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**STATEMENT BY
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THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, AT THE 1497th MEETING OF THE
OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

21 November 2024

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

Madam Chairperson,

NATO continues to escalate the Ukrainian conflict in the direction of outright military confrontation between the North Atlantic Alliance and Russia.

There have been reports of decisions taken by the US administration headed by Joe Biden, which is soon to exit the stage – decisions allowing the use of weapons and munitions supplied to the Kyiv regime by NATO countries to launch strikes deep inside Russian territory, to hit facilities on the home front that are being used to safeguard the defence of our country. Such escalatory steps are in direct contradiction to the choice made by a majority of US citizens, who at the presidential election of 5 November rejected the course aimed at stirring up confrontation in Eurasia pursued by Mr. Biden and his acolytes. They are also at odds with the public mood in European countries, as is evident from the nature of ongoing domestic political processes there.

As reported by the Russian Ministry of Defence, in the early hours of 19 November the enemy launched a strike on a facility in the Bryansk region using six US-made ATACMS tactical missiles. Thanks to effective countermeasures, Russian air defence missile batteries were able to repel the attack, preventing any casualties and material damage. On that same day, civilian objects in the Belgorod and Bryansk regions and in the Donetsk People's Republic were subjected to strikes carried out by means of unmanned aerial vehicles.

The President of Russia, Vladimir Putin, has spoken on more than one occasion about what can be expected to come of decisions by the NATO countries aimed at encouraging and assisting with the organization of attacks on facilities in the operational hinterland of Russian territory. Ramping up the NATO States' involvement in the conflict cannot radically change the situation on the battlefield, but it will lead to retaliatory measures by Russia and, consequently, will have implications for regional and global stability.

The "Foundations of the Russian Federation's State Policy on Nuclear Deterrence" have been officially adopted and promulgated through Presidential Decree No. 991 of 19 November. The updating of

Russia's nuclear doctrine is a timely measure. Its provisions completely rule out the possibility of achieving victory over Russia on the battlefield. There is, of course, no point in talking about any kind of "strategic defeat" of our country, so craved by the "Anglo-Saxons".

The current elites of Western countries are seeking to do everything they can to ensure that the Ukrainian conflict cannot be brought to a close in the foreseeable future without a qualitatively new round of armed escalation, without a large-scale Europe-wide war. That is clearly not the choice of Russia and our people. However, it must be understood that our country will continue to defend its security by all available means, using these as appropriate.

Alarming reports are coming in about yet another violation of international legal obligations in the field of arms limitation and control. This refers to the sending of US-made anti-personnel mines to the Kyiv regime in violation of the provisions of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (Ottawa Convention) of 1997. All this in an attempt to slow down the offensive operations of the Russian military, which with every day that passes is liberating more and more swathes of territory from the Zelenskyy regime's control. Perhaps the US representatives here in this very room would care to explain how the transfer of anti-personnel mines to a State Party to the Ottawa Convention (which prohibits the use, stockpiling, production and transfer of such mines) can be squared with the concept of a "rules-based world order" that they are promoting? And also to explain under which such "rules" the protégés of the "Anglo-Saxons" in Kyiv are permitted to violate their obligations under international law.

Incidentally, at the same time stories are increasingly being planted in the Western media about the Kyiv regime's ability to create a "dirty" bomb using, among other components, spent nuclear fuel from nuclear power plants. A relevant feature by the British newspaper *The Times* contains references to a briefing paper prepared by a specialized research centre for the Kyiv regime's Ministry of Defence. Such signals are being given out as a way of blackmailing Western leaders, above all the leadership of the United States of America, of which it is demanded that it should not stop the military provisioning of the Kyiv regime.

Officials in Kyiv have hastened to deny any plans to use a "dirty" bomb. However, there is no smoke without fire. We would remind you that, back in October 2022, serious concerns about the Kyiv regime's preparations for a staged attack involving a "dirty" bomb were relayed to our key international partners, and also to the representatives of Western countries, by senior officials from the Russian Ministry of Defence. Relevant information was also transmitted to United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres.

According to reliable data in the possession of the Russian Ministry of Defence, the resources of the Institute for Nuclear Research of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine in Kyiv and the Eastern Mining and Processing Plant in the city of Zhovti Vody, in the Dnipropetrovsk region, are being used to prepare this false-flag operation. The first of these facilities houses an experimental reactor with a relatively high power rating. It has specialized premises and equipment for handling the radioactive isotopes caesium-137 and strontium-90, along with the capabilities for extracting sources of ionizing radiation and other material from the spent fuel of nuclear power plants. The second facility is engaged in the processing of uranium ore in large quantities.

The use of a "dirty" bomb amid the current developments in Ukraine can benefit solely the foreign handlers of the vassal regime in Kyiv. This would be done above all with the aim of paving the way for overt – rather than covert, as is currently the case – military involvement by NATO in the situation in Ukraine.

There is another motivation, too: the Kyiv regime is trying to keep alive the Western elites' interest in war by pitching access to natural resources. In an interview with the Italian newspaper *La Repubblica*, Mykhailo Podolyak, an adviser on Mr. Zelenskyy's team, stressed that, in return for the support to Ukraine being maintained, the Kyiv regime had offered to pay the United States back in the form of "joint exploitation of rare minerals such as lithium and titanium". In short, resources in exchange for military supplies and financial assistance.

