



**Danish
Presidency**
Council of the
European Union



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Statement on Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine

Madam Chair, distinguished delegates, I have the honour to speak on behalf of the following EU Member States: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and Denmark.

and also, on behalf of the following participating States that joined this statement: Tbd.

1. Madam Chair, Russia's continued brutal attacks on Ukrainian civilians and infrastructure last week once again demonstrate its apparent unwillingness to pursue peace, as well as its complete disregard for the ongoing efforts, including by the United States, to find a peaceful solution to Russia's war of aggression. On the night of 23 October, Russia launched strikes against Kyiv with drones and ballistic missiles, killing six people, including two children. On the same day, Russia also attacked a kindergarten in Kharkiv, injuring 10 people, including a five-year-old girl. 48 children were evacuated from the kindergarten; all of them are experiencing acute stress reactions as a result of the attack.

2. At the European Council on 23 October, EU leaders adopted the 19th package of sanctions targeting key sectors which fuel Russia's illegal invasion of Ukraine, including energy, finance and the military industrial complex. The package comes in response to Russia's escalating aggression against Ukraine, in particular the recent brutal military campaign deliberately targeting civilian infrastructure, including energy, water and health facilities. As High Representative Kallas said last Thursday: "Every euro we deny Russia, is one it cannot spend on war."
3. EU leaders also took stock of ongoing EU efforts to decisively ramp up Europe's defence readiness by 2030. The European Defence Readiness Roadmap 2030 sets out clear objectives and milestones to achieve defence readiness by 2030 so that Europe is better equipped to act and deal autonomously, in a coordinated way, and with a 360° approach, with immediate and future challenges and threats. Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine and its repercussions for European and global security in a changing environment constitute an existential challenge for the European Union.
4. We strongly condemn the recurring and increasingly frequent incursions from Belarus into Lithuanian airspace. The EU and its Member States hold Belarusian authorities responsible for not preventing these sovereign airspace violations and we urge the Belarusian authorities to take immediate action to prevent these and comply with its international commitments.
5. We also stand by Lithuania in the face of Russia's repeated violation of its sovereign airspace and blatant breach of international law.
6. We will continue to stand by Ukraine and its people, as it fights for its independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity within its internationally recognised borders.
7. The Russian Federation continues with its manifest violation of international law, including the UN Charter, as well as core OSCE principles and commitments. The EU and its Member States resolutely condemn Russia's illegal, unprovoked and unjustifiable war of aggression. We reaffirm our strong commitment to ensuring full accountability for war crimes and the other most serious crimes committed in connection with Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine.
8. In co-ordination with like-minded partners and allies, we will continue providing multi-faceted support, including financial, economic, humanitarian,

military and diplomatic support, to Ukraine and its people to help the country exercise its inherent right to self-defence. The European Council also reaffirmed its commitment to address Ukraine's pressing financial needs for 2026-2027, including for its military and defence efforts.

9. We strongly condemn support by third countries, and actors and entities therein, which enable Russia to sustain its war of aggression against Ukraine. We condemn the continued military support provided by Iran, Belarus and the DPRK.

10. The EU and its Member States urge all countries to immediately cease any direct or indirect assistance to Russia in its war of aggression against Ukraine. In this vein, and as stated by G7 Foreign Ministers and the HRVP, China is also a decisive enabler of Russia's war.

11. Madam Chair, to conclude: Small children being killed by missiles or dragged out of destroyed kindergartens is pure horror. Images like these can have no place in Europe or anywhere else in the world. Russia must immediately stop its war of aggression, put an end to the unbearable suffering and devastation it causes and completely and unconditionally withdraw all of its forces and military equipment from the entire territory of Ukraine.

Thank you.