



Explanation of vote by Permanent Representative Vassily Nebenzia Following the UNSC Vote on a US-Drafted Resolution on Ukraine

24 February 2025

Mr. President,

We acknowledge the constructive changes in the United States position on the Ukrainian conflict. And the draft resolution we have considered today appears to be an attempt to put these changes into practice. We also understand the rationale why the sponsors went for such a short and generalized text.

In order to support this generally sensible approach, Russia decided not to propose any substantive additions to the text. We limited ourselves to only two proposals, very modest but important ones in terms of ensuring that UN Security Council assesses the Ukrainian crisis correctly. We regret that our amendments were not adopted.

The European delegations both in the General Assembly and in the Security Council took the position of openly sabotaging the emerging positive developments towards a settlement of the crisis. They have tried to add to the text unbalanced, politicized passages that in no way could bring peace closer, but rather are geared at disrupting such prospects. Even the proposal to adhere to the UN Charter was framed quite slyly, since out of all the principles, they emphasized only one – the respect for the territorial integrity of States, whereas the respect for human rights and the right of nations to self-determination was something that the EU and the UK were trying not to mention with regard to Ukraine, even though it is the non-compliance by the Kiev regime with precisely those principles that lies at the heart of the Ukrainian conflict. We could not allow such a substitution of concepts.

It is obvious that militarized Europe is now the only player on the international arena that wants the war to go on and fiercely resist any viable initiatives to resolve the conflict.

The text we passed today is not an ideal one, but in essence it is the first attempt to have a constructive and future-oriented product in the Council, and it is about peace not about blowing the conflict up. And the conflict has a very complex genesis and does not boil down to a confrontation between the Russian Federation and Ukraine, unlike what Ukraine itself and its European puppeteers are trying to convince us of.

We view the adopted text as a starting point for further efforts towards a peaceful settlement of the Ukrainian crisis. But these efforts will not bear fruit unless constructive cooperation among the key global players on the issues of European and international security is restored. The outlines of this cooperation can already be traced in the American text, and this inspires a certain optimism.

But let us not get too excited: the “party of war” (which is the Kiev regime and its European sponsors) has by no means given up, and today's attempt to spoil and distort the American text clearly demonstrate that.

We urge everyone who genuinely wants to achieve lasting peace in Ukraine to not allow the expired

princeling of Kiev and his puppeteers to derail the efforts undertaken by Russia and the United States.

Thank you.

Video of the statement