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Delegation of the Russian Federation

**STATEMENT BY
THE DELEGATION OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION TO THE VIENNA
NEGOTIATIONS ON MILITARY SECURITY AND ARMS CONTROL
AT THE 1077th PLENARY MEETING OF THE
OSCE FORUM FOR SECURITY CO-OPERATION**

15 May 2024

**On the adoption of the agenda for the 1077th Plenary Meeting of the
OSCE Forum for Security Co-operation**

Mr. Chairperson,

A few weeks ago, we requested you to provide an opportunity for a high-ranking representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russia to speak remotely today, 15 May, under the agenda item “General statements” in a national capacity, that is, on behalf of the Russian delegation. In doing so, we emphasized that, previously, your predecessors who were chairing the OSCE Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC) responded positively to such requests by participating States, including the Russian Federation, thereby making an important contribution to the development of dialogue at this OSCE politico-military platform with the participation of Vienna-based delegations and representatives from capitals.

We regard your refusal to grant our substantiated request as a demonstration of the Chairmanship’s inability to facilitate inclusive and balanced dialogue and also of its readiness, for the sake of “NATO-EU solidarity”, to sacrifice the possibility of a respectful reconciling of positions at the FSC.

In addition, we have taken note of the fact that foreign students are present in the room today, while Russian students were denied the opportunity by the Croatian Chairmanship to join the 1076th Plenary Meeting via videoconference. With all due respect to the foreign students, we perceive the actions of our Croatian colleagues to be patent double standards and attempts to discriminate against the representatives of a particular participating State.

In view of the foregoing and in accordance with paragraph IV.1(C)4 of the Rules of Procedure of the OSCE, the delegation of the Russian Federation hereby informs you about the lack of consensus with regard to the adoption of the agenda for the 1077th Plenary Meeting of the FSC.

We assume that our Croatian colleagues realize what the consequences of their policy of infringing on the interests and rights of an OSCE participating State will be.

We insist that the FSC Chairmanship stop aggravating the atmosphere of hostility at the Forum, which merely undermines what is left of this platform's reputation.

We reiterate that, in the event of a repetition of discriminatory actions against our country, actions that are contrary to the Charter of the United Nations, we will take proportionate countermeasures until the balance of rights of OSCE participating States is restored.

We trust that, in future, we will be able to retain the traditional format for holding FSC meetings while taking into account objectively the interests and opinions of all participating States without exception, in accordance with the Forum's politico-military mandate.

For our part, on the basis of the principle of reciprocity, we are ready to make efforts to facilitate meaningful dialogue on current security issues in the OSCE area.

Thank you for your attention.