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Delegation of the Russian Federation

**FORMAL RESERVATION BY
THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION AT THE 1462nd (REINFORCED) MEETING OF
THE OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

23 February 2024

Madam Chairperson,

It is disappointing that the Chairmanship continues to demonstrably violate the rules of our Organization and to organize the discussion of Ukrainian matters in this OSCE decision-making body in an arbitrary manner. 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. The agenda circulated by the Chairmanship for today’s reinforced meeting is blatantly confrontational and does not give all participating States the opportunity for equal and non-discriminatory participation in the discussion of events 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 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).

This constitutes an abuse of authority on the part of the Chairmanship, which should be acting on behalf of all 57 participating States and not just on behalf of 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.