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**STATEMENT BY
MR. MAXIM BUYAKEVICH, DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF
THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, AT THE 1477th MEETING OF THE
OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

6 June 2024

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

Madam Chairperson,

Certain NATO and EU member States are continuing to increase the extent of their involvement in the proxy war being waged against Russia using the Ukrainians. They are deliberately prolonging the armed confrontation and taking steps aimed at escalation. This includes the supply of advanced weapons and active incitement to more powerful strikes deep inside the territory of the Russian Federation. All this is accompanied by the feigned desire for a long-term and just peace.

Under the pretext of the Ukrainian crisis, the outcome of which is obvious, NATO countries, which are not affected by the conflict, are putting their economies on a war footing. The production of weapons and ammunition is being stepped up, and measures are being taken to register the population with a view to probable mobilization. Moreover, in the course of military exercises, scenarios are being rehearsed for carrying out strikes on Russian territory.

Our opponents, adversaries and enemies are keen to maintain and exacerbate tensions. Their “appetite” is not limited to the Ukrainian theatre of hostilities. The neocolonial powers are planning to destabilize other regions with which the peoples of Russia retain close historical ties. On a wider scale, extensive NATO military preparations are being made that go far beyond the events related to the Ukrainian conflict. These and other integrated measures are intended not only to inflict some kind of “strategic defeat” on our country, but ultimately aim to undermine our historical unity, and to engineer the dismemberment of our State and the destruction of its sovereignty.

Russia is well aware of the current historical moment and the challenges facing our country and society. We are ready to counter these threats by all available means.

Effective operations to reduce the combat capabilities of the puppet Kyiv regime’s armed formations are continuing. According to Russian Defence Ministry data, more than 880 square kilometres of territory have been liberated since the beginning of 2024. The Kyiv regime lost control of 28 population centres in the course of May. The Ukrainian armed forces’ total losses in May 2024 alone amounted to more than

35,000 people killed or wounded, and around 2,700 units of equipment and weaponry, including at least 290 tanks and armoured combat vehicles. Among them were four US-made Abrams tanks, seven German-made Leopards and 12 US-made Bradleys. Eleven aeroplanes and four helicopters were shot down, and 730 field artillery guns and multiple-launch rocket systems were destroyed.

Last week, a massive onslaught on the Crimean Bridge using US-made ATACMS systems was neutralized. A wave of attacks with precision weapons hit energy facilities that ensure the operation of the military-industrial complex to serve the interests of the Kyiv regime. Arsenals for the storage of weapons supplied by NATO countries were destroyed, along with a base for planning operations using unmanned aerial vehicles.

A group of persons who were ordered by the Kyiv regime's intelligence services to carry out terrorist attacks on railway lines in the Republic of Crimea were caught red-handed by officers from Russian Federal Security Service bodies, while they were working with explosives. Active measures to protect the security of infrastructure facilities from Ukraine's intelligence services were taken last week in the Amur region, the Kursk region and other parts of our country.

We regard the announcements currently being made by several NATO States about their approval of more intensive use of NATO weapons by the Kyiv regime against Russian territory as a continuation of the irresponsible policy aimed at inciting an armed escalation. Such steps are in no way compatible with the statements made by the same countries about their alleged desire for peace and regional and global stability.

It is extremely important right now to take a studied look at the situation and to do everything to avoid situations and incidents that could lead to direct military confrontation between NATO and Russia. Responsibility for this escalation and its consequences lies squarely with the aggressive neocolonial powers of the North Atlantic Alliance, which are seeking to gain a foothold in the vast expanses of our fatherland at any price.

We note the reduced interest on the part of representatives of the countries of the Global South in the event planned by the Kyiv regime's Western sponsors for 15 and 16 June in Bürgenstock, Switzerland. It is not going to be a "peace summit". Even Ukraine's key sponsors, the United Kingdom and the United States of America, will not be represented there at the highest level.

It is obvious to more and more members of the international community that meetings on issues directly affecting Russia's sovereignty and security are futile if they are held without its representatives and without taking its interests into account. The planned conference in Switzerland is nothing more than a propaganda get-together with zero added value. As far as we are concerned, this failed project represents a fiasco for Swiss diplomacy. Switzerland will not score any points in terms of international prestige, but will rather lose them in the eyes of the international community, demonstrating once and for all its complete loss of political neutrality.

