

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.

FSC.DEL/393/23
27 October 2023

ENGLISH
Original: RUSSIAN

Delegation of the Russian Federation

**STATEMENT BY
MR. KONSTANTIN GAVRILOV, HEAD OF THE DELEGATION OF THE
RUSSIAN FEDERATION TO THE VIENNA NEGOTIATIONS ON MILITARY
SECURITY AND ARMS CONTROL, AT THE 1060th PLENARY MEETING OF
THE OSCE FORUM FOR SECURITY CO-OPERATION**

25 October 2023

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

Madam Chairperson,

The ability of the collective West to aggressively impose its interests in various regions of the world is steadily diminishing. The outcomes of the Belt and Road Forum (Beijing, 17–18 October) confirm a common vision of a new world order is taking shape that will no longer be dominated by the United States of America and its allies. Russia’s expanding international contacts show that the persistent attempts by the United States and its satellites to isolate our country globally and to drive a wedge between Moscow and Beijing have failed. Common external threats only strengthen Sino-Russian co-operation.

It is obvious to the world majority that the United States and NATO are driven solely by geopolitical ambitions, the desire to expand their spheres of influence and to “colonize” politically and economically vulnerable countries. Alliance operations have historically resulted in numerous civilian casualties, economic damage and *de jure* and *de facto* disintegration of States. In that connection, we feel alarmed at the statement by US President Joe Biden that “humanity needs a new world order”, within the framework of which the US Government will be able to unite the international community if it is “brave enough and confident enough”. This course not only poses risks for international peace and security, but also puts the United States on the classic path of “overstretched empires” that spend colossal amounts of money in the hope of holding on to their global position even when the return on the expenditure is meagre.

An example is the tragic events in the Middle East, which were the result of many years of the destructive policy of the US Government of replacing bona fide engagement in the Palestinian-Israeli settlement with the promotion of palliative economic measures. Life itself has shown that they do not respond to the challenges of regional stabilization. This is also true of the line taken by the United States in the United Nations Security Council to block the establishment of a ceasefire. Here it is enough to recall the words of James Taiclet, head of the US arms corporation Lockheed Martin, on the CNBC television channel: “There’s no point in restraining Israel from any military actions. So what is the point? The point is further development of our industrial complex, which should account for more than 2 per cent of the gross

domestic product. There are conflicts which need to be resolved with arms and we are prepared to provide these arms, these weapons.” Colleagues can draw their own conclusions from this.

The Russian Federation strongly condemns the actions of Hamas on 7 October, which have become a trigger for large-scale bloodshed. There can be no justification for these actions. However, this should not give the Israel Defence Forces the green light for brutal punitive measures against Palestinian civilians. We reaffirm our principled and consistent position: this long-standing conflict cannot be resolved by force and can be settled only by political and diplomatic means within the established international legal framework, which provides for the creation of an independent Palestinian State on the basis of the 1967 borders, with East Jerusalem as its capital and living in peace and security with Israel. Our friends and like-minded colleagues, including those from China, share this position.

According to the French newspaper *Le Monde*, Western countries, which have been trying to isolate Russia in the context of the Ukrainian conflict for two years now, are themselves at risk of international isolation after supporting the bombing of the Gaza Strip. Analysts note that ignoring non-compliance with international humanitarian law in the Middle East conflict zone is fuelling the debate about double standards and the hypocrisy of the West.

On the European continent, ignoring civilian casualties caused by indiscriminate strikes by the Ukrainian armed forces has long been the calling card of the United States, Canada and the European Union. We record and transmit information every day to the United Nations and the International Committee of the Red Cross on the massive strikes by the criminal regime in Kyiv against kindergartens, social centres and residential buildings. No reaction. Often, international officials controlled by the Anglo-Saxons claim that they do not have any information about Ukraine’s non-compliance with international humanitarian law. The reason is simple: most of the ammunition used by the Ukrainian armed forces to shell the civilian population is Western-made.

