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**STATEMENT BY MR. ANDREY KELIN,
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION,
AT THE 1002nd MEETING OF THE OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

29 May 2014

On the act of terror in Brussels

Mr. Chairperson,

We wish to express our heartfelt sympathy to the Belgian authorities with regard to the terrorist act at the Jewish Museum in Brussels and also to the families and loved ones of the victims of this tragedy.

We are deeply perturbed by the terrorist act in Brussels for which extremist radical forces are responsible. Once again, Europe has been confronted with a violent manifestation of extremism, neo-Nazism and anti-Semitism, which has resulted in the suffering of innocent people.

We share the concern of the Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who sees a direct connection between the Brussels tragedy and the condoning of anti-Semitic sentiments by the authorities of the European States.

The events of recent years demonstrate that the European Union States have failed to draw conclusions from the intensification of radical nationalist and extremist tendencies in the OSCE area. Moreover, they frequently justify their inaction by referring to the guarantee of freedom of expression, assembly and association. As a result, with their tacit consent, the spread of a misanthropic ideology and the falsification of history that underlie many radical tendencies is gaining momentum. The terrorist acts in Toulouse, Boston and Volgograd and on Utøya Island, the killing of the British Army soldier Lee Rigby in London as well as the recent bloody events in Odessa are all links in the same chain. The results of the recent European Parliament elections also testify to the rapid radicalization of society.

We believe that the recent terrorist act in Brussels should serve as an alarming signal that steps should immediately be taken to stop the activities of radical right-wing and neo-Nazi groups. There can be no justification for the revival of the misanthropic ideology that leads to the loss of human lives.