



Newsletter of the

## Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Donetsk People's Republic

### Main news of the Republic (from October 23 to 30)

***In the period from October 27 to 28, the next round of negotiations took place. The meetings of the Contact Group and the working groups to resolve the conflict in Donbass were held in the form of video conferences.***

In response to the Republics' initiative on the Roadmap, Ukraine has undertaken to submit its appropriate project

The result of today's negotiating round was the commitment of the official Kiev representatives to submit for discussion their counter-proposals on the draft Roadmap.

“We welcome that the Ukrainian party has finally undertaken to develop and submit its own version of such an important comprehensive document as an action plan to resolve the conflict in accordance with the Minsk agreements. Next Wednesday, we expect the corresponding document from the official Kiev for further review and analysis.

We hope that this draft will cover, like the version we provided earlier, all negotiating areas and issues, including amendments to the Constitution, and also contain clear deadlines for the fulfillment of settlement obligations so that the Contact Group participants could begin to discuss and agree on a consolidated version of the Roadmap.

A consensus must be found and a single document agreed upon, which will be approved by the Verkhovna Rada, thereby simultaneously confirming Ukraine's adherence to the Minsk agreements and the mandate of its representatives in the negotiations. In turn, this will allow unblocking the work of all profile groups and achieve real, practical progress” - Natalia Nikonorova told about the Contact Group sitting.

The DPR Plenipotentiary expressed hope for continued effective work in the format of written proposals exchange. Only when the written positions of the parties appear on the negotiating table, it is possible to start substantive and effective work on all negotiation tracks.

***Natalia Nikonorova commented the extraordinary video conference of the working group on security issues***

We have repeatedly called for focusing the group's work on clarifying the functionality of the coordination mechanism to prevent violations with the help of JCCC in the current form. Since the lack of a common understanding of such functionality led to Ukraine's withdrawal from the agreements on measures to strengthen the ceasefire regime of July 22, 2020, as a result of which there is an aggravation on the contact line.

Of course, the only issue of an unscheduled videoconference will be precisely the achievement of a consensus regarding the work of the coordination mechanism with the widest possible range of interaction methods, including joint inspections to confirm or refute the facts of violations, and agreeing on an updated package of measures to strengthen the ceasefire regime.

At the moment, we really see a tendency towards an increase in violations of the ceasefire by the AFU, including the facts of opening targeted fire in all directions, even with the use of prohibited weapons.

Yesterday, as a result of the enemy's grenade launcher fragmentation round with the use of UAV in the area of the settlement of Naberezhnoe, a serviceman of the DPR People's Militia was killed, the striking elements found at the site of an ammunition explosion and a downed UAV demonstrate that the enemy's goal was to inflict maximum damage on civilians.

In addition, attacks with 82 and 120 mm mortars were increasingly recorded. On October 28, the AFU opened fire on the DPR territory using anti-tank guided missiles. Twice in a month, repair teams came under fire, despite the additionally confirmed security guarantees.

To prevent such situations, we are obliged to use all possible means to promptly agree on a package of measures to strengthen the ceasefire regime, including detailed parameters for the functioning of the coordination mechanism of interaction to prevent violations of the ceasefire by the JCCC forces in the current form, including conducting joint inspections.

We have repeatedly called on the Ukrainian party to intensify work in this direction, but there was no response. We hope that the representatives of Kiev have finally realized the pernicious nature of their withdrawal from the agreements on measures to strengthen the ceasefire of July 22, 2020 and the urgent need to agree on an updated package of measures. We hope that at the upcoming sitting we will nevertheless be able to achieve concrete results in this direction.