In the past week, the Kyiv regime has once again shown the entire world that it is deliberately violating international humanitarian law by carrying out strikes on objects protected under humanitarian law. In the Kherson region, the Ukrainian armed forces used US-made M142 HIMARS multiple-launch rocket systems (MLRS) for targeted strikes on an outpatient clinic in the village of Novaya Mayachka and the central district hospital in the town of Aleshki, where eight ambulances were destroyed. What is this if not an effort to deprive people of emergency medical care? Apparently, according to the plans by the Kyiv death squads, the sick and injured should just bleed to death with no chance of rescue. The first strikes on hospitals by the Ukrainian armed forces began back in 2014. But all these years the “civilized Western world” has conveniently lived with the idea that “they shelled themselves”.

The shelling of peaceful neighbourhoods in the city of Donetsk has intensified. On 23 October, the Ukrainian armed forces launched a Grad multiple rocket launcher attack on a Donetsk mosque that had been built with the participation of the Istanbul Muftiate. On 21 October, neo-Nazis shelled the Budyonovsky and Kalininsky districts. Fragmentation and cluster munitions were used. Four civilians were injured and 23 private residences were damaged. In fact, an intact M142 HIMARS MLRS shell was found in a dormitory area of the city.

All of this is a tragic consequence of the massive pumping into Ukraine of lethal weapons produced by NATO countries, which President Biden qualified as a “smart investment” that will bring “dividends for future generations”. From this it is clear that the United States does not need and is not even interested in peace in Ukraine. Former German Chancellor Gerhard Schröder said in an interview with the *Berliner Zeitung* that in March 2022 it was the US Government that prevented the Kyiv regime from holding peace talks with Russia. This had also been confirmed earlier by former Israeli Prime Minister

Naftali Bennett, who named the United States, Germany and France among those responsible for the breakdown of the negotiation process. According to *The National Interest*, Ukraine has three times had the opportunity to resolve the conflict on terms beneficial to itself, but each time the US Government blocked the dialogue. Wars have traditionally represented a “smart investment” for the United States, since they have not taken place on US territory and have enabled it to strengthen its economic power. And other people’s costs – primarily human and humanitarian – have never bothered it.

Madam Chairperson,

For many years now, the so-called defence activities of the United States and NATO have been confined to inflicting a “strategic defeat” on Russia. But it is clear to us that the strengthening of NATO’s eastern flank and military support for the Kyiv regime merely testify to the failure of the West’s plans to achieve a swift victory on the battlefield. Our opponents have still not understood that we will respond immediately to security risks for Russia and its allies.

At the moment, the Russian Federation is strengthening its western borders. The Regional Group of Forces and the Union State’s joint regional air defence system are functioning effectively.

The infrastructure is in place for the deployment of another regiment with the Avangard hypersonic missile system, which will go on combat duty in the Orenburg region.

By order of the President of the Russian Federation, Russian MiG-31 aircraft with Kinzhal systems with a range of over 1,000 kilometres and a speed of Mach 9 have begun regular patrols of the neutral airspace zone over the Black Sea bordering the Mediterranean.

Russian air defence units are prepared to intercept a new type of target, US-made ATACMS missiles, and to destroy their launchers and storage sites with hypersonic strikes. Our anti-aircraft gunners study the trajectory of the US missile, its manoeuvring and speeds at various stages of approach and create algorithms for countering it. We take into account the fact that the service life of the ATACMS missiles received by the Kyiv regime was almost at an end, which further weakens their ability to damage Russian armoured vehicles.

Now that the transfer of F-16 tactical fighter jets to the Kyiv regime has taken concrete form, we are continuing to improve our combat skills in destroying enemy aircraft systems. On 20 October alone, seven Ukrainian armed forces MiG-29 multipurpose fighters were shot down by air defence forces. In total, since the start of the special military operation, the Russian Army has eliminated at least 508 aeroplanes and 254 helicopters belonging to the Kyiv regime. This systematic work will continue.

Once again, we warn that the supply of ever longer-range modern weapons, coupled with the direct incitement of the Kyiv regime to seize Russian territories, draws NATO member countries into the conflict and could lead to an unpredictable level of escalation.

Madam Chairperson,

Realizing that there is no way of radically turning the situation on the battlefield in favour of the Ukrainian armed forces, the Kyiv regime, supported by the United States and its satellites, is preparing and implementing dangerous chemical attacks on the armed forces of the Russian Federation in violation of its obligations under the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction.

