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Chancellor Scholz is on the phone with Russian President Putin

The spokesman for the federal government, Steffen Hebestreit, reports:

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Press and Information Office of the Federal Government (BPA)

Chancellor Olaf Scholz spoke to Russia's President Vladimir Putin this afternoon (September 13). The conversation followed the Chancellor's telephone conversation with the Ukrainian President Zelenskyj last week (September 7). The 90-minute talk was devoted to the ongoing Russian war against Ukraine and its aftermath.

Given the seriousness of the military situation and the consequences of the war in Ukraine, the Chancellor urged the Russian President to find a diplomatic solution as soon as possible, based on a ceasefire, a complete withdrawal of Russian troops and respect for territorial integrity and sovereignty of Ukraine. The Federal Chancellor emphasized that any further Russian annexation steps would not go unanswered and would under no circumstances be recognised.

The Federal Chancellor called on the Russian President to treat captured combatants in accordance with the provisions of international humanitarian law, in particular the Geneva Conventions, and to ensure unhindered access for the International Committee of the Red Cross.

With regard to the situation at the Zaporizhia nuclear power plant, the Federal Chancellor emphasized the need to ensure the safety of the nuclear power plant. In this context, the Federal Chancellor called for any escalation steps to be avoided and for the measures recommended in the report of the International Atomic Energy Agency to be implemented immediately.

The Federal Chancellor and the Russian President also spoke about the global food situation, which is particularly tense as a result of the Russian war of aggression. The Chancellor emphasized the important role of the grain agreement under the aegis of the United Nations and appealed to the Russian President not to discredit the agreement and to continue to fully implement it.

The Chancellor and the Russian President agreed to remain in contact.