



Permanent Mission of Ukraine
to the International
Organizations in Vienna

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF UKRAINE

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Agenda Item 1, “The Russian Federation’s Ongoing Aggression Against Ukraine”
(30 October 2025)

Madam Chairperson,

The Russian Federation continues to deny that its decision to launch a full-scale invasion of Ukraine, which has claimed thousands of lives and caused immense destruction, has become its greatest strategic defeat. On the contrary, Moscow persists in portraying itself as a reliable and powerful actor, insisting that its victory on the battlefield is “inevitable and irreversible”. Yet the facts speak for themselves.

The Russian Federation remains isolated on the international stage. Despite all attempts to deny this reality, Russia’s own actions have irreversibly undermined its global positions, exposing the true nature of Moscow’s imperial ambitions. Its senior leadership is wanted by international justice for war crimes, Russia has set unprecedented records for violations of international law, while within different international forums, it is no longer regarded as a credible partner.

This year alone, the Russian Federation failed to secure election to eight governing bodies of international organisations, including the ICAO Council, the FAO Council, the UN Committee against Torture, the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission Bureau, the Universal Postal Union Council of Administration and Postal Operations Council, as well as the UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs.

International restrictive measures imposed in response to Russia’s full-scale invasion of Ukraine remain robust and continue to undermine the Russian economy, which the Kremlin regards not as an instrument of national well-being, but as a source of financing its war.

The numerous recent meetings between Ukraine's leadership and the leaders of EU and NATO member states clearly demonstrate their unwavering commitment to supporting Ukraine's legitimate right to self-defence and to maintaining pressure on Russia for its continued aggression.

On the battlefield, every metre of Russian advance comes at an enormous cost. According to available estimates, this year alone the aggressor's army has suffered around 346,000 killed and wounded. A figure roughly matching its total mobilisation over the same period. To reiterate: 346,000 killed and wounded - a number exceeding the total strength of many national armed forces.

Excellencies,

Unable to recognise its own mistakes and unwilling to end the aggression, the Kremlin sees no other option but to intensify its efforts through terrorist methods aimed at suppressing resistance and breaking Ukraine's will to fight. This is precisely what Russia is doing, as not a single day passes without new attacks.

Over the past week alone, Russia has launched around 1,200 attack drones and 50 missiles of various types against Ukraine. Every 24 hours, approximately 200 bombs are dropped by the aggressor state.

Russian forces continue to target Ukraine's energy infrastructure, believing that regular blackouts will weaken the resolve of the Ukrainian people. In reality, these attacks only cause further civilian casualties and destruction.

On 25 October, massive shelling of the city of Kherson and the surrounding region killed three people and injured 29 others, including three children. Numerous residential and administrative buildings were damaged across the area.

On 26 October, Russian occupation forces attacked Kyiv with strike drones, damaging two buildings, killing three people and injuring 33 others.

Yesterday, on 29 October, Russia deliberately struck a children's hospital in the city of Kherson. Russian military knew exactly what they were hitting – children, medical staff, the life itself. Both staff and children were injured, including an eight-year-old boy, his mother, and his brother. The hospital was heavily damaged. Around a hundred people were inside at the time of the strike.

In areas close to the front line, the situation is particularly dire, as Russian forces wage a campaign of total destruction. Evidence of this has been carefully documented by the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on Ukraine, which in its report stated that "Russian authorities have systematically coordinated actions in order to drive out Ukrainian civilians from their place of residence."

The report also notes that “Russian armed forces deployed over a large geographic area and operating from the left bank of the Dnipro River, under a centralised command, have used the same modus operandi to intentionally target civilians and civilian objects and cause harm and destruction.”

Moscow may believe that such strikes demonstrate its strength. In reality, they expose its weakness and complete lack of moral principle.

Madam Chairperson,

By waging its war of aggression against Ukraine and against the international rules-based order Russia has demonstrated that it continues to live in an alternate reality. The recent statement by Russia’s Foreign Minister Lavrov on the Budapest Memorandum is a telling example.

Just imagine the level of cynicism when the foreign minister of a state that launched a war of conquest appeals to a document in which that very state, 30 years ago, reaffirmed its respect for the independence, sovereignty, and existing borders of Ukraine, and pledged to refrain from the threat or use of force.

The Russian Federation has disregarded the Budapest Memorandum, as it has many other bilateral and multilateral agreements (to be more precise, approximately 400 international documents have been violated). Responsible conduct has been replaced by a cynical narrative in which Russia seeks to justify any of its actions while dismissing all countermeasures as illegitimate.

In this situation, the international community must impose the strongest possible pressure to compel Russia towards peace, while further strengthening Ukraine’s defence capabilities to protect its people. Russia will not stop unless confronted with firm and united international pressure.

Ukraine welcomes the 19th package of EU sanctions against Russia and expresses its gratitude to all EU member states for their continued support. It is equally important that the United States has introduced new sanctions targeting companies critical to the Kremlin’s war machine. Russia may claim that sanctions do not affect its economy, but reality tells a different story - fuel shortages, bankrupt regions, and a growing federal budget deficit serve a clear indicator of pressure’s effectiveness.

As Ukraine’s Foreign Minister Andrii Sybiha rightly emphasised: “It is crucial to maintain maximum pressure on Russia in its two main weak spots: bringing the war back to Russian territory, where it originated, and increasing the cost of war by reinforcing our military and intensifying sanctions pressure.”

Indeed, sanctions remain among the most painful blows for Putin's regime. They must be further strengthened until Russia has no choice but to accept the international community's demand to stop the bloodshed and engage in genuine negotiations based on international law, including the UN Charter and the Helsinki Final Act.

Thank you, Madam Chairperson.