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Delegation of the Russian Federation

**FORMAL RESERVATION BY
THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION AT THE 1461st MEETING OF THE
OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

15 February 2024

Madam Chairperson,

We should like once again to object, as a matter of principle, to the manner in which the Chairmanship is arbitrarily organizing the discussion of Ukrainian matters in this OSCE decision-making body. The persistent inclusion of a contentious separate item on “Russian aggression against Ukraine” in the Permanent Council’s agenda is absolutely unacceptable. Such actions stand in direct contradiction to the Rules of Procedure of the OSCE as regards standing items on the agenda (paragraph IV.1(C)) and can be characterized as arbitrariness on the part of the Chairmanship.

We are compelled to recall once again that 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 that it may not contravene 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).

We insist that the Maltese Chairmanship adhere strictly to the collectively agreed norms this year and that it renounce the practice of stoking confrontation and a climate of hostility at the OSCE. We reiterate our warning that the continuation of such a course will complicate the future prospects for the functioning of the entire Organization even further.

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.