

PC.DEL/866/12  
25 September 2012

ENGLISH  
Original: RUSSIAN

Delegation of Belarus

**STATEMENT BY THE  
DELEGATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS AT THE  
924th MEETING OF THE OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

20 September 2012

**Regarding the manifestations of new forms of intolerance  
in the OSCE region**

Mr. Chairperson,

We have listened carefully to the statement by the distinguished Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation. The facts presented in that statement give rise to serious concern on our part as well.

On 19 September 2012, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Belarus made the following statement, in which it expressed its indignation at the erection of a monument to the Latvian SS legion in the centre of the Latvian town of Bauska.

The statement notes in particular that “Belarus roundly condemns the erection of a monument to criminals who fought on the side of Nazi Germany and regards this act as direct desecration of the memory of the dead and as a challenge to common European historical values”.

We believe that such incidents should not escape the attention of the OSCE and should receive an objective assessment by our Organization.

We trust that issues related to countering new forms of intolerance in Europe will form the basis of a separate OSCE Ministerial Council decision in Dublin.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.