



Permanent Representation
of Ukraine to the OPCW

English only

Point 6 (e) Addressing the threat from chemical weapons use.

**Statement by the Delegation of Ukraine
at the 109th session of the Executive Council**

Mr Chairperson,

Director-General,

Excellencies,

Ladies and gentlemen,

It is crucial for our delegation to take part in today's discussion addressing the threat from chemical weapons use. Ukraine fully associates itself with the statement delivered by the European Union.

The global framework for non-proliferation and disarmament, which strictly prohibits the use of chemical weapons, has long been fundamental to maintaining international peace, security, and stability. However, this system is currently under threat—particularly due to the actions of certain states, most notably the Russian Federation.

Since launching its full-scale military invasion of Ukraine, the Russian Federation has increasingly employed chemical weapons and riot control agents in violation of the Chemical Weapons Convention.

According to the Ministry of Defence of Ukraine, there were **9,905 documented instances** of the Russian military's use of munitions containing hazardous chemicals, including **chloropicrin**, in direct violation of the Convention.

As a result of these actions, **2,591 military personnel** sought medical care for symptoms of chemical exposure, and tragically with **fatalities** occurred due to acute poisoning by an unidentified toxic substance.

Furthermore, the **Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons** has confirmed these concerns in a series of recent reports in **November 2024**, in **February 2025** and in **June 2025**.

Ukraine recalls that, in its decision on "Addressing the Threat from Chemical Weapons Use" (C-SS-4/DEC.3, dated 27 June 2018), the Conference of the States Parties affirmed that, "whenever a chemical weapons use occurs on the territory of a State Party, those who were the perpetrators, organizers, sponsors or otherwise involved should be identified" (at para. 19). The Conference also underscored "the added value of the Secretariat conducting an independent investigation of an alleged use of chemical weapons with a view to facilitating universal attribution of all chemical weapons attacks" (at para. 19).

In its Note Verbal from July 7, 2025 Ukraine requested the Director-General to take steps towards establishing an independent and impartial establishing mechanism, in line with the Chemical Weapons Convention, to further support efforts ensuring compliance with its

provisions. This mechanism should investigate cases of alleged use of chemical weapons in Ukraine, assess available findings – including that from previous Technical Secretariat report and technical assistance additional evidence and identify perpetrators, organisers, sponsors of such use.

This request underscores the vital role of the OPCW Secretariat in supporting and coordinating efforts, in close cooperation with States Parties, to ensure compliance with international law and the Chemical Weapons Convention.

Mr Chairperson,

Ukraine continues to gather and submit evidence of chemical weapons use in line with the OPCW's international standards. As a responsible State Party to the Convention, we remain fully committed to our obligations and to strengthening cooperation with the OPCW. Despite the difficult circumstances of ongoing aggression, Ukraine has taken all possible steps to comply with the Convention and to enhance our national capabilities in detecting and responding to chemical weapons use.

The competent authorities of Ukraine established that all components of the Security and Defence Forces of Ukraine did not have K-51, RG-Vo gas grenades and any other types of RCAs in service and did not use them as a means of warfare in repelling the armed aggression of the Russian Federation.

Ukraine is determined to continue deepening efficient cooperation and strengthening the capabilities of Ukrainian experts in countering the threat of chemical weapons use by the Russian Federation.

Let me express my appreciation to all the statements of support to Ukraine from the OPCW Member States. We are very grateful for the strong international position.

I kindly request you to carefully **examine the attached information** provided by Ukrainian competent authorities and consider this statement as an official document of the 109th Session of the Executive Council and post it on the OPCW external server and public website.

Thank you for your attention.

**GLOBAL RESPONSE TO THE VIOLATION
OF THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION
BY THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

The global framework for non-proliferation and disarmament, which plays a crucial role in upholding international security and stability, is currently facing significant strain, particularly due to the actions of the Russian Federation.

Since Russia's large-scale invasion of Ukraine, there has been an increasing use of hazardous chemicals and chemical riot control agents (RCAs) by Russian forces, in blatant violation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC). Evidence indicates that Russia extensively relies on these chemical agents during combat hostilities, using them alongside with other weapons to hinder from offensive operations of Ukrainian forces.

Russia's actions violate the CWC and pose a direct threat to global peace and security. These ongoing violations not only threaten safety of the Ukrainian people but also challenge the integrity of the international community's commitment to make a world free of chemical weapons.

From February 2023 to June 2025, the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine has reported on more than 9,905 cases of Russia's use of munitions containing hazardous chemicals in violation of the CWC. 2,591 Ukrainian servicemen have been seeking medical care due to symptoms of chemical exposure.

