

The OSCE Secretariat bears no responsibility for the content of this document and circulates it without altering its content. The distribution by OSCE Conference Services of this document is without prejudice to OSCE decisions, as set out in documents agreed by OSCE participating States.

PC.DEL/1052/25
9 October 2025

ENGLISH
Original: RUSSIAN

Delegation of the Russian Federation

**STATEMENT BY
MR. MAXIM BUYAKEVICH, DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF
THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, AT THE 1537th MEETING OF THE
OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

9 October 2025

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

Mr. Chairperson,

The Western alliance countries are continuing their hybrid war against Russia, a war in which Ukraine is the main expendable resource. This aggression had been planned for a long time and, as has now become abundantly clear, included large-scale cover-up operations. The West shamelessly used the Minsk agreements for this purpose in order to better prepare the Kyiv regime for confrontation with Russia. Former German Federal Chancellor Angela Merkel stated this back in 2022. This was also confirmed by former French President François Hollande.

It had long been understood in the European capitals that the policy of building an “anti-Russia” in Ukraine would sooner or later lead to conflict. They embarked on this destructive course in 2014 by sponsoring an unconstitutional coup in Kyiv in violation of the Helsinki Final Act. It should be recalled that, on 21 February 2014, at the height of the events on the Maidan, an agreement was signed in Kyiv between President Viktor Yanukovich and representatives of the opposition on the peaceful settlement of the political crisis in Ukraine, with Germany, France and Poland acting as guarantors. The document provided for a return to the 2004 Constitution, early presidential elections and the formation of a “government of national trust”, as well as the withdrawal of law enforcement forces from the centre of Kyiv and the surrender of weapons by the opposition. On the same day, the Verkhovna Rada (Ukrainian Parliament) passed laws reinstating the 2004 Constitution and releasing all those detained during the protests. However, by that evening, radicals had begun to storm government buildings, forcing the President to leave the capital and then the country. As subsequent events showed, this was not a spontaneous development, but a well-planned campaign to destroy Ukraine’s sovereignty and completely subordinate it to the goals of confrontation with Russia. The coup was soon reinforced by a policy of drawing Ukraine into NATO and establishing a neo-Nazi regime in the country that denies Ukraine’s centuries-old cultural ties with Russia.

From this point of view, Angela Merkel’s attempts to justify herself by stating in a recent interview with the Hungarian media that Poland, Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia disrupted negotiations with Russia in 2021 and thus indirectly contributed to the outbreak of military conflict in Ukraine seem naive. This is especially true against the backdrop of statements by the German leadership itself about plans to create “the

most powerful army in Europe” and that Russia will remain a long-term threat to Europe regardless of the outcome of the Ukrainian conflict.

The combined military spending of NATO countries has already exceeded the astronomical sum of 1.4 trillion dollars. This figure significantly exceeds the spending of all other 163 countries in the world, including major powers such as Russia, China, India and Brazil. And this rise in spending will continue – following the Alliance’s summit in The Hague, its members will increase defence spending to 5 per cent of gross domestic product by 2035. Funds will be diverted not only from social and economic spending in those countries, but also from global development expenditure. We are closely monitoring the militarization of Europe. Russia has never initiated any military confrontation. It is senseless and distracts from efforts to solve real problems. But our country will respond appropriately to all threats to its security.

For resources to be “confiscated” from the civilian population in this way for the sake of militarization, States must brainwash their own population, block access to information and ratchet up military hysteria. This requires myths about the “Russian threat” and provocations – both of which we see in abundance in the official discourse of NATO countries and their satellites.

The main myth, that “Russia seeks to destroy Ukraine and then attack the free world”, amounts to a complete distortion of the root causes of the Ukrainian conflict. The truth about how NATO countries have systematically undermined the security system in Europe over the past few decades and have gradually increased the threats to Russia is being carefully erased from the public information space. People are not being told that the Ukrainian crisis is merely the culmination of the West’s expansionist policy. The story of the numerous steps taken by the Russian leadership to steer the situation back to a civilized path and to agree with the West on rules of conduct is now considered “Russian propaganda”.

