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**STATEMENT BY MR. ANDREY KELIN,  
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION,  
AT THE 1009th MEETING OF THE OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

17 July 2014

**Regarding the 19th anniversary of the events in Srebrenica**

Mr. Chairperson,

As we commemorate the anniversary of the events in Srebrenica, we pay tribute to the memory of all those who were killed during the 1992–1995 conflict in Bosnia and Herzegovina. All the peoples of this troubled country – Bosniacs, Croats and Serbs – were equally affected by the tragedy.

Russia's position, as a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council and a guarantor of the Dayton Peace Agreement for Bosnia and Herzegovina, remains unchanged. Pursuant to the relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions, all persons responsible for war crimes on the territory of the former Yugoslavia must stand trial, regardless of their ethnicity and citizenship. We wish to emphasize once again that the blame for the crimes that were perpetrated is individual and cannot be attributed to a State or an ethnic group.

The events of 19 years ago highlight the relevance of the tasks facing the international community – supporting the reconciliation process in Bosnia and Herzegovina and strengthening trust and tolerance among its peoples. The OSCE should play an important role in this.

Thank you for your attention.