



PERMANENT DELEGATION OF NORWAY  
TO THE OSCE

STATEMENT ON  
THE POISONING OF MR. ALEXEI NAVALNY

Delivered by Minister Counsellor Henning Hj. Johansen at the Permanent Council  
Vienna, 3 September 2020

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Mr. Chair,

We have all committed to safeguarding our democracies. The Russian Federation, as well as all other OSCE participating states, must do the utmost to ensure the safety of all politically active citizens.

Yesterday, our Foreign Minister gave the following statement:

“The news that the prominent Russian opposition politician and anti-corruption activist Alexei Navalny was poisoned by a nerve agent is deeply disturbing. Norway strongly condemns this attack.

The German authorities reported today that laboratory analysis had produced evidence that Mr Navalny was poisoned with a nerve agent in the Novichok group of chemical weapons. Norway has full confidence in the German government’s investigation and findings in this case.”

Mr. Chair,

The findings raise serious questions that have to be answered by the Russian government. Russia must facilitate a full and transparent investigation. We will follow this case in close cooperation with international partners.

Thank you