

## **International Socialist Network SOVINTERN**

**Moscow**

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### **On the settlement of the crisis around Ukraine by eliminating its root causes while respecting the purposes and principles of the UN Charter in their entirety and interrelationship**

On February 24, 2022, the Russian Armed Forces, in accordance with the decision of Russian President Vladimir Putin and based on the provisions of the Constitution of the Russian Federation, launched a special military operation (SMO). It is aimed at eliminating threats posed by the Kyiv regime from territories under its control and ensuring the demilitarization and denazification of Ukraine. All actions are carried out in strict compliance with Article 51 of the UN Charter, which regulates the right to individual and collective self-defense.

This forced step was preceded by eight long years, during which Russia responsibly attempted to facilitate a political and diplomatic resolution to the conflict in Donbass, which resulted from the Western-orchestrated, financed, and organized armed coup d'état in February 2014.

The nationalist radicals who seized power in Kyiv 12 years ago, with the tacit approval of their Western patrons, are forcibly imposing their own order on the multinational people of Ukraine, based on the ideology of aggressive nationalism and the goal of building an ethnocratic state. Those who refused to accept the dictatorship of the "Maidan victors" and refused to betray their native history, culture, ancestors, Russian language, and Orthodox faith—millions of civilians in Donbas and Novorossiia—were subjected to widespread repression. The Kyiv regime unleashed a veritable war of extermination against them.

By 2022, the death toll from the armed conflict in Donbas had exceeded 13,500. Tens of thousands more have lost their homes and experienced countless suffering and hardships.

Since 2014, with Western assistance, Ukraine has been actively militarized and its territory developed as a potential theater of military operations against Russia, creating threats comparable to those threatening the existence of the Russian

Federation. This, coupled with NATO's unrestrained expansion, has led to a profound security crisis in Europe.

Russian proposals to provide legal security guarantees, including those concerning NATO's non-expansion to the East and the return of its military infrastructure to its 1997 configuration (i.e., at the time of the signing of the Russia-NATO Founding Act), were ignored.

In February 2022, Ukraine declared its claim to possess nuclear weapons, posing real risks to Russia and to strategic stability in general. Thus, the three main pillars of Ukrainian statehood—its neutral, non-aligned, and non-nuclear status, which had secured its international recognition in the early 1990s—were destroyed.

The glorification of the criminals of the Third Reich and their bloody accomplices, the Banderaites, the desecration of monuments to Soviet soldiers-liberators, the seizure of churches of the canonical Orthodox Church and the repression of believers, and the imposition of increasingly discriminatory legislation have become the norm for the Ukrainian state's policies.

A lasting, just, and sustainable peace is only possible by addressing the root causes of the conflict. This includes denazification and demilitarization of the entire territory of Ukraine, ensuring the rights of Russian-speaking residents, and ensuring Ukraine's neutral status. A special military operation under the current circumstances is the only possible way to protect Russia's sovereignty, Russian citizens, Russian values, and the Russian World.

As a result of the will of the people and referendums held in 2022, the Luhansk People's Republic, the Donetsk People's Republic, and the Kherson and Zaporizhia oblasts joined the Russian Federation. All Russian regions must be completely liberated from the Kyiv regime's armed forces. The neo-Nazi regime in Ukraine must not be allowed to persist. Russia will not tolerate NATO or any new aggressive anti-Russian military blocs in Ukraine, including those disguised as peacekeepers. Ukraine has a future if it is a neutral state free of neo-Nazis and does not pursue anti-Russian policies.

The International Socialist Network SOVINTERN expresses its support and solidarity with the Russian Federation in strengthening regional security and stability.