

STATEMENT OF THE EUROPEAN UNION BY H.E. AMBASSADOR MARKUS LEINONEN EU LIAISON OFFICER TO THE HAGUE EUROPEAN EXTERNAL ACTION SERVICE AT THE 29th SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF STATES PARTIES TO THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION

(The Hague, 25 - 29 November 2024)

Agenda item 18 – Fostering of international cooperation for peaceful purposes in the field of chemical activities -Additional statement

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the European Union.

This statement is in relation to the intervention made by the Russian delegations under this agenda item claiming that its fertilizers are embargoed in European ports.

There are European Union restrictive measures that aim to curb Russia's ability to conduct and finance its war of aggression against Ukraine and which impose costs on those responsible for this unprovoked and unjustified aggression. They are carefully crafted to avoid any unintended consequences for food security of third countries around the world. They are not extraterritorial and only apply within EU jurisdiction.

The EU measures do not target the trade in agricultural products, including fertilizers between Russia and third countries. Russia's claim that sanctions are blocking its fertilizers are contradicted by the available data. The port embargo specifically includes full exemptions of agricultural goods.

Statistics available – including those of Russian origin – demonstrate that Russian exports of grain and fertilizers have remained very high, sometimes even hitting record levels, brining significantly increased incomes to finance its war of aggression.

Thank you for your attention.

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