



United Kingdom
Delegation to the
OSCE

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**UK Statement
at the 1187th Meeting of the Permanent Council**

31st May 2018

AS DELIVERED

Mr Chairman, I fully subscribe to the statement delivered on behalf of the European Union and wish to add a few words in my national capacity.

On behalf of the UK I once again express condolences to the families and friends of those so tragically killed when flight MH17 was shot down on 17 July 2014, and commend the work of the Joint Investigation Team.

Earlier investigations, by both the Joint Investigation Team and the Dutch Safety Board, concluded that the aircraft was brought down by a Russian-made Buk missile system, launched from within territory held by Russian-backed separatist groups.

Thanks to the investigators, we now know that that missile belonged to the 53rd Anti-Aircraft Military Brigade of the Russian army.

The Russian Federation must now answer for its actions in relation to the downing of MH17 and fulfil its obligations under UN Security Council resolution 2166 to provide any requested assistance to the investigation. The UK fully supports the Kingdom of the Netherlands and Australia in their call for the Russian Federation to accept state responsibility, and to cooperate with their efforts to deliver the justice that the 298 victims, including 10 British nationals, deserve.

Mr Chairman, the UK will continue to offer its full support to efforts to deliver accountability for this appalling act and justice for all those who died.

Please attach this statement to the journal of the day.