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Delegation of the Russian Federation

**STATEMENT BY
THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION AT THE 1569th MEETING OF THE
OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

25 June 2026

In connection with the International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict

Mr. Chairperson,

The International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict, established by the United Nations General Assembly in 2015, was observed by the international community on 19 June. The main objective of this day, as set out in General Assembly resolution 69/293, is to raise awareness of the need to put an end to this shameful phenomenon.

The Russian Federation categorically condemns sexual violence in any form. We believe that such crimes must be investigated and the perpetrators brought to justice. There can be no “mitigating circumstances” here. We are convinced that the task of tackling this problem is the prerogative of national governments, while intergovernmental organizations, including the OSCE, are called upon merely to complement efforts in this area.

On the international stage, the United Nations Security Council plays a co-ordinating role in addressing this issue. We support the Security Council’s consistent calls regarding the need to ensure the implementation of international humanitarian law in order to effectively combat this phenomenon, including by expanding the membership of the Geneva Conventions of 1949 relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War and of the two Protocols Additional thereto of 1977.

It is important to emphasize that work to prevent and eradicate this evil should be systematic. Targeted efforts to combat manifestations of sexual violence need to have long-lasting and sustainable results.

It must be acknowledged that the sensitive issue of sexual violence has been turned by the collective West into an instrument of unscrupulous political manipulation and is increasingly being used as a means of vilifying “undesirable” States. We can see that the methods employed by Goebbels’s ministry have been actively adopted by the Kyiv regime and its Western patrons. Since 2014, they have been relentlessly circulating unsubstantiated allegations against Russia at international forums, including the OSCE, making them out to be some sort of “evidence”.

The representatives of “enlightened democracies” in this room cite, with a tenacity worthy of better use, dubious so-called reports issued under the OSCE Moscow Mechanism and reviews by the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights that were prepared in breach of its mandate. Both structures have long since discredited themselves. The West actively uses such pseudo-studies as a means of waging information warfare against our country.

Against this backdrop, we note the blatant hushing-up and concealment of real cases of sexual violence on the part of Ukrainian radicals and armed forces personnel against the civilian population of Donbass since 2014, and of the brutal crimes committed by Ukrainian nationalists in the Kursk region.

We call upon Western countries to stop turning a blind eye to these unlawful acts. We are convinced that the shameful attempts to ignore them should be regarded as complicity in crimes against women and children. The time has come to demonstrate, in practice, our commitment to United Nations Security Council resolution 1325 on women and peace and security, and to put an end to the practice of suppressing evidence of crimes.

Thank you for your attention.