The overwhelming majority of the recorded cases involve the use of munitions of unspecified types. Well-known delivery systems for chemical weapons agents include K-51 and RG-VO gas grenades, which are riot control agents prohibited for use as a method of warfare under Article I, paragraph 5 of the CWC. The total number of cases continues to grow. At the same time, the Security and Defense Forces of Ukraine do not use K-51, RG-Vo gas grenades, or any other types of RCAs in repelling the armed aggression of the Russian Federation.

The Ukrainian authorities are actively compiling evidence related to violations of the CWC, with updates on the investigation to be shared with the OPCW Technical Secretariat and the States Parties to the CWC in due course (reports of the competent authorities of Ukraine are attached).

It has been confirmed in the three OPCW reports dated November 18, 2024, February 14, 2025, June 20, 2025, as well as the Joint Statement of 59 states, adopted at the 29th session of the States Parties to the CWC.

The reports emphasize that the evidence provided by Ukraine, in particular 7 grenades marked RG-Vo and the corresponding soil and grass samples, has been collected and provided to the OPCW representatives in compliance with the chain-of-custody and relevant procedures. Two independent OPCW designated laboratories have confirmed that the evidence provided by Ukraine contains CS substance, which is a part of riot control agents.

According to the competent authorities of Ukraine, RG-Vo grenades are produced at Russian enterprises, in particular at the Russian Research Center Applied Chemistry and the Scientific Research Institute of Applied Chemistry.

It should be noted that riot control agents are classified as non-lethal chemical weapons, including those not included in Lists 1,2,3 of the Chemical Weapons Convention, but are only prohibited for use in combat conditions due to their irritating properties, which leads to disorientation of military personnel on the battlefield and makes them vulnerable to conventional weapons. However, the massive use of drones as a method of delivering ammunition equipped with CS, CN, CR and other riot control agents turns them into lethal weapons when used in dugouts, bomb shelters and other closed protective structures at the front.

This is evidenced by cases of deaths of Ukrainian servicemen, when the only external cause of death was the impact of riot control agents in the conditions specified above.

Ukraine is actively assessing further actions to ensure compliance with international law, particularly the CWC. These actions will focus on identifying perpetrators, organizers, and sponsors, as well as pursuing further international accountability as part of our efforts to uphold the provisions of the CWC.

Ukraine urges the states that consistently uphold the principles of justice and international law to take decisive measures to hold the Russian Federation accountable for its use of chemicals as weapons.

Against this backdrop, it is particularly cynical that Russia regular submits its application for membership of the OPCW Executive Council. Therefore, the ultimate goal of the international community is to expel the Russian Federation from the OPCW Executive Council.

It will be another proof of the ongoing international isolation of the aggressor state.

REPORTS OF THE COMPETENT AUTHORITIES OF UKRAINE

1. Security Service of Ukraine

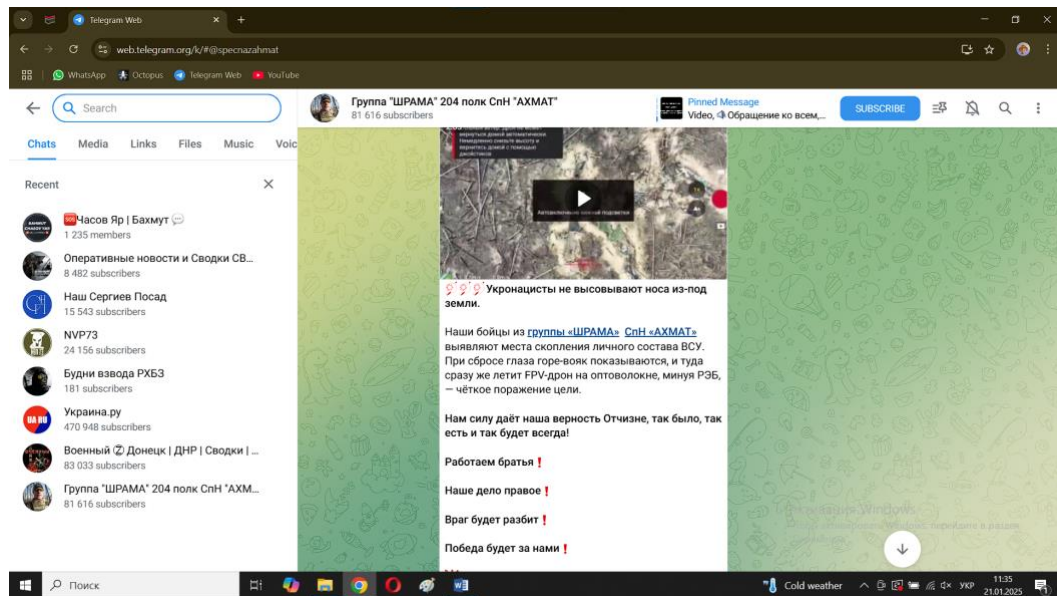
The Security Service of Ukraine regularly documents the use by Russian occupation forces, in violation of the provisions of the CWC, of chemical agents against the Security and Defense Forces of Ukraine.

