



**Permanent Mission of Ukraine**  
to the International  
Organizations in Vienna

## **STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF UKRAINE**

As delivered by HE Mr Yurii Vitrenko, Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the International Organizations in Vienna

### **1541<sup>st</sup> meeting of the OSCE Permanent Council**

Agenda Item 1, "The Russian Federation's Ongoing Aggression Against Ukraine"

(6 November 2025)

**Mr Chairperson,**

Determined to destroy Ukraine, the Russian Federation continues to carry out massive air and missile strikes against Ukrainian civilians and critical infrastructure. Regrettably, the past week has been no exception to the grim reality of daily life in Ukraine, marked by the constant wail of air raid sirens, tragic news, and further destruction. Not a single day passes without Russian artillery, missiles, or strike drones claiming civilian lives or causing additional devastation.

Allow me to recall a few recent incidents that have occurred since the last discussion on Russia's war of aggression at the Permanent Council.

On 30 October, a Russian strike on the city of Sumy damaged civilian infrastructure and residential buildings, injuring 15 people, including four children.

On 1 November, a combined strike by the Russian army on the village of Novotroitske in the Dnipropetrovsk region killed two children.

On 2 November, Russian forces attacked a parking area in the Odesa region using Shahed strike drones, killing two people and injuring three others.

Since yesterday evening, the Russian forces have been hitting the Dnipropetrovsk region – 8 people were injured in an attack on the city of Kamianske, an ordinary residential building has been damaged, along with railway infrastructure. Our rescuers acted quickly – 5 people were saved from under the rubble. Attacks also hit the Sumy, Kharkiv, and Chernihiv regions. The targets are our critical infrastructure – everything that supports ordinary civilian life.

No less alarming is the continuation of Russia's so-called energocide, which has now escalated to attacks on substations ensuring power supply to nuclear facilities. On 30 October, such a strike was documented by the IAEA, which reported damage to substations essential for the safe external power supply of nuclear power plants. This was the first such incident since 12 December 2024, when the IAEA Board of Governors adopted Resolution GOV/2024/73, highlighting the direct threat to nuclear safety and security posed by attacks on external power infrastructure.

**Distinguished colleagues,**

Deliberate attacks on critical civilian infrastructure, particularly energy and nuclear facilities, constitute a grave violation of international law, notably the IHL basic principles of distinction and proportionality. These attacks have no legitimate military relevance and are nothing less than acts of violence and intimidation for political purposes, a definition and a clear manifestation of terrorism.

Let me recall that in 2017, Ukraine, as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council, initiated the adoption of resolution 2341 on the protection of critical infrastructure against terrorist attacks. The resolution was adopted unanimously and the Russian Federation agreed that terrorism in all its forms and manifestations constitutes one of the most serious threats to international peace and security. Today, however, this state commits acts of terrorism, revealing its true face and real attitude towards own obligations and commitments.

Such actions must not go unpunished. The atrocities committed against civilians including war crimes and crimes against humanity underscore the urgent need for justice and accountability. Every day, Ukrainian law enforcement agencies continue to record new cases of crimes committed by the Russian forces. According to the Prosecutor General's Office of Ukraine, almost 20,000 crimes committed in the course of Russia's aggression have already been registered. This includes deliberate strikes against civilians, killings, execution, tortures and deportations.

Moreover, in close cooperation with its international partners, Ukraine continues to work towards the establishment of a Special Tribunal for the Crime of Aggression against Ukraine. Holding individuals accountable for the decision to wage a war of aggression is crucial for ensuring justice and deterring violations of international order in the future. Despite all attempts by the aggressor state to undermine these efforts and avoid responsibility, international justice remains resolute in its commitment to bring perpetrators of war crimes to account. No form of personal immunity should ever serve for impunity of criminals.

This determination was clearly demonstrated last week during the visit of the Registrar of the International Criminal Court, who reaffirmed the Court's dedication to the restoration of justice and emphasised the importance of continued effective cooperation between all responsible actors.

**Mr Chairperson,**

While the international community strives to stop the war, ensure accountability, and restore peace and justice, the Russian Federation continues to portray its victory as inevitable justifying aggression and continuation of killings.

From senior officials in Moscow to ordinary diplomats, the Russian authorities persist in promoting a distorted image of Russia's so-called "total success". Notably, even within Russia, not everyone shares this view. However, those who dare to disagree quickly find themselves in the crosshairs of the security services, which fabricate charges of treason, terrorism, or even the absurd offence of so-called "discrediting the armed forces".

Such Stalinist repressions have not gone unnoticed by independent observers. As highlighted in the recent report of the UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Russian Federation, Mariana Katzarova: "Russia's abuse of national security and public safety laws to silence opposition to the war in Ukraine has reached alarming levels." The report in particular notes that since 2022, when Russia launched its full-scale invasion, the number of treason prosecutions has soared from double digits to around 760 verdicts by mid-2025.

Despite these well-documented facts, the Russian side continues to sustain its own illusion. It rejects calls for an immediate ceasefire and refuses to engage in constructive negotiations based on international law. It disregards its mounting human and economic losses. Moreover, Moscow, which once claimed to be one of the

world's leading military powers, denies that, after almost four years of hostilities, it has failed to conquer Ukraine, which continues to defend itself and inflict substantial damage on the aggressor.

And since common sense alone cannot restrain the Kremlin, it must be compelled through sanctions, personal restrictions, export controls, and sustained political pressure. Meanwhile, Ukraine will continue to exercise its lawful right to self-defence and to strengthen its defence capabilities both by developing its domestic production and by deepening cooperation with partners, including through the PURL initiative. We are deeply grateful to all partners providing that exert pressure on the Kremlin and provide military assistance to Ukraine. Such support saves countless lives from Russian terror. Together, we can halt the Russian war machine and restore international order.

**Thank you, Mr Chairperson.**