

The OSCE Secretariat bears no responsibility for the content of this document and circulates it without altering its content. The distribution by OSCE Conference Services of this document is without prejudice to OSCE decisions, as set out in documents agreed by OSCE participating States.

PC.DEL/916/19  
19 July 2019

ENGLISH  
Original: RUSSIAN

Delegation of the Russian Federation

**STATEMENT BY MR. ALEXANDER LUKASHEVICH,  
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION,  
AT THE 1236th MEETING OF THE OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

18 July 2019

**On the investigation into the downing of flight MH17 over Donbas**

Mr. Chairperson,

We are forced to take the floor in exercise of the right of reply.

Five years ago, on 17 July 2014, a Boeing 777 aircraft belonging to Malaysia Airlines and following the MH17 route was downed over the Donetsk region of Ukraine. We express our sincere condolences to the families of the victims.

We consider the calls for Russia to “accept responsibility” and “co-operate” in the context of the investigation into the downing of the Malaysian Boeing, while referring to United Nations Security Council resolution 2166, to be completely unfounded and politicized.

The Russian Federation cannot recognize the conclusions of the Joint Investigation Team as credible, as they are based on dubious data and the important information provided by Russia has been ignored. The team’s biased activities hardly correlate with UN Security Council resolution 2166, which “Supports efforts to establish a full, thorough and independent international investigation into the incident in accordance with international civil aviation guidelines”. Represented in the team from the outset was an interested party – Ukraine – over whose territory the tragedy occurred due to the failure to close the airspace over the area of hostilities.

Despite the attempts to put pressure on our country, Russia remains committed to UN Security Council resolution 2166 and remains ready to assist the investigation in order to establish the truth and bring those responsible to justice.

Thank you for your attention.