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**STATEMENT BY MR. ANDREY RUDENKO,  
DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE  
RUSSIAN FEDERATION, AT THE 1038th MEETING OF THE  
OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

5 February 2015

**Regarding the detention of Mr. Ahtem Ciygoz**

We should like to make the following statement about the detention of the representative of the Crimean Tatar Mejlis, Mr. Ahtem Ciygoz.

Mr. Ciygoz was detained in connection with a criminal investigation regarding the organization of and participation in mass riots (Criminal Code of the Russian Federation, Article 212, paragraphs 1 and 2).

According to information from the investigation, on 26 February 2014, during a demonstration by representatives of the Crimean Tatar Mejlis, unidentified persons severely breached public order and the rules for holding mass events and began to call for non-compliance with the authorities' legal requests and the use of violence, and through their own example of unlawful behaviour, they incited the demonstrators to carry out these acts. This all caused mass riots to break out, along with violence and damage to and destruction of property.

All the circumstances of the incident are currently being clarified. The investigation into the criminal case is ongoing. We shall provide information on its results.