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**STATEMENT BY
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RUSSIAN FEDERATION TO THE VIENNA NEGOTIATIONS ON MILITARY
SECURITY AND ARMS CONTROL, AT THE 1070th PLENARY MEETING OF
THE OSCE FORUM FOR SECURITY CO-OPERATION**

14 February 2024

**Agenda item: General statements
Subject: Special military operation to demilitarize and denazify Ukraine**

Mr. Chairperson,

The Ukrainian crisis clearly demonstrates the hypocritical nature of Western policy, whereby the United States of America and its satellites interpret the principle of common and indivisible security exclusively through the prism of ensuring their own interests, which must be served by the rest of the world.

Neither the United States nor its European satellites are the slightest bit interested in the security of other States, which they are ready to sacrifice at any moment if their self-serving strategic goals require it. Ukraine is among such “victims”.

More than a billion people in all corners of the world have already been able to see this for themselves – after years of living in the propaganda information vacuum created by the collective West, they finally learned the truth about the origins of the crisis in Ukraine, voiced by the President of the Russian Federation, Vladimir Putin, in an interview with US journalist Tucker Carlson (released 9 February Moscow time). We have distributed the text of the interview in Russian and English among all OSCE participating States and assume that our colleagues have familiarized themselves with its contents. We know that the citizens of your countries – especially those in Europe and the United States – appreciated the interview, noting its in-depth and remarkably candid nature.

The Russian leader made it clear that the militarization of the Nazi Banderite Kyiv regime by NATO countries began long before the special military operation. Back during the “anti-terrorist operation” launched by Ukraine in April 2014, which was called a terrorist operation against the people in Donbas, the West started to provide the country with various kinds of support – from sending “advisers”, who *de facto* directed the actions of the Ukrainian armed forces and intelligence services, to supplying military goods. Moreover, NATO and EU countries have been progressively drawn into this process: if at the initial stage it was about “non-lethal” aid (medicines and body armour), by January–February 2023 they were sending up to fifty military transport planes with thousands of tonnes of weapons and ammunition to our neighbouring State.

Question: how would the US Government behave if a particular country and its allies began unrestrainedly pumping a geographical neighbour full of weapons and setting it on the United States?

Another question: what do Western participating States make of their contribution to the long-term sponsorship of the Kyiv regime, which launched a punitive operation against Donbas under false pretences? After all, on 31 January, following seven years of proceedings, the International Court of Justice issued a final judgment on the application filed by Ukraine under the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism dismissing the allegations of “State terrorism” or “State sponsorship of terrorism” on the part of the Russian Federation, and did not find that the activities of the People’s Republics of Donetsk and Lugansk were terrorist in nature. Thus, it follows from the Court’s judgment that the Ukrainian authorities made a criminal decision to unleash war against their own population.

But let us return to the militarization of Ukraine. With the launch of the special military operation, the flow of armoured vehicles and artillery into that country began to increase. As the “successes” of the Ukrainian armed forces became less and less evident, many of the “taboos” on the supply of increasingly powerful weapons by NATO were lifted, sometimes under US pressure. Not only German tanks with crosses on their armour, painfully known to our people as bloody symbols of the Third Reich, but also ballistic and cruise missiles with a range of several hundred kilometres have been deployed against the originally Russian Donbas.

The citizens of European and North American countries may have a reasonable question: why is all this happening?

The fact is that EU and NATO countries actively supported the nationalist coup d’état in Ukraine in February 2014. Representatives of Berlin, Paris and Warsaw put their signatures to the agreement between the “Maidan” leaders and President Yanukovych, knowing in advance that they were participating in a collective deception of both the Ukrainian people and the legitimate Head of State. The implementation of the Minsk Package of Measures, concluded on 12 February 2015, was the best scenario for the settlement of the internal Ukrainian conflict. After all, as a result of the implementation of the Minsk agreements, Donbas would have returned to Ukraine – if the authorities in Kyiv had done anything to make that happen. But instead, for all the years that followed, Germany and France, as co-mediators of a peaceful settlement, indulged the criminal regime in Kyiv by turning a blind eye to the war crimes it committed against its own citizens in Donbas. They cynically pretended to work within the framework of the Minsk agreements, using them as a smokescreen for preparing the Kyiv regime for a full-scale attack on eastern Ukraine and for the subsequent weakening of Russia.

To date, the collective West, which is waging a hybrid war against our country, has not shown any readiness for a political settlement of the conflict around Ukraine. That is why, after the start of the special military operation, the Western handlers of the Kyiv regime – including former British Prime Minister Boris Johnson – prevented the Ukrainian negotiators from signing the peace agreement that had already been initialled in Istanbul. Here, let me quote Russian President Vladimir Putin in full from the aforementioned interview: “We were told (by the Europeans, in particular) that it was necessary to create conditions for the final signing of the documents. My counterparts in France and Germany said, ‘How can you imagine them signing a treaty with a gun to their heads? The troops should be pulled back from Kiev.’ I said, ‘All right.’ We withdrew the troops from Kiev. As soon as we pulled back our troops from Kiev, our Ukrainian negotiators immediately threw all our agreements reached in Istanbul into the bin and got prepared for a long-standing armed confrontation with the help of the United States and its satellites in Europe.” In other words, Western countries are fully responsible for the consequences of Ukraine’s reckless and fatal actions in sabotaging the Minsk agreements and abandoning the Istanbul agreements.

Mr. Chairperson,

As the 32nd President of the United States, Franklin D. Roosevelt, said back in the early days of the Second World War: “When peace has been broken anywhere, the peace of all countries everywhere is in danger.” Indeed, it seems that almost everywhere where the West comes to lay down the law, the outcome is bloody, open wounds, the scourge of international terrorism and egregious examples of disregard for international humanitarian law.