The presence of publications (videos) in open sources serves as evidence of violations by the Russian Federation of international humanitarian law, in particular through the use of chemical riot control agents as means of warfare.

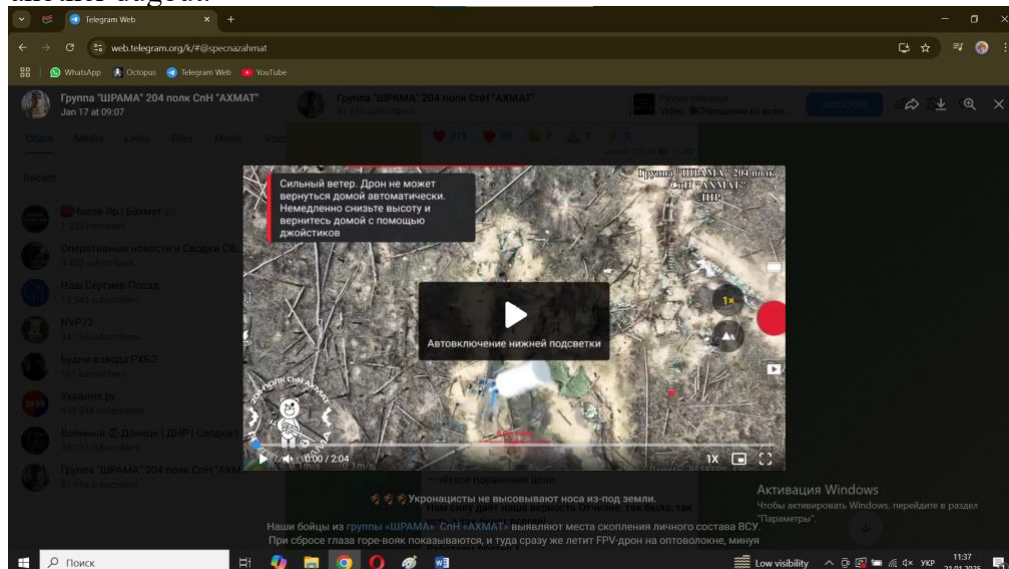
In particular, the corresponding information has been received from the Telegram channel "Group 'SHRAMA' 204 Special Forces Regiment 'Akhmat'"¹ (link to the resource <https://web.telegram.org/k/#@specnazahmat>), including photo and video materials that may indicate the use of RG-Vo aerosol grenades.