For example, the fact that Russia made a desperate attempt to negotiate security guarantees in 2021, before the start of the special operation. The West refused to negotiate. The reason for this is now perfectly clear. And it is not, as Angela Merkel said, due to sabotage of the negotiations by Poland and the Baltic States. The reasons are long-term and systemic, namely the intention to inflict a kind of “strategic defeat” on Russia. They decided to use Ukraine as a tool against Russian statehood. Let us repeat: this conflict could have been prevented. If Ukraine had not been turned into an instrument of destruction, if NATO had not advanced towards our borders, if real Ukrainian sovereignty had been preserved.

Unable to achieve superiority over the Russian army on the battlefield using the Ukrainian armed forces, NATO countries moved on to a new round of threat projection. They began to stir up fears among their own populations. Provocations with alleged “Russian drones” suddenly popping up everywhere and hysteria over tankers in order to justify piracy are obviously only the first steps. Incidentally, the French authorities, having recently carried out an unauthorized seizure of a tanker, found no drones there. But next time, they will obviously plant the necessary drones themselves and “find” them.

We have already reported on the new despicable false-flag operations being prepared. There is also new information. The Russian competent services have information that, with the support of British intelligence services, a group consisting of Russian traitors who are fighting on the side of the Ukrainian armed forces will carry out an attack on a Ukrainian Navy ship or a foreign State’s civilian vessel in some European harbour. We know that the members of the group have by now already arrived in the United Kingdom for training in the arts of sabotage. After the terrorists are “discovered”, it is planned to announce that they were acting on “orders from Moscow”. It is noteworthy that the fighters from the Ukrainian armed forces are to be supplied with Chinese-made underwater equipment. The equipment seized during the “investigation” is expected to be presented as “hard evidence” of China’s support for the so-called Russian armed aggression against Ukraine.

Here are the figures for the real crimes committed by the Kyiv regime against the civilian population. In just one week, from 29 September to 5 October, 70 civilians were victims of shelling: 11 people were killed, including one minor, and 59 people were injured, including five children. Three civilians, including a six-year-old child, were burned to death in their own homes as a result of drone attacks. Most often, Volodymyr Zelenskyy's formations used combat drones to attack civilian objects in the Belgorod, Kherson and Donetsk regions.

Do you think the Finnish OSCE Chairmanship reacted to these attacks? Or was there a response from our "human rights watchdog" the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR)? Of course not, civilian victims of the Kyiv regime's crimes are "invisible" to the OSCE structures. Instead, on 5 October, the ODIHR issued a cynical press release accusing Russia of allegedly attacking the civilian population. It has to be said that, contrary to its name, the Office has become involved in the destruction of the international human rights protection system – its actions confirm the paradigm that is taking hold in the West that "all people are equal, but some are much more equal than others". We will draw conclusions regarding the future work of this structure.

The Kyiv regime is continuing its extremely dangerous policy of attacking critical infrastructure facilities, notably nuclear power plants. In the early hours of 7 October, Mr. Zelenskyy's formations committed an act of nuclear terrorism by attempting to damage the Novovoronezh nuclear power plant. A drone collided with the cooling tower of an operating reactor unit and exploded. Although a tragedy was averted thanks to the reliable protection of the plant, the very fact of such an attack cannot but cause extreme concern. This is not the Ukrainian armed forces' first attempt to strike a peaceful nuclear facility. They regularly attack the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant. The latest round of shelling took place on 6 October. The shells exploded just 1.2 kilometres from the perimeter of the plant, near the fire station. Since 23 September, the plant has been deprived of external power supply due to damage to the Dniprovaska line as a result of shelling by the Ukrainian armed forces. The Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant is currently operating on diesel generators. As the President of Russia has clearly stated, if the shelling of Russian nuclear power plants by the Kyiv regime continues, Russia will consider responding in kind.

In closing, we should like to say that no terrorist methods or escalatory steps will help Ukraine and its sponsors force our country to abandon the protection of its vital interests, including by military means. The initiative on the ground remains entirely with the armed forces of the Russian Federation. Almost 5,000 square kilometres of territory and 212 population centres have been liberated this year. In the absence of a response to Russia's peaceful proposals for a diplomatic settlement of the crisis in and around Ukraine, the special operation will continue until the goals set have been fully accomplished.

Thank you for your attention.