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

9 July 2026

**On the ongoing hybrid war waged by NATO and the
European Union against Russia**

Mr. Chairperson,

I am once again compelled to address the topic of the hybrid war that NATO and the European Union are waging against our country, as our Western counterparts are giving us more and more reasons to do so with each passing day. Both of those Russophobic associations are no longer concealing their aggressive intentions towards Russia.

Thus, in an interview with the *Financial Times* on 6 July, Finnish President Alexander Stubb explicitly confirmed that all NATO leaders support the Ukrainian armed forces' strikes deep into Russian territory. According to him, the Alliance believes that such strikes will "force Moscow back to the negotiating table" and "bolster Kyiv's ... position". He also noted that "the steps of escalation are always possible and we look at different scenarios", adding that Europe must be prepared for retaliatory actions by Russia. In effect, the Finnish leader openly admitted that NATO countries are deliberately banking on escalation and the launching of strikes against peaceful Russian towns and cities in order to sow discord and divide our society.

At the same time, Europe is undergoing fast-track militarization in order to provide the military-industrial base required for its plans to wage war against Russia. On the eve of the NATO summit in Ankara, European Commission chief Ursula von der Leyen and NATO Secretary General Mark Rutte published a joint article in *The Economist*, in which they plainly stated that Europe's defence was being "re-energised" and that industry must now produce "more, better and faster". They acknowledged that the production capacity of the European Union and NATO was failing to keep up with increased demand, and that European countries needed "more fighter jets, ships and submarines, air defence and missile defence, drones and counter-drone systems". They write about the end of the era when Europe could rely on the "outsourcing" of its defence to the United States of America. In other words, our European neighbours are openly preparing for war, building up their military muscles and reorienting their economies on to a war footing.

Colleagues, this is precisely what hybrid warfare looks like in its most cynical manifestation: while empty talk about peace gushes forth from European podiums, decisions are being taken behind the scenes to pour billions into the war machine. At the defence industry forum held as part of the Alliance's summit, European countries reportedly wrapped up deals worth around 50 billion dollars. The NATO Secretary General has called for a "revolution" in the defence industry, arguing that "the hum of machinery must become a roar." Meanwhile, speaking at the same forum, Zelenskyy proposed that European NATO countries use Ukraine as a "a source of extraordinary defensive capability". There you have it – European "peace-lovingness" in all its glory: hypocritical calls for peace are issued while holding a dagger behind one's back.

The NATO summit in Ankara on 7 and 8 July merely served to confirm the naivety of those who had assumed that the Alliance would stop short of crossing a dangerous line. In the summit's decision-making documents, Russia is explicitly described as a long-term threat to the Alliance. As reported, the NATO Allies have pledged to allot at least 70 billion euros in military aid to Ukraine in 2026 and at least the same amount again in 2027. That is a total of around 140 billion euros in direct investment in the war with Russia over a period of two years.

By way of comparison, I would point out that the overall budget of the United Nations for 2026, including peacekeeping expenditures, does not exceed 10 billion dollars. And that global organization is constantly facing an acute funding deficit. For the West does not want to finance peace, development and diplomacy; the minds of Western politicians are occupied exclusively with war and worldwide domination. It is becoming increasingly obvious that only "shock therapy" can bring them out of this state of militaristic psychosis.

Alongside political declarations, NATO is engaged in military preparations of an unprecedented scale right next to Russia's borders. The eastern frontier of Europe is being rapidly militarized. Finland is reportedly developing a "total defence" model and is capable of mobilizing nearly 870,000 reservists out of a population of 5.6 million. Poland is constructing the "East Shield" fortification system along its borders with Belarus and Kaliningrad at a cost of around 10 billion euros, together with the SAN counter-drone system, which comes with a price tag of up to 4 billion euros. Lithuania and the other Baltic States are deploying elements of the Baltic Defence Line: barbed wire, concrete obstacles known as "dragon's teeth", anti-tank ditches and bunkers.

Do you think we are just going to stand by and watch your military preparations? Allowing Ukrainian drones headed for Russia on terrorist missions to fly through NATO countries' airspace, setting up Ukrainian military production facilities in EU countries, and providing intelligence to Ukraine so that it can circumvent Russian air defence assets – do you really consider these to be harmless actions?

If NATO and the European Union opt for war, Russia will have no choice but to accept it. History is a harsh teacher, and it will not forgive those Europeans who have forgotten its lessons and are now trying to convince themselves that they will somehow miraculously emerge unscathed from a war with a nuclear power. Europe has unleashed wars against Russia on more than one occasion – and it is well known how those wars ended for Europe. Instead of engaging in a serious dialogue on how to ensure equal and indivisible security in Europe for all countries, including Russia, you are busy putting together and strengthening various anti-Russian alliances and coalitions, thereby wasting time and inexorably bringing our continent closer to a catastrophe.

And if you do come to your senses and, at the last moment, step back from the line separating us from outright armed conflict, then the fateful shot will be fired on your behalf from one of your own

weapons by the Kyiv regime, which is rapidly getting outplayed on the front line and for which an all-out war in Europe involving NATO and Russia represents the only chance for survival.

I am saying all this so that the people of your countries know to whom they should address their complaints regarding the fresh destruction of Europe and the years of suffering and deprivation that lie ahead – assuming, that is, that humanity survives such a conflict in the first place. We have done everything we can to avert it, but you seem to have other plans.

Thank you for your attention.