The naive expectation of Volodymyr Zelenskyy's team that his legitimacy will be confirmed on a global scale through this event will, of course, not be met. All in all, such a format is not conducive to bringing us closer to mutually acceptable solutions and, moreover, will have no effect on the situation on the ground. It should be understood that the "Zelenskyy formula" is one of war and bloodshed, and it will never be implemented. This is also because Ukrainian society itself rejects it, not wanting to fight for the interests of the Zelenskyy clique.

In order to prevent conscripts from fleeing en masse from the territories controlled by the Kyiv regime through poorly monitored stretches of the State border, Ukraine has begun laying mines along the

banks of the River Tisza. Against this backdrop, representatives of the Ukrainian Government have not been able to come up with anything more intelligent than to ascribe to “Russian propaganda” the copious video evidence of the forced mobilization of Ukrainian residents. They unabashedly claim that the filming on the streets of real cities in all regions of Ukraine was staged. What is more, the Kyiv regime has begun to work on the mobilization of young male students: 17-year-old students who are abroad are denied the right to have their “data checks” at the military enlistment offices carried out remotely. They must travel to the territories controlled by the Kyiv regime in order to register for military service in person. It is clear that for many this will be a one-way ticket.

The world celebrated International Children’s Day on 1 June. The insincere falseness with which the Zelenskyy regime and its Western sponsors exploit children’s issues is no longer a surprise to anyone. The imputations in this regard are founded on double standards and lies. They do not care, for example, about the real cases of thousands of children who have been bombed to death in the Middle East – a “wall of silence” has been literally built around this subject in the West. Here, on the other hand, they and their underlings in Kyiv are prepared to lie about some “tens of thousands” of minors “deported” from Ukraine to Russia.

We would remind you that during the direct consultations held in the capital of Qatar, Doha, in April of this year between the Russian Federation Presidential Commissioner for Children’s Rights, Maria Lvova-Belova, and her Ukrainian counterpart, Ukraine presented a list of 29 children in Russia who are waiting to be reunited with their relatives in Ukraine. We stress that the list provided by the Kyiv regime contains the names of 29 (!) children – not tens of thousands, as our opponents and the non-governmental organizations on their payroll are touting for political purposes. Their figures are unsubstantiated and are merely empty propaganda.

And one more thing about children. At the last meeting of the Permanent Council, the Kyiv regime’s envoy ranted on about the provisions of the Ukrainian Constitution, a document that is regularly trampled upon by the Zelenskyy clique. We recall that the Constitution is an act of direct action. In terms of its legal force, it is above any laws and regulations of Ukraine. Article 10 of the Constitution guarantees the free development, use and protection of the Russian language throughout the territory of Ukraine. However, on 31 May, police officers detained 16-year-old teenagers in the western Ukrainian city of Rivne and drew up a charge sheet of administrative offences on them. Together with a dozen even younger children, they were accused of having gathered to listen to songs in Russian on the street. Moreover, the police officers exerted psychological pressure on the teenagers and made them apologize on camera – the video was posted in the media. What will the OSCE leadership, which pretends to care about children in Ukraine, have to say about this? Or will it again remain silent, pretending that “everything is just fine” with the Kyiv regime?

We draw attention to the latest report by the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs on the human rights situation in Ukraine, which was published on 29 May. We recommend that you study it carefully. This document is extremely valuable given the discredited assessments of the human rights situation in the territories controlled by the Kyiv regime from the OSCE leadership and our Organization’s relevant structures. The report is based on legal facts and irrefutable evidence and provides a comprehensive overview of the real state of affairs in Ukraine, which is characterized by systematic massive violations of fundamental human rights and freedoms.

In closing, let us once again emphasize that Russia has no historical, economic or any other reason to abandon its indissoluble centuries-old ties with everything that concerns Ukraine. Nor is there any reason to sacrifice the interests of the security and stability of our State in favour of the neocolonial ambitions of a number of NATO and EU countries. All the threats posed by them from the territory of Ukraine will be met with an appropriate response.

A true “peace formula” for Ukraine presupposes the complete cessation of arms supplies by NATO countries to the Kyiv regime and a stop being put to the recruitment on their territory of Ukrainian and foreign citizens into the ranks of the Ukrainian armed forces and neo-Nazi outfits. It is important to ensure the withdrawal of all foreign mercenaries, instructors and operators of NATO weapons from Ukrainian territory, to see to it that other activities aimed at maintaining and developing the criminal armed formations’ combat capability are curtailed, and also to pave the way for the demilitarization and denazification of Ukraine.

Thank you for your attention.