By the way, in accordance with Article 13 of the Constitution of Ukraine, the land, its subsoil and natural resources are "the objects of property rights of the Ukrainian people". As is known, major agro-industrial giants registered in Western jurisdictions have long since been the effective owners of agricultural land in areas controlled by the Kyiv regime. Now such a fate is in store for the subsoil and for minerals.

In a radio interview on 16 November, the senior figure of the Kyiv regime, Volodymyr Zelenskyy, speaking about relations with the Western sponsors, said: "We are an independent Ukraine. ... [and] we have shown that the rhetoric of 'sit down and listen' does not work with us." This peculiar sense of humour has been duly appreciated, judging by certain postings, such as one by Elon Musk.

The puppet regime in Kyiv has long since forfeited any formal legitimacy. There is minimal support for it among the inhabitants of Ukraine (who, incidentally, have been completely stripped of all their electoral rights). No wonder that the number of those wishing to fight for the sake of keeping these usurpers in power has hit rock bottom.

A few days ago, in his interview with Ukrainian Radio, Mr. Zelenskyy stated that he was not satisfied with the pace of mobilization of the population. He was echoed by US presidential adviser Jake Sullivan, who in an interview with PBS pointed out that the "challenged position on the battlefield" in which the Kyiv regime finds itself was, above all, due to problems in calling people to arms. In sum, they both confirmed that in this war "down to the last Ukrainian" there is still a certain pool of human resources to draw from, but that the Ukrainians had no desire to become cannon fodder.

The forced mobilization continues to be accompanied by violence, brutality and the abduction of people straight off the streets. During yet another round-up, one that took place on 15 November in some warehouses in the Boryspil district of the Kyiv region, a military enlistment officer (from a territorial recruitment centre) opened fire on an unarmed trucker who was running away from him. Following a public outcry, the Land Forces Command of the Armed Forces of Ukraine not only set about justifying the shooter's actions but also issued the cynical request "not to demonize the territorial recruitment centres' military personnel".

Since 16 November, in connection with a fresh tightening of the rules for the "reservation" of workers (that is, the granting of deferment of military service), tens of thousands of inhabitants of Ukraine have ceased to be entitled to deferment from mobilization. It is reported that, following these amendments, some 10 per cent of enterprises were struck off the list of enterprises deemed to be of critical importance for the economy and have stopped granting "reserved" status to their employees.

At a briefing for journalists on 18 November, the Kyiv regime's Minister of Defence, Rustem Umerov, acknowledged that forced mobilization taking the form of "busification" (that is, people being carried off from the streets in buses run by the territorial recruitment centres) was a "painful issue for the population". However, the press-ganging of people on the streets of towns and cities continues as we speak.

On 17 November, in order to degrade the Kyiv regime's combat capabilities, the Russian Aerospace Forces launched a massive combined missile and drone attack on energy infrastructure facilities that were sustaining the operations of the military-industrial complex. Plants manufacturing military goods also came under fire. According to the Russian Ministry of Defence, all planned targets were hit.

Meanwhile, Mr. Zelenskyy's fighters have continued their indiscriminate and deliberate attacks on civilian objects situated in Russian regions. Last week, these attacks claimed no fewer than 84 civilian casualties: ten people were killed, while a further 74 people were injured, including one minor. We also note that there were civilian casualties on the other side of the line of engagement, specifically in parts of the Odessa and Sumy regions controlled by the Kyiv regime. They were caused by the Ukrainian armed forces' incompetent use of air defence systems and by their deployment of such systems in residential areas in violation of the norms of international humanitarian law.

Holding the population of Ukraine to ransom as he does, Mr. Zelenskyy presented yet another "plan" on 19 November. This time round it is a so-called "Internal Resilience Plan", which essentially makes permanent the totalitarian nature of the Kyiv regime: abandonment of elections, complete suppression of civil rights under the guise of "social cohesion". In short, a classic specimen of a sham government propped up by the blood-soaked bayonets of radical nationalism, fascism or Nazism. What is more, one that has been rolled out by Western countries on more than one occasion as part of a neocolonial strategy.

We recall how a "ten-point formula" and, likewise, a certain "victory plan" were previously issued, Mr. Zelenskyy being the purported author in each case. One can only wonder whether, instead of unrealistic wish lists, the leadership of the Kyiv regime will manage to come up with a plan for accepting existing realities.

To wrap up. Last week, Josep Borrell, the High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, who is leaving office on 1 December, said that recent domestic political processes in the United States – in particular, Donald Trump's victory in the presidential election – had had a serious impact on the relationship with the truth in Europe. As Mr. Borrell put it, truth had turned out to be "highly malleable" in the Member States of the European Union. At bottom, this EU official confirmed something that we have repeatedly spoken about – namely, how the talk by representatives of Western countries about certain principles within the framework of a so-called "rules-based world order" is but a ragbag of considerations of the moment that change depending on political expediency.

Russia's position in this context remains consistent. Our country is open to any initiatives that are aimed at achieving, as soon as possible, a peaceful solution to the current crisis and that take into account the legitimate security interests of our country. This is at present being hindered by the actions of NATO countries in continuing to militarize Ukraine and escalate and instrumentalize the conflict.

As long as Westerners count on ramming through their wish lists by raising the threatening spectre of a global Armageddon, the special operation will be continued by military means until the goals set have been fully accomplished. There will be no "freeze" along the line of engagement.

We are prepared for any turn of events. The question is whether those accustomed to using the lives of Slavs as currency in their geopolitical "games" are equally prepared. On either side of the Atlantic.

Thank you for your attention.