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**STATEMENT BY
MR. MAXIM BUYAKEVICH, DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF
THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, AT THE 1544th MEETING OF THE
OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

27 November 2025

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

Mr. Chairperson,

European countries with an anti-Russian mindset continue to whip up war hysteria against Russia and are systematically thwarting any nascent progress towards resolving the Ukrainian conflict. One gets the impression that they are deliberately exploiting the Ukraine issue to divert their citizens' attention away from economic and domestic policy failures. In contrast, the policy of the current US administration is aimed at finding diplomatic solutions. While certain elements are leaking information and planting fake stories with a view to undermining the negotiation process and the understandings reached in Alaska, Russian diplomacy is working strenuously in a professional manner and not disclosing any details until official agreements have been sealed.

The European politicians who are banking on a "strategic defeat" of Russia have trapped themselves in their own propaganda. They refuse to admit the obvious, namely that arms deliveries have not helped Ukraine to turn the tide of battle, and that sanctions have not managed to break the Russian economy. US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent put it in an interesting way: "The Europeans tell me, 'Oh, we are doing our 19th sanctions package.' In my mind ... if you're going to do something 19 times, you failed."

Instead of following the example of sensible European leaders (such as the Prime Ministers of Hungary and Slovakia), the rabid leaders of the United Kingdom, France and Germany are consciously gambling on a prolongation of the Ukrainian conflict and are derailing any substantive peace initiatives that take Russia's legitimate security interests into account. The Brussels bureaucrats are playing an unseemly role as well. EU foreign policy chief Kaja Kallas pithily summed up the European Union's "peace" efforts as follows: "The EU has a very clear two-point plan: first, weaken Russia; second, support Ukraine." A very "strong" plan indeed.

The British authorities continue their policy of preventing peace. While the international community is looking for pathways to de-escalation, the authorities in London are systematically and deliberately acting to fan the flames of war, in which endeavour they are guided by far from idealistic considerations. The British establishment has made support for the Kyiv regime the cornerstone of its foreign policy, putting not

only its financial resources but also its political prestige on the line. At the same time, the powers that be in London are completely shrugging off any clear-eyed assessment of the real situation on the front lines and of the catastrophic state of the Ukrainian armed forces. They have turned the conflict into a lucrative business project. Military supplies provided by such companies as BAE Systems and Thales UK have become a lifeline for the British economy. Over in London they are smacking their lips at the prospect of big profits from the supply of drones to the conflict zone. The British leadership is also calling for the illegal seizure of Russian assets. The entire might of the State propaganda machine, in particular the BBC, is directed at demonizing Russia and creating the necessary “information” backdrop for long-term confrontation.

This aggressive foreign policy serves as a fig leaf for a deep-seated domestic crisis. The United Kingdom is badly short of ideas for turning round the socio-economic situation and has no leaders of the calibre of Winston Churchill or Margaret Thatcher who could offer the country a constructive agenda. The bottom line is that the authorities in London are deliberately dragging out the conflict while making a “pretty penny” off the blood of Ukrainians and Russians.

Through its Defence Minister Boris Pistorius, Germany is systematically scaring its citizens with the prospect of imminent war with Russia, constantly shifting the time frame for that imaginary attack. As the newspaper *Bild* writes, Germany is at the head of an alliance to counteract Donald Trump’s peace plan, while the executive office of Federal Chancellor Friedrich Merz, judging by the statements coming out of it, is pushing its own plan for ending the war that would, in effect, imply Russia’s capitulation. Germany is displaying a staggering level of short-sightedness in continuing to support the Kyiv regime despite the obvious facts. We would remind you that it was Ukraine’s actions that led to the destruction of critical energy infrastructure on which German industry depended. However, for some reason this does not prevent Germany from sending billions of euros to the Kyiv regime, shutting its eyes to the fact that a considerable chunk of this money is being pocketed by corrupt officials. In other words, Germany continues to defend those who are hurting its own national interests. This policy is not only illogical, but also demonstrates how the current German leadership has lost all strategic vision.

