



**Permanent Representation  
of Ukraine to the OPCW**

***English only***

*Point 5 General debate*

**Statement by the delegation of Ukraine at the 108<sup>th</sup> session of the Executive Council**

**Mr. Chairperson, Director-General,  
Excellencies,**

Let me extend the warm welcome to His Excellency Ambassador Andrés Terán Parral (Ecuador) who officially guides our work as a Chairman. We assure you of our full support throughout the work of the 108th session of the Executive Council.

Ukraine fully associates itself with the statement delivered by H.E. Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Poland to the OPCW Margareta Kassangana on behalf of the European Union.

Ukraine is honored to participate in this important session and address the global community regarding the importance of collective security and the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, including chemical weapons.

Ukraine fully complies with the provisions the CWC and undertakes efforts to improve its implementation at the national level. Being a responsible state in the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, Ukraine will continue to take comprehensive measures aimed at achieving our common goal - a world free of chemical weapons.

Recently, we have marked 3 years of the full-scale war by the Russian Federation against Ukraine. It is an entirely unprovoked, unjustified and unlawful act of aggression that has caused immeasurable suffering and devastation. Since February 24, 2022, Ukraine has been defending steadfastly its sovereignty, territory, and people against the brutality of Russia's war.

As rightly stated in the resolution adopted by the UN General Assembly "Advancing a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in Ukraine" (A/RES/ES-11/7 2025-02-24) there is *I quote* "... the need for full implementation of its relevant resolutions adopted in response to the aggression against Ukraine, in particular its demand that the Russian Federation immediately, completely and unconditionally withdraw all of its military forces from the territory of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders, and its demand for an immediate cessation of the hostilities by the Russian Federation against Ukraine, in particular of any attacks against civilians and civilian objects" – *end of the quote*.

Russia has repeatedly violated international law, including the Chemical Weapons Convention. The use of prohibited chemical substances by Russia against Ukrainian Security and Defense Forces undermines the framework for non-proliferation and disarmament, which strongly bans the use of chemical weapons. Thus, this pillar of global security is being currently jeopardized due to such actions of the Russian Federation.

Ukraine remains committed to peace, justice, and holding accountable all those who commit crimes related to violations of the Chemical Weapons Convention.

Thus, the global community, including the OPCW, must continue to stand with Ukraine in its struggle, ensuring that Russia is held accountable for its aggression.

The OPCW's role in maintaining global peace and eliminating the threat of chemical weapons is now more crucial than ever.

**Mr. Chairperson,**

Ukraine upholds the principles of the CWC, consistently condemning the use of chemical weapons. At the same time, we have become a state which constantly suffers from the CWC violation by another OPCW Member state – Russia. It serves as a reminder of why we must collectively comply with the Convention and ensure full accountability for those who breach it.

In this context let me remind you about the need to ensure accountability for the most serious crimes under international law committed on the territory of Ukraine through appropriate, fair and independent investigations and prosecutions at the national or international level, and ensure justice for all victims and the prevention of future crimes, including the war crimes committed by the Russian Federation with the use of riot control agents (RCA) as a method of warfare against Ukraine in blatant violation of the paragraph 5 of the Article 1 of the Chemical Weapons Convention.

**Mr. Chairperson,**

The OPCW's vital work includes, inter alia, verifying the destruction of chemical weapon stockpiles, investigating reports of chemical weapon use, and providing technical assistance to countries. These efforts support global security and contribute to the strengthening of international norms against the use of chemical weapons.

Ukraine calls on the OPCW and its member states to continue its essential work, particularly in addressing the violations committed by Russia, and ensuring accountability for the use of chemical weapons in this war of aggression.

Let me express my gratitude for all the statements made by the OPCW member states in support of Ukraine in its heroic struggle in the war unleashed by the Russian Federation.

In closing, Ukraine stands ready to work with all states parties represented here today to ensure that the world is free of chemical weapons and that those who threaten peace and security are held accountable for their actions. In this context, Ukraine has decided to nominate its candidacy from the Eastern European Group for membership in the Executive Council of the OPCW for the period 2026-2028. We count on the support of Ukraine's candidacy from the States Parties to the Convention during the elections in November 2025.

I would kindly ask you to consider this statement as an official document of the 108<sup>th</sup> session of the Executive council and post it on the OPCW external server and public website.

**Thank you for your attention.**