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**STATEMENT BY  
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THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, AT THE 1488th MEETING OF THE  
OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

19 September 2024

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

Madam Chairperson,

The Kyiv regime and its Western sponsors continue to spread disinformation about their wishing to end the conflict in and around Ukraine as soon as possible. In order to pull the wool over the eyes of the international community, they employ rhetoric about seeking to organize some new “peace summit” on the basis of the ten-point “Zelenskyy formula”, which is a non-starter.

In reality, certain Western countries are systematically raising the level of escalation in the armed conflict; it is worth noting that the initiative for such escalation comes not from Russia. The parameters for a political settlement that were agreed upon in Istanbul in March 2022 were rejected by the Kyiv regime at the behest of the United Kingdom and the United States of America – this has been publicly acknowledged on several occasions in Kyiv, London and Washington. They were banking on the success of the so-called “counteroffensive” by formations of the Ukrainian armed forces that had been trained by NATO instructors. Shipments of increasingly sophisticated weapons from NATO countries were organized towards the time of the “counteroffensive”.

Once its failure had become quite obvious, they moved on to encouraging the Kyiv regime to carry out acts of direct terrorism on Russian territory: through sabotage and terrorist forays by battalions of the Ukrainian armed forces against civilians in the Bryansk and Belgorod regions, and also by organizing the assassination of public figures, government officials, journalists and prominent members of the cultural and artistic community, together with terrorist attacks in places where large numbers of civilians gather (not one of these crimes has been condemned in Western capitals). More details of how the Kyiv regime is committing crimes of a terrorist nature may be found in a thematic report issued by the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs on 12 September 2024 (it covers the 2022–2024 period).

At the same time, a full-scale hybrid war has been unleashed against our country, one that is being waged in the global economy, in the information space, in the realm of humanitarian policy, and so on.

Through all of the aforementioned actions, our adversaries had hoped to trigger socio-political destabilization and a change in Russia's foreign policy course. However, this did not have the desired effect – on the contrary, it led to the inhabitants of Russia rallying around our country's leadership to an unparalleled extent.

The proposals made by the President of Russia during a meeting with senior officials from the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs on 14 June 2024 for a return to substantive dialogue on a long-term settlement that would be based on the realities being taken into account were demonstratively rebuffed by the Western overlords of the Kyiv regime. In August of this year, formations of the Kyiv regime trained and equipped by them invaded the Russian Federation's Kursk region and set about terrorizing the local population. The Zelenskyy regime's Western masters have thus once again made the realization of peace on our lands a distant prospect, having *de facto* assumed full responsibility for the casualties and destruction on both sides of the line of engagement, for all those killed and hurt among our people – Russians and Ukrainians. There is clearly a striving at work to drag out the conflict, premised on a false notion about the West having full control over the level of military escalation.

Having tried out various means and failed to achieve their ends, the "Anglo-Saxons" and their allies have now sparked off a discussion about the prospects of using long-range precision weapons against facilities deep inside Russian territory. This idea is becoming especially relevant for them, seeing how all that excessively touted NATO equipment is going up in flames before the onslaught of Russian arms. Take, for example, the much-vaunted US-made Abram tanks: two thirds of the total number supplied have already been destroyed – and this despite the fact that the Ukrainian armed forces command very rarely sends these tanks into battle.

In raising the level of the armed escalation, our opponents are quite obviously seeking to sorely test the limits of Russia's restraint, including the military-strategic aspects thereof. It is also clear that the regime in Kyiv is not taking any independent decisions on that score and does not possess the logistical assets to independently conduct combat operations using the aforementioned weapons. This is, pure and simple, a proxy war against Russia and its capabilities – a struggle that irresponsible politicians in the NATO countries are actively seeking to shift to the format of direct military confrontation fraught with a catastrophic denouement for global security.

The use of Western-manufactured long-range precision weapons to strike at the deep hinterland of Russia would be a most perilous adventure for the NATO countries. In Russia we are well aware of the role of foreign military personnel in the deployment and operation of NATO-supplied weapons. And also of how satellite and other reconnaissance resources have been made available for the purpose of launching strikes against civilian objects on our country's territory.

It is important that the message delivered on 12 September this year by the President of Russia, Vladimir Putin, be heard loud and clear in the NATO capitals: if the decision is made to strike deep inside Russian territory with such weapons, this would mean nothing less than the direct involvement of NATO countries in the Ukrainian conflict. Should it be confirmed that such a decision has been put into practice, it would substantively change the nature of the current conflict and compel Russia to take measures in response to the new threats. We caution against taking these words lightly.

