



English only

**Permanent Representation
of Ukraine to the OPCW**

Point 5 General debate

**Statement by the delegation of Ukraine at the 110th session of the Executive
Council**

Mr Chairperson,

Director-General,

Excellencies,

Ladies and gentlemen,

Ukraine is grateful to the Chairperson, H.E. Ambassador Thomas Schieb, for his leadership and efficient steering of the Executive Council. We assure him of our full support in guiding the work of the 110th session of the Executive Council.

Ukraine fully associates itself with the statement delivered by the European Union.

Mr. Chairperson,

The Russian Federation's ongoing full-scale war of aggression continues endangering international peace and security, undermining the very pillars of the rules-based international order. This aggression is no longer confined to Ukraine alone. What began as an assault on one nation is now expanding across Europe, taking the form of a hybrid war targeting Ukraine's neighbours and the broader region. We are dealing with the utter irresponsibility of those who have never valued lives of their citizens, not to mention any other human life. Kremlin resorts to nuclear threats, cynically using the threat of mass destruction as a political tool. We must acknowledge that the Russian Federation continues to escalate its aggression by relentlessly targeting Ukraine's civilian population and critical infrastructure. **Through these actions, Moscow clearly demonstrates its true attitude toward the peace process so strongly advocated by the international community.**

A strong and united international response is essential — not only to uphold justice, but to send an unmistakable signal that the use of chemical weapons and blatant violations of international law will meet a firm and collective response.

Mr. Chairperson,

The Russian Federation has a long documented history of chemical weapons use, from the poisoning of Alexei Navalny and the Skripals to its support for the Assad regime's chemical attacks against civilians. Today, in Ukraine, the Russian Federation continues to deploy toxic chemicals and riot control agents as weapons of war. **In fact,**

the Russian Federation can be considered as greatest violator of the Chemical Weapons Convention in the history of the OPCW.

It is intolerable that the Russian Federation continues holding positions within the OPCW's decision-making bodies while perpetrating such violations. Those representing the Russian Federation lack any moral legitimacy to take part or shape the work of this Organisation. We call on all States Parties to oppose the Russian Federation's candidacy for the Executive Council for the upcoming term and prevent it from using this platform to avoid responsibility.

Mr. Chairperson,

Ukraine remains strongly committed to the full implementation and advancement of the objectives of the Chemical Weapons Convention. Contribution to smooth and consensus-based decision-making of the Executive Council and the OPCW in general is essential to Ukraine. We actively and fully cooperate with the OPCW to eliminate the threat of chemical weapons and uphold international norms. **In this regard, Ukraine would like to call the States Parties for the support of its candidacy for the Executive Council in the 2026–2028 term.**

The OPCW's credibility and its ability to fully and effectively carry out its mandate rely on our shared determination to defend justice, accountability, and the rule of law. This determination must be backed by action—by showing that **violations of the Convention bring tangible consequences**. The entire international community needs this.

Therefore, Ukraine emphasizes the importance of strengthening international **attribution mechanisms** to clearly identify those responsible for chemical weapons use. We welcome the work of the OPCW Technical Secretariat and we commend our intense cooperation to ensure that perpetrators, organizers, and sponsors of such crimes are identified and held accountable.

We insist that inaction would encourage the Russian Federation to persist in its further assault and inspire new acts of aggression elsewhere. Unity is crucial—we must defend the principles on which the OPCW stands. We must affirm our shared commitment to peace, justice, accountability, and deterrence.

I kindly request that this statement be considered an official document of the 110th Session of the Executive Council and posted on the OPCW's external server and public website.

Thank you for your attention.