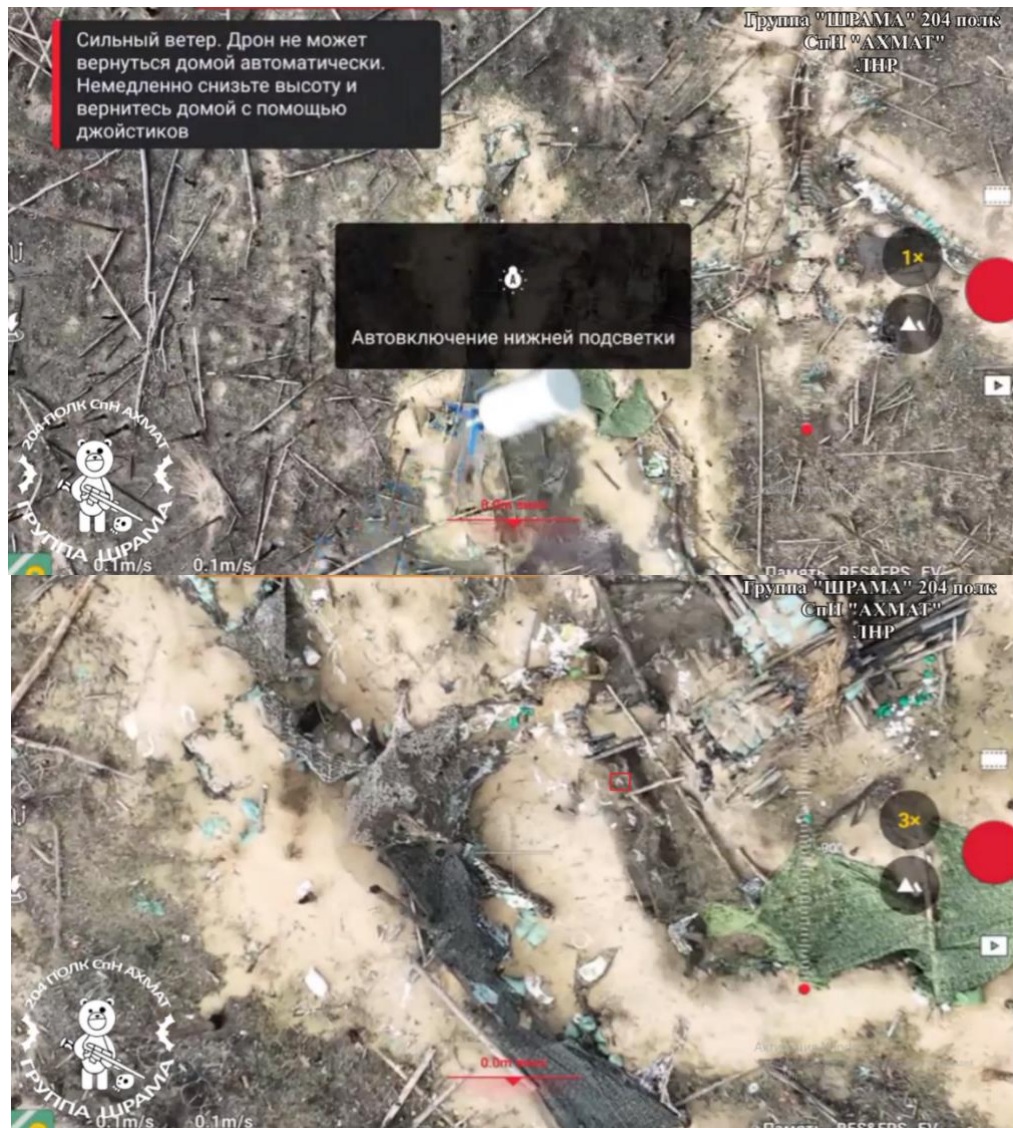
On January 17, 2025, a video lasting 2 minutes and 4 seconds was published on this Telegram channel, which shows the use of chemical (aerosol) grenades with the following text description: "Our fighters from the 'ShRAMA' group of Special Forces 'Akhmat' identify places where Ukrainian forces are concentrated. When the drop occurs, the 'poor soldier' is spotted, and immediately an FPV drone flies in over fiber optic, bypassing electronic warfare – a clear hit to the target."

¹ The "ShRAMA" group is a unit of the 204th Special Purpose Regiment "Akhmat" and operates actively in the Luhansk region, on the Lyman front. The main tasks of the aforementioned unit include reconnaissance, artillery correction, and drone drops. The commander of the group is an individual with the call sign "Vaha." The group consists of the following reconnaissance personnel: "Colombia," "Anan," "Brother," "Cat," and "Lion"; UAV operators: "Esher," "Rey," and "Kuban."



In the video posted at the link <https://t.me/specnazahmat/1096>, the moment of a drop from an unidentified UAV of an object visually resembling an aerosol chemical grenade RG-Bo is captured. The video shows that Ukrainian Armed Forces personnel, in order to avoid being affected by chemical substances, are forced to leave their shelter and change positions by moving to another dugout.





After the grenade detonates, the video shows a rapid release of a large amount of white-gray smoke (aerosol), characteristic of the RG-Bo grenades of Russian manufacture. The burning time of the pyrotechnic mixture used in the munition is also similar, lasting about 20-30 seconds.





After the use of the chemical munition and the personnel exiting the main shelter, the enemy used an FPV drone with a conventional munition (explosive).





The Security Service of Ukraine continues the investigation into the use of chemical substances by the armed formations of the Russian Federation during combat operations against the Armed Forces of Ukraine, in violation of the CWC.

In the majority of cases, the Russian forces used chemical (aerosol) grenades containing toxic chemical agents — CS (2-chlorobenzylidenemalononitrile, dinitril orthobenzalmalonic acid, R-65, “Syringe,” molecular formula $C_7H_6ClN_2$, CAS number 2698-41-1) and CN (chloracetophenone, 2-chloro-1-phenylethanone, Litin, Orlit, R-14, substance No. 34, “Cherry,” molecular formula C_8H_7ClO , CAS number 532-27-4).

On February 7, 2025, as part of criminal proceedings, the investigator of the Main Investigative Directorate of the Security Service of Ukraine informed about the suspicion of a citizen of the Russian Federation, Roman Vasilyevich Shkroba, Colonel, commander of the 123rd separate guards motorized rifle brigade named after Hero of the Soviet Union Klement Voroshilov, 2nd Guards Luhansk-Severodonetsk Army Corps of the 8th Guards General Military Army of the Southern Military District of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation.

He is suspected of issuing an order for the use of weapons prohibited by international law.

