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**STATEMENT BY MR. ANDREY RUDENKO,
DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
RUSSIAN FEDERATION, AT THE 1038th MEETING OF THE
OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

5 February 2015

On the report by the United States Senate Select Committee on torture

Mr. Chairperson,

Two months have already passed since the report on the results of the United States Senate investigation into the use of methods of torture was issued.

Unfortunately, neither in the United States itself nor in the European countries that were involved in that programme alongside the United States, nothing has yet been done to penalize the perpetrators or to restore justice. We have not been informed of any plans to call to account those who consented to secret prisons being located in their countries and who facilitated the transit of detainees who were subsequently subjected to inhumane treatment and torture.

Of course the names of the United States' partner countries that were involved in these programmes have been judiciously excised from the report. However, open sources and the reports of human rights organizations directly mention the involvement of a number of European countries in implementing programmes on abductions and secret CIA prisons.

In the report recently published by Amnesty International, "Breaking the conspiracy of silence: USA's European 'partners in crime' must act after Senate torture report", it is notable that the information that has come into the public domain proffers only a brief glimpse of the reality of the multiple human rights violations during the CIA's anti-terrorist operations. In addition to the information on the use of torture methods, Amnesty International draws attention to the fact that many European States were deeply involved in the global network to transfer detainees using airspace and airports for their illegal transport worldwide, circumventing the law. Specifically, Poland, Romania, Lithuania, the United Kingdom, Germany and several other countries were involved to a greater or lesser extent in the programme of secret CIA prisons and the illegal transfer and transport of detainees.

It is quite possible that further study of the Senate investigation material will bring to light additional unsightly aspects of these programmes. Above all, the publication of the

report should not stop at only establishing the facts of human rights violations without any consequences whatsoever for the perpetrators.

What Amnesty International has called a conspiracy of silence is a blatant instance of double standards. We often hear our American and European Union colleagues calling for the realization of fundamental freedoms and human rights, observance of the rule of law and combating impunity. To be sure, these calls are mainly directed at countries to the east of Vienna. It would be desirable also to apply such a principled approach to the situation at home and for all those who were involved in implementing this criminal programme to be penalized. We call on the United States authorities to assist their European partners in the investigation as required, without leaving requests unanswered, as Amnesty International representatives were told at the Prosecutor General's Office in Poland.

In that connection, we should like to request that our colleagues inform us of the steps being taken in this regard in their countries, and whether an official investigation has been launched into those who may be involved in carrying out programmes on secret CIA prisons and on the illegal transfer and transport of detainees.

Thank you for your attention.