

# *Ukrainian Nuclear Blackmail Raises Tension in Eastern Europe*

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Kiev, Apr 3 (PL- RHC), -- Former Ukrainian Foreign Minister, Vladimir Ogryzko, added an element of tension to the environment of contradictions between Russia and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) by insisting that the West should opt for Ukraine with nuclear weapons or within the military alliance.

A number of countries that should guarantee Ukraine's preservation of its territorial integrity and security have not complied with their obligations by virtue of the Memorandum of Budapest, said Ogryzko, who was the foreign minister from 2007 to 2009.

“Part of Ukraine's territory has been occupied and now there are only two ways to stop the aggression against Ukraine: either joining NATO or resuming the nuclear status of the State”, said Ogryzko, quoted by the news agency UNN, when referring to the reunification between Crimea and Russia.

According to the ex-foreign minister, the best option would be to join NATO, but “the inaction of the guarantors of Ukraine's security leads to the notion that a nuclear weapon can stop alleged attacks on the

country”, he added.

If any western country prevents Ukraine from becoming a NATO member, then the so-called "nuclear stick" will preserve Ukraine's independence, said Ogryzko, in tune with statements by other extremist elements linked to the incumbent authorities in Kiev.

Asked about how long it will take Ukraine to develop nuclear weapons, Ogryzko said that he was not a nuclear physicist, but as far as he knows, it is a short-term process whenever there is the necessary material.

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