According to available information, in December 2023, Shkroba personally ordered subordinate units to use chemical riot control agents (gas grenades K-51 and RG-Bo containing CS and CN chemicals) as a means of warfare against Ukrainian soldiers of the 8th Separate Mountain Assault Battalion of the 10th Separate Mountain Assault Brigade “Edelweiss,” who were performing combat tasks to repel Russian armed aggression while stationed at position “Synytsia” in the village of Spyryne in the Donetsk region.

Further, information has been received regarding the use of two homemade chemical devices (munitions) containing residues of a mixture of unidentified chemicals against the military personnel of the 65th Separate Mechanized Brigade “Velykyi Luh” of the Ground Forces of the Armed Forces of Ukraine. These forces were performing combat tasks in the area of the settlement of Novodanylivka in the Zaporizhzhia region on December 5, 2024. Initial field analysis

using a portable chemical identifier FLIR Griffin G510 (GC-MS) indicated possible chemical compositions of the mixture.

The first sample contained the following substances: Fluoroacetamide (CAS 640-19-7), 1-methyl-2-Pyrrolidinone (CAS 872-50-4), GF (CAS 329-99-7), Cumene (CAS 98-82-8), Mesitylene (CAS 108-67-8), sec-Butylbenzene (CAS 135-98-8), Benzene, 1-ethyl-2,4-dimet (CAS 874-41-9), Decamethylcyclopentasiloxane (CAS 541-02-6), Dodecamethylpentasiloxane (CAS 141-63-9), Hexadecane (CAS 544-76-3), 2,2-dimethylbutane (CAS 75-83-2).

The second sample of the homemade chemical munition contained: Pentane (CAS 109-66-0), n-Hexane (CAS 110-54-3), Acetone (CAS 67-64-1), Fluoroacetamide (CAS 640-19-7), 1,3-Difluoro-2-propanol (CAS 453-13-4), 2,2-dimethylbutane (CAS 75-83-2), n-butylbenzene (CAS 104-51-8), sec-Butylbenzene (CAS 135-98-8), tert-butylbenzene (CAS 98-06-6), Undecane (CAS 1120-21-4), 2-chloro-acetophenone (CN) (CAS 532-27-4), Benzene, I-ethyl-

2,4-dimet (CAS 874-41-9), Decamethylcyclopentastlox (CAS 541-02-6), Naphthalene (CAS 91-20-3), Dodecane (CAS 112-40-3), 2-methyl-naphthalene (CAS 91-57-6), Tridecane (CAS 629-50-5).

The devices used by the Russian side were constructed from a 0.5-liter plastic bottle, likely filled with a mixture of chemicals (most of the mixture leaked to the ground due to mechanical damage caused by the fall of the container). A plastic syringe filled with a flammable substance resembling gunpowder was also found inside the bottle.

In both cases, the device showed the presence of a hazardous chemical substance, Fluoroacetamide, a toxic substance and pesticide, also classified as a rodenticide. This substance is prohibited for use in Ukraine due to its high toxicity. It releases irritating or toxic fumes/gases when burned, and inhalation causes convulsions and vomiting. This substance can affect

the cardiovascular system, including causing arrhythmia and death. Harmful concentrations in the air can be reached quickly due to dispersion.

Currently, samples from homemade devices have been sent to a specialized laboratory for further analysis of the chemical composition.

The overwhelming majority of chemical substance uses by the enemy occur during active combat, particularly during assaults on the defensive positions of the Armed Forces of Ukraine on key fronts.

The Main Investigation Department is conducting a pre-trial investigation in criminal proceedings No. 22023000000000122 dated 06.02.2023, where the facts of the use of chemical substances for riot control by the armed formations of the Russian Federation during combat operations against the Ukrainian Defense Forces, in violation of the CWC, are being investigated.

Additionally, the investigative units of regional bodies of the Security Service of Ukraine are conducting pre-trial investigations in a number of criminal proceedings related to the aforementioned criminal offenses.

At present, the use of gas grenades K-51, RG-V, RGR, and shots from VGM-93.200, artillery shells, as well as homemade spraying devices filled with tear gas chemicals CS (2-chlorobenzylidene malonitrile, dinitril orthochlorobenzalmalonic acid, P-65, "Syringe"), molecular formula $C_{10}H_5ClN_2$, CAS registry number 2698-41-1, and CN (chloracetophenone, 2-chloro-1-phenylethanone, Litin, Orlit, P-14, substance No. 34, "Чепемиха"), molecular formula C_8H_7ClO , CAS registry number 532-27-4, has been documented.

The general symptoms caused by these chemical substances include damage to mucous membranes and respiratory tract, as well as damage to the esophagus (in case of high concentrations and ingestion), manifested by throat irritation, coughing, suffocation, red eyes, tearing, nausea, and vomiting. In some cases, increased fatigue and discomfort in the lungs have been recorded for an extended period after exposure.

