

The OSCE Secretariat bears no responsibility for the content of this document and circulates it without altering its content. The distribution by OSCE Conference Services of this document is without prejudice to OSCE decisions, as set out in documents agreed by OSCE participating States.

PC.DEL/1486/22  
13 October 2022

ENGLISH  
Original: RUSSIAN

Delegation of the Russian Federation

**STATEMENT BY  
MR. MAXIM BUYAKEVICH, DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF  
THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, AT THE 1394th MEETING OF THE  
OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

13 October 2022

**In response to the report by the Head of the OSCE Mission in Kosovo**

Mr. Chairperson,

We are grateful to Ambassador Michael Davenport for his generally balanced and factual report on the situation in the Serbian Autonomous Province of Kosovo and Metohija and the Mission's work there.

We note the systematic activities of the field operation related to ensuring the rights of the non-Albanian population of the territory. The statistics cited in the document show that there has been some progress on that front. At the same time, it is worrying that the Serbian population of Kosovo and Metohija remains the most vulnerable category, which is rightly reflected in the report.

A separate report on the protection of cultural heritage in Kosovo and Metohija prepared by the Mission deserves close examination. This is an issue of importance to the entire population of the territory and beyond. We consider the Mission's direct assistance to municipalities in combating domestic violence to be of practical interest.

In the field of democratization, a number of small-scale but significant projects are under way. We have studied them with interest.

The Mission should continue to focus on security issues, including countering organized crime, terrorism and trafficking in human beings. In the context of trafficking, we have taken note of the reference to the United States Department of State's trafficking in persons report, which states, among other things, that the Kosovo authorities have not met the minimum standards for the elimination of this phenomenon. That is unfortunate. It is not entirely clear why the Mission's report includes sources that are obviously politicized and of highly questionable objectivity. It is also unclear why the section of the document on the developments in Kosovo and Metohija mentions the European Union's illegitimate sanctions against Russia in the context of the Russian special military operation. We would ask you to take our comments into account.

Regarding the Belgrade-Priština dialogue, unfortunately, we are unable to see any progress in this direction because of the demonstrative reluctance of one side, Priština, to engage in it. Likewise, its refusal

to fulfil earlier commitments, including the most urgent one of establishing a Community of Serb Municipalities.

The Russian Federation's position on the Kosovo problem remains unaltered. The international legal framework for a settlement is United Nations Security Council resolution 1244, on the basis of which a viable, mutually acceptable solution should be sought.

In conclusion, we should like to wish the distinguished Ambassador Davenport and the Mission team every success in their work.

Thank you for your attention.