraine in the heroic defense of *their* nation, *their* land, and *our* shared values. A strong, independent, and democratic Ukraine is vital for the security and stability of the Euro-Atlantic area."

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