



## United States Mission to the OSCE

# The Russian Federation's Ongoing Aggression Against Ukraine

As delivered by Chargé d'Affaires Katherine Brucker  
to the Permanent Council, Vienna  
September 19, 2024

The people of Ukraine have been under siege for 30 months. We've heard from our colleagues today about what Ukraine continues to endure. Yet despite the odds, Ukrainians have stood resolute, determined to protect their identity, freedoms, sovereignty, and territorial integrity.

Today, I want to thank Ukraine for defending our principles and to reflect on the remarkable progress Ukraine has made since February 2022.

Ukraine is successfully building a strong, enduring capacity to deter and defend against aggression. In May of this year, nine countries had completed bilateral security agreements with Ukraine. That number is now at 26 and growing, including an agreement with the United States. These will provide a foundation of support for Ukraine's defense for years to come.

On September 11th, Secretary Blinken spoke at the Fourth Annual Crimea Platform Summit in Kyiv, where he said that the story of Crimea is not just the story of what Russia has done. Crimea is also the story of Ukrainian tenacity, ingenuity, and perseverance. This is reflected in Ukraine's success in reopening a maritime corridor, once again allowing its grain to feed the world.

Ukraine's economy is growing, and Ukraine has taken steps to make it easier for investors and companies to do business. We worked with private sector partners to announce in June a first-of-its-kind 350 million dollar war risk reinsurance facility. This is facilitating private sector investment into Ukraine and improving the economic security of its citizens, not just now while Ukraine is at war, but also when peace returns.

And Ukraine is steadily strengthening its democratic institutions. This includes the Ukrainian parliament passing a law to reform oversight of financial crimes; to expand the number of judges on the anti-corruption court; and to deliver prosecutions in high-profile corruption cases. The active leadership by Ukraine's engaged and committed civil society has been crucial to realizing this progress.

Madam Chair, this enduring commitment by the Ukrainian people is one of the main reasons we are confident Ukraine will keep moving forward. It's why we are investing in Ukraine's people and their welfare and why we announced on September 11th more than 700 million dollars in new energy and humanitarian assistance.

Our message remains clear: Our support will not wane; our unity will not break. Putin will not outlast the coalition of countries committed to Ukraine's success, and he will certainly not outlast the Ukrainian people. No matter how great the obstacles thrown in their way, Ukrainians have demonstrated time and again that nothing can stand in the way of their commitment to shaping their own future. We continue to stand with the people of Ukraine.

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