During the pre-trial investigation, the Ukrainian Defense Forces personnel who witnessed the use of chemical substances by the enemy or were victims of such use are being identified. 108 have been recognized as victims, and 26 have been questioned as witnesses.

Approximately 89 delivery devices for chemical substances, their fragments, as well as samples of clothing, water, and soil with traces of the applied substances, have been seized. As a result of the analysis, more than 30 expert conclusions have been obtained, including regarding the conformity of the seized delivery devices to K-51, RGR, and RG-V grenades, which are filled with the respective irritating chemicals.

Currently, among other things, the pre-trial investigation is verifying a significant number of cases of the use of chemicals by the armed formations of the Russian Federation, including:

- 1) on 31.01.2025, munitions containing an unidentified chemical substance were used against the positions of the Ukrainian Defense Forces in the area of Bilohorivka, Luhansk region, as a result of which a Ukrainian serviceman suffered bodily injuries. According to the documents provided by primary medical assistance physicians, the serviceman was poisoned

by an unknown chemical with the following symptoms: eye burning, throat burning, severe tearing, difficulty breathing, irritation of the mucous membranes of the respiratory tract, nausea, and coughing. Biological samples taken from the victim were sent to the State Specialized Institution "Main Bureau of Forensic Medical Examination" of the Ministry of Health of Ukraine for toxicological analysis;

2) on 02.02.2025, a homemade chemical explosive device (activated) containing an irritant chemical substance was used against the 108th Territorial Defense Brigade on the front line in the Polohy district of Zaporizhzhia region. Upon visual and tactile inspection, the homemade device was tightly wrapped with several layers of reinforced tape and contaminated with a brown suspension, with a denser concentration in the upper part. The results of measurements taken with the ChemProX device detected an unknown substance, possibly industrial chemicals and irritants;

3) on 04.02.2025, a gas hand grenade "RGR" filled with tear gas chemicals was used against the positions of the Ukrainian Defense Forces in the area of Stepove, Vasylivka district, Zaporizhzhia region, from the direction of Konovalove. An examination of this device is currently underway, and the analysis has been assigned to experts from the ISTE of the SBU.

2. Office of the Prosecutor General

Under the procedural leadership of the prosecutors from the Department of Counteracting Crimes Committed in Armed Conflict Conditions of the Office of the Prosecutor General, investigators of the Main Investigation Department of the Security Service of Ukraine (SSU) are conducting pre-trial investigations in two criminal cases, within which the facts of the use of chemical substances by the Russian armed formations against the Ukrainian Armed Forces (AFU) during combat operations, in violation of the CWC, are being investigated.

Information has been received regarding over 6,000 instances of possible chemical weapons use by the Russian Federation, of which 72 facts have been verified so far through the investigation. Specifically, it has been confirmed that the aggressor country used munitions loaded with tear gas substances CS (2-chlorobenzylidene malononitrile, dinitril orthochlorobenzalmalonic acid, P-65, "Syringa"), molecular formula $C_{10}H_5ClN_2$, CAS registration number 2698-41-1, and CN (chloroacetophenone, 2-chloro-1-phenylethanone, Litin, Orlit, P-14, substance No. 34, "Cherry"), molecular formula C_8H_7ClO , CAS registration number 532-27-4 (hereinafter – substances CS and CN, respectively).

The general symptoms caused by these chemical substances include damage to mucous membranes and respiratory tracts, damage to the esophagus (with high concentrations of the substance and its ingestion), manifested by a sore throat, coughing, shortness of breath, redness of the eyes, tearing, nausea, and vomiting. In some cases, there were also signs of fatigue and discomfort in the lungs for an extended period after exposure.

During the pre-trial investigation in the indicated criminal cases, 94 individuals from the Ukrainian Armed Forces have been identified as witnesses or victims of chemical substance exposure by the Russian armed forces.

57 chemical delivery devices (primarily UAVs), their fragments, as well as samples of clothing, water, and soil with traces of the applied substance, have been seized. These objects have been sent for expert examination (32 examinations have been appointed). Currently, 25 expert conclusions have been received, including concerning the identification of seized delivery devices as K-51 and RG-V grenades loaded with the corresponding irritant chemical substances.

