

Delegation of the Russian Federation

**STATEMENT BY
MR. DMITRY BALAKIN, DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION TO THE OSCE, AT THE
CLOSING SESSION OF THE 2016 ANNUAL SECURITY
REVIEW CONFERENCE**

30 June 2016

Mr. Chairperson,

Allow me on behalf of the Russian Federation to express my thanks to the German OSCE Chairmanship for its impeccable organization of the OSCE Annual Security Review Conference, in which we have been able to exchange views on a wide range of subjects.

We appreciate the fact that in a complicated international environment, the OSCE remains an important regional forum for discussing and possibly reaching agreement among States on decisions a whole range of topical issues. We are committed to supporting this role in every way.

This Conference has given us a unique opportunity for substantive and dedicated discussion of modern-day problems of European security, particularly combating terrorism and other transnational threats, prevention and resolution of conflicts in the OSCE area, conventional arms control and the causes of the unprecedented migration crisis in Europe.

We remain convinced that ensuring the security of the entire region is not possible in an atmosphere of confrontation, sanctions and rejection of military co-operation. Nor can this be achieved without respect for the interests of all countries and the revival of a culture of dialogue and co-operation. Effective conflict resolution is extremely difficult without the involvement of all interested parties.

The discussions at this Conference over the past three days have shown that in spite of the disagreements and differences in approaches, it is still possible to reach compromise solutions provided only that the political will exists and that double standards are rejected.

We urge the next OSCE Chairmanship to make every effort to ensure that the Annual Security Review Conference format is used in the interests of all participating States as an effective platform for discussion of the problems of European security.

Thank you for your attention.