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**STATEMENT BY
MR. MAXIM BUYAKEVICH, DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF
THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, AT THE 1507th MEETING OF THE
OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

6 February 2025

On the increasing military involvement of certain NATO and EU member States in further confrontation in and around Ukraine

Mr. Chairperson,

We listened carefully to your remarks before the start of today's discussion of the Ukraine issue. Unfortunately, they can only be described as a retransmission of the Kyiv regime's politicized and factually unsubstantiated propaganda. The mechanical repetition of anti-Russian insinuations broadcast by the pet non-governmental organizations of the regime and its sponsors will never be able to make those insinuations true.

In that regard, there has to this day not been any discernible reaction from the OSCE leadership, including the Finnish Chairmanship, to the verified facts regarding the cruel and inhuman crimes perpetrated against civilians by Volodymyr Zelenskyy's retreating berserk-like fighters. Let us go into detail on some of these crimes.

The Russian Investigative Committee has identified several military personnel from the 92nd Separate Assault Brigade of the Ukrainian Armed Forces who were involved in massacres of civilians in the village of Russkoye Porechnoye in the Kursk region. Two of them – Yevhen Fabrysenko, a private first class, and Volodymyr Parafilo, a private – are under arrest and have confessed. They explained that, carrying out criminal orders from their commanders, they and their fellow soldiers had killed at least 22 civilians. The bodies of these civilians – elderly people and women – were discovered in the cellars of houses, into which grenades had been thrown. According to Fabrysenko, one man “had his veins slit just for the hell of it”. In addition, it has been confirmed that Ukrainian military personnel raped at least eight women in that same village, subsequently killing them.

Is that not too much shock to bear for one small village, in which there were just 39 remaining inhabitants at the time of its capture by the Kyiv regime's militants? Let these figures sink in: since November 2024 more than half of the total number of people living in Russkoye Porechnoye have perished at the hands of Mr. Zelenskyy's neo-Nazis. We must, in particular, point out that captive soldiers from the Ukrainian armed forces have confirmed under interrogation that, before entering the Kursk region, they received direct instructions from their commanders to deal brutally with civilians. They were given a

de facto command to exterminate the civilian population. Evidence of similar crimes has come to light in Selidovo (Donetsk People's Republic (DPR), Russia) and several other liberated population centres.

All this indicates that the violations of international humanitarian law committed in the conflict by the Kyiv regime's formations are of a planned nature, that they are premeditated and systematic.

In order to divert attention from the publicizing of facts about the atrocities perpetrated by its fighters, the Kyiv regime organized yet another heinous false-flag operation, this time in the town of Sudzha in the Kursk region. Having previously placed a number of people in the building of a local boarding school under the guise of protecting them, the Ukrainian armed forces launched a targeted missile strike on that building on 1 February. According to the Russian Ministry of Defence, Russian air defence assets identified the missiles as having been launched from the Sumy region. This cowardly strike against a civilian object in Sudzha by Mr. Zelenskyy's fighters was carried out for the same purposes as the false-flag operations involving a maternity hospital and the drama theatre in Mariupol in March 2022 – the Kyiv regime back then also tried to pin the blame on Russia. We stress that all this once again demonstrates the terrorist and inhuman nature of those who are formally in power in Kyiv at present.

Let us highlight a few more episodes involving the Ukrainian armed forces committing crimes with NATO weapons.

On 31 January, a polyclinic in the centre of Gorlovka (DPR, Russia) was shelled using cluster munitions – there were at least 11 casualties.

On 4 February, Mr. Zelenskyy's fighters attacked a school bus in Russia's Zaporozhye region by means of an unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV). Five children were injured as a result of the attack, as was the driver of the bus. All in all, there were 20 minors and one accompanying adult inside that bus.

On 5 February, a UAV was again used in an attack, specifically to fire cluster munitions at two public buses and a city market in Gorlovka (DPR, Russia). At least seven people were injured.

Over the past week alone, the targeted and indiscriminate shelling of civilian objects by Mr. Zelenskyy's formations has claimed the lives of 11 people, including one child, and left 76 people injured, among them a minor.

Do these heinous acts constitute that selfsame "just and rightful cause" – as some people in this room would have it – for the sake of which certain NATO countries are supplying the Zelenskyy regime with arms and equipment?

The OSCE leadership is shamefully silent on all these atrocities by the Kyiv regime and on their victims, thereby in effect showing itself to be sympathetic to violence against the civilian population. We must emphasize that our Organization is currently not merely at a critical point – rather, its very survival is being challenged. And those who expatiate on alleged principles and values have no moral right to turn a blind eye to the aforementioned tragedies. The OSCE leadership should adhere to the principles of objectivity and impartiality. Attempts to enlist the Organization in order to paint a one-sided picture are unacceptable.

The terrorist nature of the Kyiv regime is manifesting itself far beyond the boundaries of the area of combat operations. Just two days ago, in an interview with the British journalist Piers Morgan on 4 February, Mr. Zelenskyy confirmed that his regime's intelligence services had organized a political assassination on the territory of the Russian Federation.

