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Delegation of the Russian Federation

**STATEMENT BY
MR. DMITRY POLYANSKIY, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
RUSSIAN FEDERATION, AT THE 1572nd MEETING OF THE
OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

9 July 2026

In response to the address by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Monaco

Mr. Chairperson,

We have listened carefully to the address delivered by Isabelle Berro-Amadeï, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Co-operation of Monaco, in her capacity as President of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe.

What you said, Madam, along with the comments made by several representatives of Western countries, confirms once again that the Council of Europe is increasingly straying from the principles enshrined in its Statute, and that it is seeking to reduce its international role to one of catering to the geopolitical interests of the European Union and NATO. Russia has no regrets whatsoever about having withdrawn from that organization. As things stand, the Council of Europe has, unfortunately, been transformed from a platform for pan-European dialogue into a tool for exerting political pressure and advancing anti-Russian initiatives. By supplanting international law with political expediency and “Euro-Atlantic solidarity”, the Strasbourg-based organization is discrediting itself as an international institution.

This is particularly noticeable in relation to the Ukrainian crisis. The Council of Europe is acting as a party to the conflict, without even attempting to look into its root causes, let alone seeking ways to address them. It has taken on the role of advocate for the Kyiv regime, turning a blind eye to the crimes of that regime.

We have carefully studied the priorities of the Monegasque Presidency. Monaco professes its commitment to the protection of human rights, the rule of law and democracy. In practice, though, these laudable aims are at odds with the actual policies pursued by the Council of Europe institutions – there is a yawning abyss between their fine-sounding declarations and their real actions.

One cannot help but ask: are you aware, Madam, of how the Kyiv regime is flouting its international obligations undertaken within the framework of the Council of Europe? Consider, for example, the removal of Russian from the list of languages subject to protection under the European Charter for Regional or

Minority Languages, a key Council of Europe treaty. On 12 June 2026, Zelenskyy signed a law that effectively deprives the Russian language – the mother tongue of most Ukrainians – of any State support.

How does this square with Monaco's stated priority of protecting human rights and the rule of law? Democracy cannot exist without minority rights, and minority rights are impossible without the right to speak one's native language. By excluding the Russian language from the protection afforded by the Charter, the Kyiv regime is deliberately obliterating the linguistic rights of millions of its citizens.

And where is the much-vaunted "rule of law" to be seen when it comes to the crimes of the Kyiv regime? I hope, Madam, that you are being briefed about the grim reports on civilian casualties caused by the actions of the Ukrainian armed forces that are presented every week at the Hofburg by Russian representatives. And what sort of democracy can we possibly be talking about when elections have been cancelled in Ukraine, and opposition parties, media outlets and the canonical Church have been banned? Moreover, on the territory of an ancient Orthodox shrine it is planned to set up some sort of "pantheon" for burying the remains of Hitlerite stooges and bloodthirsty butchers of civilians.

The priority of "child protection", which Monaco has placed front and centre, warrants special attention. How does such protection tally with the Ukrainian armed forces' constant attacks on minors?

Have you heard of the Alley of Angels in the city of Donetsk, a memorial erected in memory of the hundreds of children killed by Ukrainian artillery shells? Or of the horrific tragedy in Starobelsk, where the dormitory of a vocational training college was deliberately attacked by the Ukrainian armed forces using drones in the early hours of 22 May 2026? Or of the attack by a Ukrainian drone on a bus carrying Belarusian children that took place near Bryansk on 17 June 2026? Given that Monaco has had no questions at all to put to the Kyiv regime with regard to any of these appalling incidents, how are we to interpret your call to protect children, Madam?

We note that the Monegasque Presidency of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe has designated "addressing contemporary threats" and combating organized crime as one of its main priorities. What kind of fight against crime can we possibly be talking about when the Kyiv regime itself – which you have nurtured – has become the principal instigator of terror in Europe?

The regime's terrorist tentacles have now reached as far as Monaco itself. As we all know, on 29 June 2026 the Principality was the scene of a bloody terrorist attack for the first time in its history – an attack targeting one of Zelenskyy's opponents, in which a 13-year-old child was also injured. According to the primary theory guiding the investigation, it was organized by the Ukrainian intelligence services. Another argument in favour of this version of events is the fact that the suspected perpetrator was eliminated as an unwanted witness near Kyiv a few days after a notice had been issued for her arrest.

Perhaps, having realized that Ukraine's terrorist tactics know no bounds or borders, Monaco will help see to it that the unconditional support for the Kyiv regime is finally reconsidered. For now, though, instead of grasping this obvious fact and seeking punishment for manifest criminals, the leadership of the Council of Europe and the Presidency of its Committee of Ministers are preoccupied with promoting the creation of new quasi-judicial institutions directed against Russia, a process that is a complete non-starter.

In closing, we reaffirm that the Russian Federation will continue to resolutely counter any attempts to exploit international platforms, including the OSCE and the Council of Europe, for the promotion of politically biased, legally null and void initiatives that are hostile towards us. By rolling out the so-called "Register of Damage", "Claims Commission" and "Special Tribunal", the Council of Europe is working for those who want to make the achievement of a sustainable peace in Ukraine as difficult as possible and wish

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to ensure that the confrontation with Russia takes on a systemic, long-term character. We hope that this will eventually be understood in Monaco.

Thank you for your attention.