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**STATEMENT BY MR. VLADIMIR ZHEGLOV,
DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE RUSSIAN
FEDERATION, AT THE 1199th MEETING OF THE
OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

1 November 2018

On the tragedies in the states of Pennsylvania and Kentucky

Mr. Chairperson,

I should like once again to express my condolences in the light of the tragedies in the states of Pennsylvania and Kentucky, which cost the lives of 13 persons. Our thoughts and sympathies are with their families and loved ones.

These crimes were the latest result of hateful ideologies.

We know from the history of the twentieth century the terrible consequences that such ideas can cause when they become part of a State ideology or policy: millions of dead, martyred in Nazi concentration camps and burnt in crematorium ovens, simply for belonging to the wrong race, religion or ethnic group, or speaking the wrong language. And now, once again, people have been killed merely because they are Jewish or have a different skin colour.

The unwillingness to recognize the racist nature of this dangerous phenomenon or much less to react to hate crimes encourages the growth of xenophobic, racist and neo-Nazi manifestations in society. It is to be hoped that together we can manage to counter such thinking – for the sake of the future of our nations and countries. The cruel lesson learned from Pennsylvania and Kentucky is a further bitter reminder in this regard.

Thank you for your attention.