While on Capitol Hill they have been fighting over the allocation of more billions to the Kyiv regime for the continuation of the war, the United States’ protégés have already committed at least three deliberate terrorist attacks, resulting in the mass deaths of civilians. Among other things, we attribute this to the Ukrainian armed forces’ lack of success on the battlefield. We are now recording more than 2,000 attacks on civilian objects every week, including kindergartens, schools and medical facilities. Meanwhile, at the OSCE Forum for Security Co-operation, Western colleagues declare with a straight face: “Ukraine respects international humanitarian law.” May I ask you to clarify how it is doing this? When the Ukrainian armed forces drop mines on the heads of civilians and target places where people gather?

Just think about these facts.

On 30 December 2023, 25 people were killed and 109 injured as a result of a strike on the centre of Belgorod carried out by the Ukrainian armed forces.

On 21 January, the Ukrainian armed forces shelled Tekstilshchik market in Donetsk, killing 27 civilians and injuring more than 30.

On 3 February, in co-ordination with their US handlers, neo-Nazis used a HIMARS multiple-launch rocket system to strike a two-storey building in Lisichansk (in the Lugansk People’s Republic) that housed the Adriatika bakery, killing 28 civilians and injuring at least ten.

In this context, it is pertinent to recall that, contrary to the “efforts” of the Kyiv regime and its handlers, the International Court of Justice did not recognize Russia’s responsibility under international law for violating the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, but moved the question of whether Ukraine had committed genocide in the People’s Republics of Donetsk and Lugansk to the stage of substantive proceedings. In other words, Kyiv has put itself in the dock thanks to its own complaints. We can only applaud Ukraine’s “experts” and their Western patrons: as usual, they have shot themselves in the foot.

It is striking that, against the backdrop of these heinous crimes, EU and US leaders are stubbornly talking about the need for new packages for Ukraine’s needs. The previously allocated money was already used to purchase the Czech RM-70 Vampire missiles that struck Belgorod. The NATO-standard 155 mm shells that hit Tekstilshchik in Donetsk, as well as the Polish 122 mm M-21FK Feniks shells with which the Ukrainian armed forces are shelling the Belgorod region, were also purchased. In all likelihood, US precision-guided ground-launched small diameter bombs, promised to Ukraine personally by US Under Secretary of State Victoria Nuland, will also soon be targeted at our citizens.

What this means is that the United States and its satellites are cynically hoping for escalation through the supply of long-range destructive systems so as to prolong the agony of their puppets in Kyiv, who are throwing ordinary Ukrainians to the slaughter.

In this context, we wish to highlight that, according to the findings of an investigation by the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation, on 24 January, an Il-76 aircraft carrying 65 Ukrainian servicemen for exchange and nine accompanying Russian military personnel was destroyed by a US MIM-104A anti-aircraft guided missile launched by a US-made Patriot missile system, developed by the Raytheon and Hughes corporations and manufactured by Raytheon. The tactical and technical data of the Patriot system, including its value, the number of military personnel in the crew, the specialist qualifications needed, as well as the actions of the terrorists from the ambush position, allow us to assume that US military personnel could very likely have been part of the anti-aircraft missile system crew.

We emphasize that the United States bears just as much responsibility for what was inherently a terrorist attack as the Zelenskyy regime, which is purposefully being provided with weapons by the United States to kill Russian military personnel and civilians, including children, without sparing even its own military personnel who have been taken prisoner. We are ready to welcome international experts to whom we will provide physical evidence that it is the United States that is behind this atrocity.

Mr. Chairperson,

The collective West's tacit support for the criminal policies of the Kyiv regime is giving it a dangerous sense of impunity. As a consequence, it is continuing to engage in the inhuman treatment of prisoners in violation of international humanitarian law.

In particular, the story of Russian soldier Alexey Motuz, who was tortured to death by neo-Nazis who then sent photographs of his mutilated, lifeless body to his wife and mother, has already received publicity in Europe.

Civilians are also getting caught up in the spiral of torture and repression by the Kyiv junta. Even the Western media are already publishing articles that lift the veil of the terrible picture of what the countries of the European Union call "democracy in Ukraine". For example, on 2 February, *The Guardian* reported that the Ukrainian Security Service had opened more than 8,100 criminal proceedings, including against women with young children who are allegedly considered to be "collaborators" and subjected to violence as a result. In an interview with British journalists, one such detained citizen, 57-year-old Artemovsk resident Yury Tsybulsky, explained: "My parents raised me to fight fascism, and here there is fascism." This is not the first time that the Western press has published material that sheds light on the true neo-Nazi essence of the Zelenskyy regime. And it will not be the last.

I should like to conclude today's statement with the following.

We see how NATO and EU countries are being drawn deeper and deeper into the Ukrainian conflict, raising the stakes and *de facto* managing the escalation. Actually, they have a limited choice of further steps, and some options are very dangerous – not only for Europe. In this regard, we should like to caution against flirting with irresponsible slogans along the lines of: "We must be ready for war [with Russia]." President Putin has repeatedly emphasized that Russia is not interested in a conflict with NATO and has no plans for such steps. But if the Alliance does embark on a reckless suicidal adventure, we will take all measures necessary to protect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of our country. With regard to the Ukrainian dimension of the European security crisis, we should like to emphasize that the White House should be aware that we have every reason to respond to the provocative actions of the United States and the Kyiv regime, which is answerable to it, on an "eye for an eye" basis.

Thank you for your attention.