

ПОСТІЙНЕ ПРЕДСТАВНИЦТВО
УКРАЇНИ ПРИ ОРГАНІЗАЦІЇ
ОБ'ЄДНАНИХ НАЦІЙ



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OF UKRAINE TO
THE UNITED NATIONS

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The Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations presents its compliments to the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs and has the honor to transmit herewith the information of Ukraine with respect to the provisions of the United Nations General Assembly resolutions 71/39 “Confidence-building measures in the regional and subregional context”, 71/41 “Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels”, 71/62 “Relationship between disarmament and development” and 70/21 “Objective information on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures”.

The Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs the assurances of its highest consideration.



April 27, 2017

N.Y.

**United Nations Office
for Disarmament Affairs**

New York

Enclosures

ODA
OFFICE OF THE
DIRECTOR

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**Information of Ukraine with respect to the UN General Assembly resolution 71/39
“Confidence building measures in the regional and subregional context”**

Ukraine’s consistent commitment to enhancing transparency and predictability in the military field, including through effective confidence building measures (CBMs), remains unchanged. Moreover, it has been reinforced by the ongoing Russian aggression against our country.

Ukraine continues to support all respective region-wide, as well as the OSCE-wide, sub-regional and bilateral CBMs, has been actively participating in the modernization of the OSCE Vienna Document on CSBMs (VD), and advocates expanding the scope of their application. Also, becoming a victim of Russia’s hybrid war, Ukraine favours tightening intrusiveness of these measures, including through lowering the thresholds for notification and observation of military exercises, which can be used as means of intimidation and preparation for direct military aggression, especially against neighbouring states. Ukraine also favours an increase in the number of inspections and the composition of inspection teams, the strengthening of risk reduction mechanisms, including through the use of fact-finding missions, and constant assessment of the efficiency of CBMs’ instruments, including from the perspective of their applicability, usefulness and viability during an armed conflict, in order to preclude a repeat of Ukraine’s tragic case anywhere else.

Ukraine attaches great importance to bilateral CBMs with neighbouring countries in border areas. To date, Ukraine has entered into relevant bilateral agreements with the Republic of Poland, Hungary, the Slovak Republic, the Republic of Belarus, and Romania. Conducting inspections on a parity basis pursuant to these agreements confirmed their practical usefulness for maintaining and deepening trust, friendly relations and military-political cooperation between involved countries in the interest of enhancing and complementing the European confidence and security-building process.

Noteworthy features of these bilateral CBMs regimes, which may be borrowed by others in CBM’s design or improvement, are: the observation of military activities starting from the tactical level; prohibition of conducting military exercises on a battalion level and above at a distance of 10-20 kilometres from the border; application of CBMs near the border not only to activities of the armed forces, but also other power bodies; the possibility of extending inspections for an additional period of time and their expansion to battalion-level units.

Regrettably, Ukraine’s former numerous proposals to enter into a similar agreement with Russia were rejected by the Russian side. Also the Russian Federation has put into an ongoing state of impasse such sub-regional military cooperation and confidence building arrangement of the Black Sea littoral states as CSBMs in the Naval Field in the Black Sea initiated by Ukraine.

Notwithstanding the deteriorated security situation in the OSCE area caused by the current Kremlin leadership’s behaviour, Ukraine believes that the experience gained in the OSCE area with the development of the CBMs deserves appropriate attention and accordingly, that the VD that has generated a great deal of experience in the field of confidence building can serve as a viable example for similar arrangements in other world regions.