Additionally, during the pre-trial investigation, the following facts of the use of chemical weapons by Russian armed formations are being verified:

1) on 05.01.2024 – 10.01.2024 near Avdiivka, Donetsk region, unidentified Russian soldiers from the 114th brigade used a gas grenade K-51 loaded with CS chemical substance against the positions of the Ukrainian Armed Forces;

- 2) on 17.01.2024, grenades resembling RG-V were used by the Russian armed forces in a forest belt along the P-07 highway between Tabaivka and Krochmalne, Kharkiv region;
- 3) on 20.12.2023, during an offensive by Russian armed formations, K-51 and RG-V grenades were used, resulting in injuries to four Ukrainian soldiers defending positions near Spyrne, Donetsk region.

The prosecutors of the regional prosecutors' offices are conducting procedural leadership in pre-trial investigations in 59 criminal cases regarding 92 such crimes of possible chemical weapons use by the Russian Federation. To date, the deaths of three Ukrainian servicemen (one in Donetsk region, two in Zaporizhzhia) have been established, and 180 Ukrainian soldiers and 8 National Police officers have been injured (in Donetsk region – 74 military, Zaporizhzhia – 39, Luhansk – 10, Sumy – 15, Kharkiv – 14, Kherson – 28 military and 8 National Police employees).

Particularly, investigators of the SSU in Donetsk and Luhansk regions, under the procedural guidance of prosecutors from the Donetsk Regional Prosecutor's Office, are conducting the investigation in criminal case No. 22025050000000198 dated 20.01.2025 regarding the use of chemical weapons by Russian soldiers, which resulted in the injury of a Ukrainian serviceman. The serviceman reported that after a projectile was dropped on the Ukrainian Armed Forces positions, a pungent white gas emerged, causing irritation to the mucous membranes, coughing, shortness of breath, nausea, and vomiting. Over time, the shortness of breath worsened and became wheezy, along with pronounced weakness and agitation.

In addition, the prosecutors of the Luhansk Regional Prosecutor's Office are leading investigations in criminal case No. 22024130000000544 dated 21.10.2024 regarding the use of chemical weapons in October of the previous year by Russian armed formations against Ukrainian Armed Forces positions near Makiyivka and Novovodyane in the Svatove district of Luhansk region, resulting in physical harm to Ukrainian servicemen. Three chemical substance examinations confirmed the use of CS chemical substances.

Additionally, investigators from the SSU in Kherson region, under the procedural guidance of the Kherson Regional Prosecutor's Office, are conducting pre-trial investigations in criminal case No. 22024230000000105 dated 26.02.2024 regarding the possible use of chemical weapons by Russian soldiers against the Ukrainian security and defense forces. Eleven possible instances of chemical weapon use have been documented during the investigation.

According to information from the Donetsk Regional Prosecutor's Office, in most cases, injured Ukrainian Armed Forces (UAF) servicemen report that munitions (grenades) are dropped on their positions via UAVs, and after detonation, a white or yellow gas spreads. This gas causes irritation to mucous membranes, coughing, nausea, and dizziness. According to initial medical records, the injured individuals are diagnosed with inhalation poisoning, general weakness, headaches, and asthenic syndrome.

In criminal proceedings overseen by prosecutors from the Zaporizhzhia Regional Prosecutor's Office, based on testimonies of victims from the use of special gas grenades RG-Vo, RGR, and K-51, as well as witnesses, it has been established that the chemical substances used caused intense tearing, a burning sensation in the throat and nose, difficulty breathing, spasms, and nausea.

The use of chemical weapons by the Russian armed forces was carried out through mortar shelling and UAV-dropped K-51 grenades containing irritating chemical substances such as SR-oxazepine, CS-dinitril, 2-chlorobenzalidenemalonate acid, and chloropicrin, which have a low boiling point, evaporate well regardless of temperature conditions, and create incapacitating concentrations of vapors. These vapors quickly affect the soldiers' sensory perceptions, temporarily disabling them from combat, causing intense tearing, asphyxiation, heart muscle swelling, dizziness, nausea, conjunctivitis, tracheobronchitis, disorientation, and mental depression, significantly limiting their ability to participate in combat operations. Typical clinical symptoms of the injury include cephalgic syndrome, inhalation irritation (poisoning), and tinnitus.

Furthermore, prosecutors from the Luhansk Regional Prosecutor's Office are overseeing criminal proceedings (No. 22024130000000544, dated 21.10.2024) related to crimes under Article 438, Part 1 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine, concerning the use of munitions with an unidentified chemical substance by Russian armed forces against UAF positions in the Makiyivka and Novovodyane areas of Svatove District, Luhansk Oblast, in October of the previous year, resulting in injuries to UAF servicemen.

Based on the results of three expert examinations of special chemical substances, the use of chemical weapons, specifically CS substances, has been confirmed. These substances are classified as chemical agents used to combat mass unrest. Two additional expert tests are currently ongoing.