France’s policy regarding the Ukrainian conflict also serves as a case in point of strategic blindness, of letting oneself be towed along by foreign interests and recklessly playing with fire. A one-time guarantor of the Minsk agreements, France later laid them to rest, confessing that it had never intended to implement them. Instead of working towards a diplomatic settlement, the French leadership has opted for the path of military confrontation. It is not only designating Russia as an “enemy”, but is also speculating in all seriousness about directly deploying French troops to Ukraine. This rhetoric is both irresponsible and divorced from reality, as it overlooks the true causes of the conflict, namely NATO’s unrelenting eastward expansion, the creation of a military threat near our borders and the coming to power in Kyiv in 2014 of a nationalist regime bent on eradicating all things Russian. For the sake of the far-fetched goal of “containing Russia”, France is willing to “lose its children” and “suffer economically”, as the Chief of the Defence Staff, General Fabien Mandon, openly stated on 18 November. That the authorities in Paris are thinking about sending troops reveals their total unawareness of the nature of current developments and their readiness to plunge the whole of Europe into the abyss of a direct clash. Instead of defending its national interests, France is thoughtlessly burning through the resources of its taxpayers by bankrolling the Kyiv regime, signing surreal contracts for arms deliveries and now even toying with the idea of packing French soldiers off to be slaughtered.

The real implications of this anti-Russian hysteria are highlighted by the example of Belgium. The so-called “incidents involving Russian drones” have revealed the depths of absurdity to which the European elites are willing to descend in their Russophobic campaign. Through Defence Minister Theo Francken, the Belgian authorities have, with much pomp and fanfare, declared a “Russian threat”, urgently closed airports, convened the national security council and stoked an atmosphere of fear and hysteria. However, as quickly

became clear, all this turned out to be much ado about nothing. Independent journalists displaying basic professional integrity established that the “Russian drones” were in fact a police helicopter and a civilian cargo plane belonging to the logistics company DHL.

Such incidents merely demonstrate how shaky and untenable the entire construct of anti-Russian propaganda is and how it even defies its own logic. On the one hand, narratives are disseminated about the Russian army being “ineffective” and “on its last legs”, while on the other, the “Russian threat” is invoked to scare the populations of European countries.

In the meantime, the Kyiv regime, supported by its Western patrons, continues to perpetrate real as opposed to imaginary crimes against civilians. During the week of 17 to 23 November, targeted strikes on civilian objects on the territory of the Russian Federation resulted in 53 civilian casualties, of whom seven people were killed and 46 injured, including five children. A married couple were killed and their four-year-old son injured when their car was attacked by a drone in the village of Novaya Tavolzhanka in the Belgorod region. Three civilians lost their lives in a drone strike on the city of Syzran in the Samara region. Two boys aged 11 and 14 years stepped on explosive devices in the Lugansk People’s Republic and the Donetsk People’s Republic, respectively, and were caught up in the ensuing blasts. A 14-year-old child and two adults were injured in a strike on a car in the Kherson region. A 15-year-old lad was injured in a drone attack in the Zaporozhye region. An 80-year-old resident of the city of Energodar in the same region sustained a shrapnel injury to his head.

Russian diplomacy will continue to convey this truthful information to the world community. We will not allow such tragedies to be forgotten under the cover of Russophobic propaganda. The healthy forces in international politics, in particular the countries of the global majority, will be able to take a firm stand against these war crimes.

In closing, we must restate the main point: our country is willing to engage in a meaningful discussion of ways to resolve the crisis in Ukraine, a discussion that must, perforce, take Russia’s interests into account. Without that, any negotiated construct will be unviable. As long as Russia’s diplomatic efforts fail to elicit a genuinely constructive response, the special military operation will be continued until the tasks set have been fully accomplished.

Thank you for your attention.