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Delegation of the Russian Federation

**STATEMENT BY  
MR. ALEXANDER LUKASHEVICH, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE  
RUSSIAN FEDERATION, AT THE 1353rd MEETING OF THE  
OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

3 February 2022

**On the ban on the broadcasting of the television channel RT DE**

Mr. Chairperson,

On 2 February, citing a lack of formal approval by the national regulatory bodies, the German Commission on Licensing and Supervision ordered the German-language television channel RT DE to stop its satellite and other broadcasts.

This decision was taken despite the fact that the media outlet was operating on the basis of a satellite broadcasting licence issued by Serbia in full compliance with the European Convention on Transfrontier Television, to which Germany is also a party.

This move by the authorities in Berlin is in line with the German administration's long-standing campaign to systematically discredit the television station and its staff. We have repeatedly pointed out to Germany, not least at meetings of the Permanent Council, that it is unacceptable to exert politically motivated pressure on the media outlet in question and have called for an end to the censorship of German media space in flagrant contravention of that country's international commitments regarding freedom of expression and access to information.

Our concerns have been ignored. We have repeatedly stated that we reserve the right to retaliate if the German authorities continue their policy of information genocide.

The verdict of the German media regulator leaves us no choice but to take retaliatory measures against the German media accredited in Russia and the Internet service providers who arbitrarily and groundlessly removed the RT DE accounts from their platforms.

The responsibility for creating "dividing lines" in Europe's information space lies entirely with Germany.

In conclusion, we call on the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, Teresa Ribeiro, to respond immediately and publicly to this outrageous situation. Silence encourages the instigators of information warfare to escalate things further and does not do our Organization any credit.

Thank you for your attention.