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Delegation of the Russian Federation

**FORMAL RESERVATION BY
THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION AT THE 1463rd MEETING OF THE
OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

29 February 2024

Madam Chairperson,

It is disappointing that the Chairmanship continues to demonstrably violate the rules of our Organization and to wilfully organize discussions of the Ukraine topic at an OSCE decision-making body. The persistent inclusion of a contentious separate item on “Russian aggression against Ukraine” in the Permanent Council’s agenda is categorically unacceptable. Such actions are directly at odds with standing agenda items as established by the Rules of Procedure of the OSCE (paragraph IV.1(C)) and may well be described as arbitrariness on the part of the Chairmanship. The agenda circulated by the Chairmanship for today’s meeting has an overtly confrontational thrust and does not give all participating States the opportunity to take part on an equal, non-discriminatory basis in a discussion of the developments in and around Ukraine.

The convening of Permanent Council meetings must be fully in line with the Rules of Procedure of the OSCE as regards consultations with all the participating States (paragraphs IV.1(C)1 and IV.1(C)3) and may not run counter to the provisions of the mandate of the Chairmanship-in-Office, which unambiguously obligates the Chairmanship to take the whole spectrum of opinions into account in its actions (Porto Ministerial Council Decision No. 8 of 2002).

This is clearly an abuse of authority by the Chairmanship, which should be acting for all 57 participating States and not just for a group of countries that are aggressively imposing their views on everyone else.

We request that this formal reservation be reflected in the journal of today’s meeting of the OSCE Permanent Council in accordance with paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the Rules of Procedure of the OSCE.

Thank you for your attention.