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## STATEMENT BY MR. ALEXANDER LUKASHEVICH, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, AT THE 1363rd MEETING OF THE OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL

17 March 2022

## On the election of the President of Turkmenistan

Mr. Chairperson, Mr. Ashyrgeldiyevich,

We congratulate the Turkmen people on the successful presidential election on 12 March and the newly elected Head of Turkmenistan, Serdar Berdimuhamedov, on his convincing and honest victory.

Numerous international observers – representatives of the Commonwealth of Independent States, the Organization of Turkic States, the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation and the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation – monitored the election. Their conclusions indicate that the election was free, open, competitive and in line with the country's electoral legislation and international democratic principles. No irregularities were recorded that could have had a major impact on the results of the vote.

We believe that the outcome of the election fully reflects the broad support for the course pursued by the country's leadership to further strengthen the national economy and improve the living standards of the citizens of our ally Turkmenistan.

We expect that the results of the vote will contribute to the active development of the strategic partnership between Russia and Turkmenistan in order to deepen co-operation in Central Asia, the Caspian region and the Eurasian area as a whole.

Thank you for your attention.