In criminal proceedings No. 22025130000000076, dated 03.02.2025, for crimes under Article 438, Part 1 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine, overseen by the Luhansk Regional Prosecutor's Office, it has been established that Russian armed forces used munitions with an unidentified chemical substance on 31.01.2025, resulting in injuries to a UAF serviceman at positions near Bilohorivka in the Severodonetsk District, Luhansk Oblast. According to the victim's testimony, during his deployment on combat positions on 31.01.2025, he was exposed to various types of gas from UAV-dropped munitions. The white gas caused fatigue, drowsiness, dizziness, nausea, dry mouth, loss of voice, and coughing with sputum. A transparent, sweet-tasting gas complicated breathing, caused dry mouth, nausea, and affected the eyes and open wounds.



Additionally, investigators from the SSU (Security Service of Ukraine) in the Kherson region, under the procedural guidance of prosecutors from the Kherson Regional Prosecutor's Office, are conducting a pre-trial investigation in criminal case No. 22024230000000105, dated 26.02.2024, concerning possible chemical weapon use by Russian servicemen against Ukraine's Security and Defense Forces.

During the pre-trial investigation, 11 possible cases of such weapon usage were recorded. On 13.02.2024, 17.02.2024, 18.04.2024, 22.05.2024, 05.08.2024, 26.10.2024, 27.10.2024, 28.10.2024, 30.10.2024, 25.12.2024, and 30.01.2025, military units of the aggressor state used UAVs to drop specially designed containers with chemical substances, including those marked "RG-Vo 862-4-23," on UAF positions.

The victims reported that after these drops, a white-yellow dense smoke spread across the area. Upon sensing the sharp gas odor, Ukrainian soldiers donned personal protective equipment, but the chemical substance still affected their mucous membranes, causing intense eye and respiratory irritation, accompanied by a burning and painful sensation in their eyes, nose, throat, and lungs. Respiratory irritation led to sneezing, coughing, nasal congestion, and a feeling of suffocation.

Following inspections of the weapon deployment sites, law enforcement agencies recovered remnants of containers with chemical substances (preliminarily identified as chloropicrin) and munitions marked "RG-Vo 862-4-23" with chemical substances (preliminarily identified as chloracetophenone).

3. National Police of Ukraine

The Investigative Department of the Main Directorate of the National Police in Kharkiv Region is conducting a pre-trial investigation in one criminal proceeding, initiated on 01.02.2024 under Article 438 (Violation of the Laws and Customs of War) of the Criminal Code of Ukraine (hereinafter – the Criminal Code of Ukraine), regarding the use of chemical weapons by military units of the Russian Armed Forces or other Russian agencies on the front line.

The pre-trial investigation in this criminal case is ongoing, with necessary investigative (search) and procedural actions being carried out, aimed at a complete, comprehensive, and impartial examination of the circumstances of the criminal offense, which can be conducted in the conditions of an armed conflict.

4. Ministry of internal affairs of Ukraine

Units of the National Guard of Ukraine are carrying out tasks to repel the armed aggression of the Russian Federation (hereinafter referred to as the Russian Federation) against Ukraine as part of the Security and Defense Forces and are under the operational command of the Armed Forces of Ukraine. The detection, collection, processing, generalization, and issuance of information on the use of chemical weapons across the entire combat zone is entrusted to the Calculative-Analytical Center of the Armed Forces of Ukraine.

Since 2022, a total of 467 military personnel of the National Guard of Ukraine have sought medical assistance in the combat zone with signs of chemical exposure.

According to medical staff providing first aid to the wounded and affected individuals, the main symptoms of exposure are shortness of breath, coughing, and dizziness. Given that qualified medical assistance was provided to military personnel with signs of chemical poisoning at nearby medical facilities, regardless of ownership, more time is needed for a more accurate description of clinical symptoms and detailed analysis.

According to the information from the State Hospital of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine in Kryvyi Rih, on August 5, 2024, in the area of the settlement of Berislav in the Kherson region, while performing official combat tasks, 4 military personnel of the National Guard of Ukraine suffered acute poisoning from the chemical warfare agent "Chloroacetophenone" of moderate severity due to the release of a gas grenade from an enemy FPV drone. Clinical symptoms: nasal congestion, ear congestion, facial numbness, headache, hyperemia and itching of the throat, difficulty in nasal breathing, sleeplessness, irritability, panic attacks, anxiety, and fear.

Since the beginning of the full-scale Russian invasion of Ukraine, the following military personnel have been treated for poisoning with unknown chemical warfare agents:

- a) State Clinical Hospital of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine in the Zaporizhzhia region – 36 patients (military personnel).
- b) State Clinical Hospital of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine in the Sumy region – 6 patients (military personnel of the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine).
- c) State Clinical Hospital of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine in the Khmelnytskyi region – 2 patients.