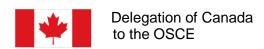
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ENGLISH only



Délégation du Canada auprès de l'OSCE

STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR JOCELYN KINNEAR ON THE EIGHT YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE DOWNING OF MALAYSIA AIRLINES FLIGHT MH17 1383rd MEETING OF THE PERMANENT COUNCIL

21 July 2022

Mr Chair,

This past Sunday marked eight years since the downing of Malaysia Airlines Flight MH17 on July 17, 2014. We take the opportunity to honour and commemorate the 298 victims, including one Canadian, who lost their lives in this horrific act of violence.

Canada appreciates the ongoing efforts by the Joint Investigative Team to bring the facts surrounding this tragedy to light, and we lament Russia's decision to unilaterally withdraw from negotiations in October 2020 and its ongoing refusal to return to negotiations since that time. We urge Russia to cooperate with the investigations, consistent with the call for accountability and cooperation unanimously adopted in UN Security Council Resolution 2166, and to cooperate fully with the JIT's ongoing criminal investigation, the Dutch Public Prosecution Service, and the European Court of Human Rights. It is imperative that we continue to seek truth, justice, and accountability for all victims and their families.

The anniversary of the downing of Flight MH17 takes place this year against the backdrop of Russia's invasion and continued war against Ukraine and its people, where Russian forces are killing civilians on a daily basis. As with the victims of Flight MH17 there must be justice for all civilians killed in violation of international law. We urge Russia, in the strongest terms, to cease its war against the Ukrainian people.