



In the world → Military operation in Ukraine

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## Shoigu says Russia has no plans to use nuclear or chemical weapons in Ukraine

Moscow. August 16th. INTERFAX.RU - Russia has no plans to use tactical nuclear or chemical weapons in Ukraine, Russian Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu said.

"Against this background, the media are spreading speculation about the alleged use of Russian tactical nuclear weapons during a special military operation or about the readiness to use chemical weapons. All these informational stuffing is an absolute lie," Shoigu said at an international security conference.

"From a military point of view, there is no need to use nuclear weapons in Ukraine to achieve the goals set. The main purpose of Russian nuclear weapons is to deter a nuclear attack. Its use is limited to emergency circumstances, which are defined in Russian guiding documents that are open to the public," the minister said. .

"Allegations about the possible use of chemical weapons in Ukraine are also absurd. Let me remind you that, unlike the United States, such weapons were completely destroyed in our country back in 2017 as part of the fulfillment of international obligations. At the same time, provocations using toxic substances have become a hallmark Western-sponsored so-called public organizations like the White Helmets in Syria," Shoigu said.

"Information provocations are aimed at diverting attention from the facts discovered in Ukraine of prohibited military biological research by US specialists," he said.

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Ukraine Ministry of Defense of the Russian Federation

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