We have already informed the Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC) that in March it became known that the United States had supplied the Kyiv regime with the temporary incapacitating chemical agents BZ, CS and CR, along with shrapnel ammunition for the delivery of liquid irritant formulations and a wide range of personal protective equipment against toxic chemicals. This month, the Director-General of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons Technical Secretariat, Fernando Arias, received the results of the analysis of samples taken during combat operations near the settlement of Rabotino in the Zaporozhye region from two sites where Ukrainian fighters and foreign mercenaries used chloroacetophenone mixed with chloropicrin. In addition, our military biologists are receiving confirmation of the use of substances such as ricin, analogues of BZ, and hydrocyanic acid and its salts by the Ukrainian intelligence services against Russian military personnel and representatives of the administrations of the new regions of Russia.

We demand that the OSCE participating States provide an unambiguous assessment of these actions in the context of the OSCE Principles Governing Non-Proliferation (1994) adopted by their Heads of State or Government. We call for influence to be brought to bear on the regime in Kyiv and for measures to be taken to prevent provocations with toxic chemicals and the use by Ukrainian armed formations and foreign mercenaries of dangerous chemical agents for military purposes. Otherwise, the Kyiv regime and its handlers should make a careful study of the provisions of the Russian military doctrine, which clearly outlines our country's reaction to weapons of mass destruction being used against it.

Madam Chairperson,

In conclusion, we should like to respond to the statement by the delegation of France, which, at the 1059th plenary meeting of the FSC on 18 October, took the floor and accused Russia of "misconceptions about what constitutes terrorism".

Western States continue to cover up and in effect condone terrorist acts by the post-Maidan regime, including the murders of the Russian journalists Darya Dugina and Vladlen Tatarsky, the attempted murder of the writer Zakhar Prilepin and the sabotage of the Nord Stream gas pipelines and the Crimean Bridge. This is confirmed by an investigation published by *The Washington Post* on 23 October, which cites the decade-long preparation of terrorist operations by the Ukrainian Security Service in close co-operation with the US Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and the British Foreign Office Secret Intelligence Service (MI6).

In particular, we note that the United States has spent tens of millions of dollars on training Ukrainian terrorists, providing the regime in Kyiv with advanced surveillance systems and training recruits at facilities in the United States and Ukraine. At the moment, with the CIA maintaining a significant presence in Kyiv, intensive intelligence sharing will continue. As a consequence, over the past 20 months, the Ukrainian Security Service and the Ukrainian Defence Ministry's Main Intelligence Directorate have organized the murder of dozens of Russian officials in the new regions, along with officers away from the front line and prominent supporters of the special military operation. According to US journalists, Ukrainian Security Service operatives trained with the participation of Anglo-Saxon intelligence are also responsible for the attacks by unmanned aerial vehicles on the Kremlin and Russian ships.

In the Hofburg, we regularly witness attempts by Western OSCE participating States to whitewash the criminal Kyiv regime. The self-proclaimed civilized Western "champions of human rights" have yet to condemn the atrocities by the Ukrainian Nazis and thugs who committed the bloody crimes in Odessa's Trade Union House. It is with their tacit consent that sabotage and terrorist attacks against the civilian population continue. Suffice it to recall the tragedies in the Mariupol maternity hospital and the Drama Theatre, and the shelling with Tochka-U tactical missiles of the railway station in Kramatorsk. On the other hand, they give excessive attention to blatant anti-Russian fake news, the aim of which is to accuse our

country, stir up Russophobic hysteria, impose sanctions and then cover everything up. This is exactly how the Ukrainian and Anglo-Saxon intelligence services worked in Bucha. This is why the former partners are also in no hurry to hand over to us the requested results of the post-mortem examinations of the bodies of the deceased.

The United States, the United Kingdom and their like-minded associates cannot wash their hands of the bloody methods of their protégés and are responsible for the terrorist methods of the Ukrainian agents. By remaining silent about these crimes, they are making such killings possible. For our part, we will not let them go unpunished.

Thank you for your attention.