In January, Russian Federal Security Service (FSB) officers in the Yaroslavl region foiled a terrorist attack that was being planned by the Kyiv regime's intelligence services and that envisaged the use of toxic chemicals to poison workers from a local enterprise. A Russian citizen who had been recruited by the Kyiv regime was arrested. During the arrest, two containers filled with hazardous chemicals were seized – he had obtained them from his handlers in Kyiv through a cache.

The FSB previously announced the arrest of a Ukrainian Security Service agent who had tried to organize a mass murder of Russian military personnel by poisoning the drinks and cakes served during the celebration of an anniversary at the Armavir Higher Military Aviation School. A further four people were arrested in St. Petersburg for attempting to use a highly toxic chemical substance to poison food products that were intended to be sent as humanitarian aid to Russian military personnel in the zone of the special military operation. Additionally, in February 2024 the FSB thwarted an attempt by three Ukrainian citizens to carry out a terrorist attack in the Zaporozhye region involving the use of an analogue of the chemical warfare agent with the NATO code "BZ".

In order to neutralize the Kyiv regime's military capabilities, the Russian armed forces have launched further precision strikes, hitting energy facilities that are keeping the military-industrial complex running, military airfields, and UAV production workshops and storage depots. A strike in Odessa destroyed a site, located inside a hotel, where Ukrainian armed forces personnel and foreign mercenaries were stationed. We note in this connection instances where air defence systems have been ineptly deployed in Poltava by the Ukrainian armed forces, leading to casualties.

The monthly personnel losses of the Kyiv regime's formations in terms of wounded and killed have been around 50,000 or higher over the past six months. According to official data, some 100,000 militants from Mr. Zelenskyy's formations have abandoned their units without permission and fled, not wishing to become cannon fodder.

Ordinary Ukrainians are beginning to take matters into their own hands as regards the military enlistment officers (from the so-called territorial manning centres) who are implementing the forced mobilization. We may cite just a few examples from the first five days of February. A military enlistment officer was shot dead in the city of Pyriatyn in the Poltava region – he had been ferrying yet another victim of the mobilization to a troop assembly point of the Ukrainian armed forces. An explosion was set off inside the building of a regional military recruitment office in the city of Rivne, killing one person and injuring a further six. Similar incidents occurred in the buildings of territorial manning centres in the cities of Pavlohrad, Dnipropetrovsk region (one person injured), and Kamianets-Podilskyi, Khmelnytskyi region (one person killed, four injured).

Despite the persistent demand for peace, both within Ukraine and beyond its borders, certain NATO countries continue to drag out the conflict, seeking to derive geopolitical dividends. For example, it has been announced that the United Kingdom will earmark an additional 2 billion pounds sterling in military assistance for the Ukrainian armed forces. The UK Government has decided to play first fiddle in the Ramstein-format work on military provisioning of the Kyiv regime. Significantly in this regard, some more British mercenaries have been liquidated on Russian soil in the zone of the special military operation, namely 18-year-old James Wilton and 23-year-old Alexander Garms-Rizzi.

Despite the attempts to endow the armed conflict with a momentum of its own, certain sensible remarks are still filtering through that attest to a desire to give sober reflection to what is happening.

In particular, analysing the actions of the outgoing US administration, United States Secretary of State Marco Rubio said the following in an interview on 30 January: “The dishonesty that has existed is that we somehow led people to believe that Ukraine would be able not just to defeat Russia but, you know, destroy him [the Russian President], push him all the way back to what the world looked like in 2012 or 2014, before the Russians took Crimea and the like. And then the result, what they’ve been asking for the last year and a half, is to fund a stalemate, a protracted stalemate, in which human suffering continues. Meanwhile Ukraine is being set back 100 years.”

The US leadership’s sobering remarks have already forced Mr. Zelenskyy to start saying in public that he is not against initiating contacts regarding a settlement. In his actions this puppet of the Western elites, who calls himself the president of a notionally independent country, has long been guided not by public demand within Ukraine, but by the opinion of his foreign sponsors. Admittedly, in a recent interview this “president” whose term has expired did accompany his message about readiness for negotiations with yet another salvo of insults against our country. Be that as it may, we would once again remind you that any substantive contacts are hindered by the self-imposed ban on communicating with Russia’s leadership that was introduced by Mr. Zelenskyy in the autumn of 2022.

To wrap up. The tragedy of present-day Ukraine is a consequence of the armed coup d’état in Kyiv in February 2014, which was orchestrated, financed and organized from abroad, and after which the NATO countries attempted to turn Ukraine and its inhabitants into a tool for hybrid geopolitical confrontation with Russia.

The policy of the Kyiv regime’s handlers has not only destabilized the situation in the region, but has also created a threat to global security. Their attempts to converse in the language of ultimatums, their eschewal of mutually respectful dialogue and their striving for confrontation testify to an unwillingness to constructively resolve the crisis that has arisen in the OSCE area. This course must be revised.

We stress that Russia remains open to meaningful contacts, but only on condition that account is taken of our country’s legitimate interests with a view to ensuring long-term security and stability. It should be understood that attempts to weaken Russia by means of the Ukrainian conflict and to inflict some kind of “strategic defeat” on our country are doomed to fail. It is important for the NATO countries to genuinely realize the danger of further escalation and to stop supporting the destructive actions of the Zelenskyy regime. As long as this stance is not met with due understanding, the Russian special operation will be continued by military means until all the tasks set have been accomplished.

Thank you for your attention.