

UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION

INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER PARAGRAPH IV.1 (A) OF THE OSCE RULES OF PROCEDURE

on behalf of the delegation of the Russian Federation:

“Having joined the consensus on the decision of the OSCE Council of Ministers to extend the mandate of D. Mijatovic, the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, for a second three-year term, we would like to state the following:

We presume that the work of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media must be conducted in strict compliance with the principles of impartiality, objectivity and transparency as mandated by the Permanent Council Decision 193 of November 5, 1997. We expect that the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media will follow a balanced and unbiased course while performing her mandate in regards to the whole OSCE space. We believe that the mission of the Representative is to monitor the provision of freedom of expression in the media, and it does not apply to other areas of activity.

The Russian Federation believes that the term “media” used in the OSCE documents means “mass communication outlets”, referring to forms of media such as print periodicals (press), broadcasting and electronic media, including those operating in the Internet. Other definitions of media related to changing modes of production, exchange and distribution of information and the emergence of new types and means of communication require additional coordination and approval by all participating states.

Given the above, the Russian Federation calls upon the OSCE participating states, as well as the Chairmanship-in-Office, to start work on updating the mandate of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media adopted over 15 years ago, in order to bring it into line with modern realities and tasks in this field.

We request that this statement be attached to the decision of the Council of Ministers and included in the journal of today’s meeting of the Permanent Council.”