

Delegation of the Russian Federation

**STATEMENT BY MR. ALEXANDER LUKASHEVICH,
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION,
AT THE 1100th MEETING OF THE
OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

12 May 2016

On attempts to falsify the history of the Second World War

Mr. Chairperson,

I cannot allow the statements we have just heard, attempting to falsify the history of the Second World War and its causes, to go unanswered.

If colleagues are invoking the past, then it is first necessary to precisely verify the facts alluded to, and not to keep silent about embarrassing historical episodes and, in so doing, to distort the meaning of other events. Is it really necessary to remind the participants in today's meeting of the 1938 Munich Agreement, as a result of which the territories of third parties were triumphantly brought under Nazi control?

Such a distortion of historical truth runs counter to the judgments of the Nuremberg Tribunal and the fundamental principles of the Charter of the United Nations, in particular, its Article 107, which affirms the legal validity of the actions taken or authorized as a result of the Second World War by the Allied governments fighting Nazism.

I would remind you that the principles and judgments of the Nuremberg Tribunal were affirmed by UN General Assembly resolutions 3(I) of 13 February 1946 and 95(I) of 11 December 1946 as generally recognized principles for combating the crimes against humanity set out in the Convention on the Non-Applicability of Statutory Limitations to War Crimes and Crimes against Humanity, of 26 November 1968.

We take the position that full acknowledgement of the outcome of the Second World War, as enshrined in the UN Charter and other international documents, is imperative for all States.

I ask you not to forget that it was our country which made the decisive contribution to the defeat of Nazism, for which more than 26 million of its citizens of all nationalities sacrificed their lives. The anniversary of the end of the Second World War evokes strong feelings for us and other States. For this reason, we again urge that past and present events

not be arbitrarily combined and historical events selectively interpreted for self-serving purposes.

Thank you for your attention.