Manifestly suffering defeat on the battlefield, the leadership of the Kyiv regime is preparing, at the instigation of the United States, yet another inhumane false-flag operation. Our country's intelligence services have received reports about preparations for a staged Russian missile strike on a children's facility (a hospital or kindergarten) in territory controlled by the Kyiv regime, to involve a high number of casualties, above all child casualties. It is planned to have the incident covered widely by the media, which

will make out that the ordnance used was an Iranian or North Korean ballistic missile. All this with a view to justifying the decision by Western governments to use NATO long-range weapons for strikes deep inside Russian territory. And at the same time in order to increase international pressure on Iran and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

We strongly warn the Kyiv regime and its Western overlords against implementing the aforementioned staged scenario, which could lead to numerous casualties. We note that the staging of such false-flag operations on the eve of major international events has become a hallmark of the Kyiv regime. It is a signature style that all those who have been carefully following the evolution of the conflict in and around Ukraine have long been familiar with. Volodymyr Zelenskyy will very soon be heading for the United States, where he intends not only to speak during the high-level week (23–27 September) of the 79th session of the United Nations General Assembly, but also to meet up with his US handlers and sponsors in order to liaise with them on the tactics for the further conduct of hostilities.

It is also obvious that the NATO puppets in Kyiv have once again decided to milk the topic of children. They are hoping that a heart-wrenching story involving children will help in gaining the support of countries from the Global South for anti-Russian actions in the international arena and in justifying further armed escalation.

Real crimes committed by the Kyiv regime continue to be encouraged by its foreign sponsors and to go unnoticed by the OSCE leadership. Attacks by the Ukrainian armed forces on civilian infrastructure in various regions of Russia have claimed more than 200 casualties since the start of September, of whom 32 people were killed (including two children) and at least 176 were injured (including eight minors).

In order to protect the civilian population, the Russian force grouping in the zone of the special military operation continues to carry out effective offensive actions in Donbass. Over the past two weeks, several more population centres have been liberated on the outskirts of Krasnoarmeysk, an important logistics hub. At least ten population centres were liberated in the Kursk region last week as part of counter-terrorist operations. In the course of the fighting on the Kursk front alone, the enemy has lost over 14,600 military personnel killed or wounded. The enemy's losses in that segment since the start of August this year include at least 121 tanks, 50 armoured infantry fighting vehicles, 92 armoured personnel carriers, 758 armoured combat vehicles, 457 cars, 107 artillery pieces, 28 launch pods for multiple-launch rocket systems (including seven US-made HIMARS systems and six other US-made multiple rocket launchers), eight launching stations for anti-aircraft missile systems, 26 electronic warfare stations, seven counter-battery radar stations and two air defence radar stations, among other equipment.

We note that the flaunting of Nazi symbols from the Third Reich by the Kyiv regime's combat units and the abuses against civilians perpetrated to the accompaniment of neo-Nazi slogans have as yet not been duly assessed by the OSCE leadership and the Organization's relevant structures.

It is worth mentioning some recent remarks by the Prime Minister of Slovakia, Robert Fico, in which he called upon the international community to work towards neutralizing the military capability of units in Ukraine that, I quote, "use Nazi symbols, which, by all accounts, they often behave in accordance with". It is odd that the representative of Slovakia here is silent about this appeal by his country's leadership.

In that regard, we urge you to carefully study the latest report by the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, published on 11 September, on the situation regarding the glorification of Nazism and the spread of neo-Nazism and other practices that contribute to fuelling contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance. The facts cited in the report attest to steadily growing trends in Ukraine towards singing the praises of Nazi criminals and their accomplices, historical revisionism

and the revanchist resurgence of an ideology of hatred towards humankind. It offers an analysis of new instances of the destruction of monuments to those who fought against Nazism and of the introduction of degrading and discriminatory legislative and other practices. We stress that these egregious manifestations of racial discrimination and glorification of Nazism undermine the integrity of the judgments of the Nuremberg Tribunal, which served to strengthen the foundations of a world order based on international law.

To sum up. Some Western countries are steering an extremely dangerous course aimed at undermining the system of international relations, at the heart of which are the United Nations, created following the Second World War, and the principle of the sovereign equality of States. One of the manifestations of this course is their attempts to subjugate the OSCE to their interests and to disrupt the existing balance on our shared European continent.

Today it is obvious that the United States, the United Kingdom and their satellites are trying to impose some kind of “rules-based world order”, that they are seeking to carry out reckless geopolitical adventures and consolidate unipolarity – all this is liable to lead the European continent and the world as a whole to upheavals no less momentous than the global conflicts of the past. However, the entire history of humankind bears witness to the fact that every attempt by a major geopolitical player to achieve world domination has inevitably ended in failure after destructive and sanguinary wars.

We urge that the situation not be brought to a dangerous brink. The NATO countries must stop nurturing, supporting and arming the neo-Nazi regime in Kyiv. It is important to think about de-escalation measures and practical steps to ensure security while taking into account the legitimate interests of all sovereign States in our region.

Thank you for your attention.