

ATHENA

FOREIGN POLICY SPEECH

MSc Course

"The EU and the Post-Soviet Space"

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DE CARLUCCIO

AS

JOSEP BORREL

High Representative for
Foreign Affairs and Security
Policy of the European
Union



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- Jean Monnet Chair -



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Context

This speech is set in an alternative timeline: the missile that crossed into the Polish village of Przewodow and killed two people on 15th November 2022 was found to be Russian-made and fired from Russia. Despite the firm denial of the Russian defence ministry, NATO's analysis believes it was intended as an attack to test the West's response to a potential escalation. Poland has triggered Article 4 of NATO, beginning close consultations with NATO members to decide the appropriate response. As a result, NATO has decided to considerably augment Poland's air defence and Ukraine's air defence as well, though avoiding an all-out war or direct nuclear confrontation. I impersonate Josep Borell, the High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy of the European Union, in giving an unprecedented speech at the UN Security Council in New York on November 18th 2022 (three days after the missile explosion). All 15 Security Council members are present, including Russia, which is represented by Vasily Nebenzya, the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations.

Further details

I was inspired by some of the speeches already held by Borrell at the UN

Security Council in September. The phrase “a chemically pure attack on the United Nations

Charter” is a direct quote. This is the link: https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/ukraine-speech-high-representative-josep-borrell-un-security-council_en.

In addition: <https://www.euronews.com/my-europe/2022/10/13/the-russian-army-will-be-annihilated-if-it-launches-a-nuclear-attack-warns-josep-borrell>.

Speech

Madam Chairman, esteemed colleagues, and representatives...

I stand before you today to give a speech I hoped never to give.

Our presence at this emergency Council session today is a testimony to my sentiment. For the first time since the Cuban Missile Crisis, the peace of the entire world is under threat. The possibility of nuclear confrontation, and thus a global disaster, has never been greater. One and only one actor present among us today is responsible for this!

In this very same room two months ago, I already mentioned how Russia's illegal, brutal, and senseless war against Ukraine has not only brought havoc upon the world, but it is also a chemically pure attack on the United Nations Charter.

The event of three days ago is blatant proof – Russia's fanaticism and poor judgement driven by Anti-Western ideology has led them to attack us, to test our response so that they can keep escalating a conflict that is already morally lost!

The missile attack in Poland was indeed shocking – an attack on a NATO member, a European Union member state, as if no international law mattered to this terrorist state anymore!

Let me say that the European Union fully supports Poland and its decision to invoke Article 4 of the NATO alliance. Our collective investigation found the attack to be a likely deliberate confrontation rather than a mere accident. This will not go unanswered.

Already as I speak, NATO troops on the entire eastern front have been doubled, approaching 80.000, with more on the way. In an unprecedented move, each EU member state has deployed additional military equipment and troops to Poland's border with Ukraine.

Let this be clear and resonate in this room: NATO and the EU will not unleash nuclear catastrophe on the world, no matter how senseless Russia's actions become.

Our unprecedented response is and will continue to be conventional and defensive! Following Russia's latest escalation, we decided to increase Poland's air defence considerably. Additionally, as we consider Ukraine to be the de facto first line of defence of the alliance, we have agreed to also increase its air defence. Most importantly, from now on, any Russian attack on Ukraine's borders with NATO and EU members will be dealt with appropriately.

And let me reassure everyone as I already did months before this senseless provocation – Putin should not be bluffing about any nuclear attack.

Should Russia ever decide to launch a nuclear strike against Ukraine, our response would be swift and proportionate: no less than the complete annihilation of the Russian army by conventional military means.

Finally, I want to appeal to you, Mr. Vasily Nebenzya, to stop this. Stop this senseless invasion. Stop these horrendous atrocities. Encourage your President and your country to commit to the United Nations Charter and the respect of international law. The more you go down this path of destruction, the more your country will be called to account for all the atrocities committed against the people of Ukraine, and the world.

Thank you.