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Angela Merkel on the Minsk agreements:

5 March 2015: "If the Minsk Agreements are seriously violated, European leaders and the European Commission stand ready to prepare and impose new sanctions."

October 20, 2016: "We discussed a work process that has many sides and that needs to be taken into account when working on topics such as security, political process. And this should continue within the framework of the roadmap for the various steps of the Set of Measures for the Implementation of the Minsk Agreements. And that's progress."

February 18, 2017: Minsk is all we have. Unfortunately, I cannot say that all points of the Minsk agreements have been fulfilled. A long-term ceasefire is needed. My opinion is that we shouldn't throw away the only thing we have."

March 17, 2017: "I was very pleased to learn that the US administration and the president personally are committed to the Minsk process. We need to find a solution to this problem. A safe and secure solution must be found for Ukraine, but relations with Russia must also be improved as the situation becomes clearer. The Minsk agreements are a good basis, but, unfortunately, we have not yet reached the process we expected. However, in the coming months, we will continue to work on this issue together with our experts."

May 20, 2017: "The issue of security, as presented in the Minsk agreements, is a prerequisite for further progress in the political process."

September 2 2017: "In the field of security policy in Europe, we must do everything to improve our contacts again. This includes the implementation of "Minsk". If this works out, then we would have a starting point for even more and more intensive dialogue."

April 10, 2018: "We discussed the situation that is developing in connection with the implementation of the Minsk agreements. Despite the complexity of the situation, we must not relax efforts, because we are talking about people. Germany and France will continue to look for a way out of the situation together with Ukraine and the Russian Federation."

August 18, 2018: "We must work to find a solution. This concerns, firstly, the issue of Ukraine. We've been working on this for quite some time now. The basis is and remains - it is the Minsk Agreements. Although it must be stated that we do not yet have a stable truce."

November 1, 2018: "If there is progress, then we can ease these sanctions. Unfortunately, now the situation is such that the "Minsk agreements" are not observed. If something is done, then only a millimeter forward and immediately back. Germany will also advocate the continuation of these sanctions."

December 10, 2019: "There is a question, is this document set in stone, or can it be changed. After all, there are certain proposals by President Zelensky to change it. <...> We hope that this document will again be flexible, and it will be revived."

December 7, 2022: "The Minsk agreements of 2014 were an attempt to give Ukraine time. It used this time to become stronger, as you can see today. Ukraine 2014-2015 is not Ukraine today. <...> It was clear to all of us that the conflict was frozen, that the problem had not been resolved, but this gave Ukraine precious time."

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43 comments

