



Permanent Mission of Ukraine
to the International
Organizations in Vienna

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF UKRAINE ON RUSSIA'S WAR OF AGGRESSION AGAINST UKRAINE

1115th FSC Plenary Meeting

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Agenda Item 1, General Statements

Madam Chairperson,

I would like to deliver a statement on the subject of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine.

Over the past week, Russia has continued its campaign of terror against Ukraine's civilian population and critical infrastructure, once again showing blatant disregard for the UN Charter, international humanitarian law, and the OSCE's commitments.

Between 24 September and 1 October alone, Russia launched more than 1,300 attack UAVs against Ukraine. Particularly cynical was yesterday's attack on the city of Dnipro. The strike in broad daylight targeted civilian infrastructure, killing 1 person and injuring at least 15 people.

No less brutal was the massive combined strike of 28 September, which lasted more than 12 hours and involved 593 Russian-Iranian UAVs, 2 "Banderol" strike UAVs, 2 Kh-47M2 "Kinzhal" aeroballistic missiles, 38 Kh-101 cruise missiles, and 8 "Kalibr" cruise missiles. The main target was Ukraine's capital – Kyiv. More than 80 civilians were injured, and tragically 4 were killed, including a 12-year-old girl.

Residential buildings, private houses, energy infrastructure, a bread production facility, and a rubber factory were hit. Among the damaged facilities was the Strazhesko Institute of Cardiology – one of the leading medical institutions not only in Ukraine but also in the wider European region. In Zaporizhzhia, strikes injured nearly

40 civilians, while further attacks targeted Ukraine's energy facilities – once again exposing Russia's strategy of weaponizing winter and attempting to plunge Ukraine into blackout.

It is telling that this massive attack came immediately after the UN General Assembly week, serving as Russia's real message to the international community: Moscow wants to keep waging war and killing. This criminal regime deserves only the toughest global pressure.

Ukraine will continue to strike back to deprive Russia of the resources it uses to finance aggression and to compel it toward diplomacy. Everyone who truly wants peace must support these efforts and stop any imports from Russia. The time for decisive action is long overdue, and we count on strong reactions from our partners.

Distinguished Colleagues,

Russian occupation forces continue to suffer heavy losses in Ukraine. On 25 September, Ukrainian defence forces downed a Russian Su-34 aircraft over the Zaporizhzhia region while it was conducting terrorist strikes with guided aerial bombs.

Within the framework of Ukraine's counteroffensive near Dobropillia, as of 29 September, Russian forces have already lost 3,185 personnel, of whom nearly 1,800 are irrecoverable losses, as well as 969 pieces of weaponry and military equipment. The Armed Forces of Ukraine liberated over 174 square kilometres and cleared more than 194 square kilometres of territory during this operation. This is an area where Russia sought a major breakthrough – but it has been neutralized.

Despite Moscow's propaganda, the Russian army is failing. Putin lies when he claims that the occupiers are achieving their goals. For years now, Russia has had to invent excuses for missed deadlines and false objectives. Despite everything the international community says, Russia responds only with new assaults and new strikes against Ukrainian cities and infrastructure. This regime is truly consumed by war. The only way to stop this Russian virus of war is through strength: strong decisions and strong assistance.

Madam Chairperson,

Russian war crimes have no statute of limitations. In this regard, we highly appreciate the report of the OSCE Moscow Mechanism expert mission on violations and abuses of international humanitarian and human rights law, war crimes, and crimes against humanity related to the treatment of Ukrainian prisoners of war by the Russian Federation.

The Moscow Mechanism remains a vital instrument for documenting Russia's war crimes in Ukraine, particularly in the context of Putin's recent withdrawal, on 29 September, from the European Convention for the Prevention of Torture. This cynical decision demonstrates Russia's growing isolation.

The expert mission's report is a landmark – the first to systematically document Russia's crimes against Ukrainian POWs. Its findings will serve as a roadmap for justice. Notably, Russia refused to cooperate with the mission, an admission in itself of its culpability.

The mission confirmed that torture and ill-treatment of Ukrainian POWs by the Russian Federation are widespread and systematic, occurring at every stage of captivity – from capture, through transfer, to internment. It documented harrowing methods of torture, arbitrary killings, and executions of POWs, including summary executions of Ukrainian soldiers after surrender, as well as killings inside detention facilities.

The mission also found that Russia systematically and unlawfully deprives Ukrainian servicemen of their legitimate POW status, cynically labelling them “persons detained for opposing a special military operation.” This is yet another gross violation of international humanitarian law.

Ukraine is determined to ensure international accountability for all perpetrators of these heinous crimes. We call on all States to prosecute the crimes against our POWs as documented in the report and to bring the perpetrators to justice. Justice must also be reparative: victims and their families must receive compensation, rehabilitation, and guarantees of non-repetition. We insist that the Russian Federation implement the mission's recommendations without delay.

Esteemed Colleagues,

One of the most powerful measures against Russia would be to stop all European imports of Russian oil and gas. Every euro Moscow earns from these exports is spent on war, not on the welfare of its citizens. Reducing social spending breeds dissatisfaction, and history shows that Russia has always been vulnerable to internal unrest. This is what the Kremlin fears most.

Ukraine believes that a comprehensive solution is within reach – not only stopping Russia's shadow fleet and energy revenues, but also halting its ability to trade and export goods by sea to wage its war of aggression against Ukraine.

I thank you.