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Statement by Ambassador Mariin Ratnik, Permanent Representative of Estonia to the OSCE in response to the Statement delivered by the Russian Federation.

Permanent Council No 912

17 May, 2012

Thank you Mr Chairman,

The incident as described by the distinguished representative of the Russian Federation did take place; Mr Korotchenko's visa was annuled because he had filed inaccurate information on his visa application about the purpose of his stay.

The actions of the Estonian authorities in such cases are prescribed by Visa Code of the EU and should not be interpreted as hindering the journalistic activities of the person in question.

It should be noted that Mr. Korotchenko participated on the discussion organised by the media club over the internet.

I can also infrom the distinguished colleagues that we have in this week been in contact with the ROFM Mrs Mjatovitch about the incident and my authorites will provide to her an explanation of the circumstances.

Thank you Mr Chairman.