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Delegation of the Russian Federation

**STATEMENT BY  
MR. ALEKSANDR VOLGAREV, DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF  
THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, AT THE 1564th MEETING OF THE  
OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

14 May 2026

**On the 2026 OSCE Asian Conference**

Mr. Chairperson,

We are obliged to draw attention to the opaque and politically biased nature of the preparations for the 2026 OSCE Asian Conference.

In its interpretative statement on the OSCE Permanent Council decision on the agenda, timetable and organizational modalities of the 2026 OSCE Asian Conference, Russia had expressed regret that the process of drafting the decision had not been accompanied by a fully fledged consultation process involving the participating States and OSCE Asian Partners for Co-operation, which would have allowed any concerns to be addressed promptly and would have demonstrated a commitment to a transparent decision-making process.

Under these circumstances, Russia demonstrated a professional approach and agreed to join the consensus, despite the existence of politicized language in the proposed agenda. We had hoped for some flexibility in return regarding the selection of panellists.

However, the conference organizers did not draw any lessons from this. The composition of the pool of panellists appears to be geared towards promoting the views of only one group of countries, which are seeking to impose on the Organization their own vision of the issues on the conference's agenda, while completely excluding alternative interpretations and viewpoints.

We see in this the malign role of the Finnish Chairmanship of the OSCE Asian Partners for Co-operation Group, under whose influence, to our great disappointment, Thailand has fallen.

We consider this approach to be counterproductive and contrary to the interests of our Organization, from whose rostrum much is said about the importance of restoring the trust that has been lost among the participating States.

Without a dialogue of equals in which all the parties can put forward their arguments, it is clear that we will not make any progress here.

Thank you for your attention.