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**STATEMENT BY MR. VLADIMIR ZHEGLOV,
DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION,
AT THE 1321st MEETING OF THE OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

24 June 2021

On the early parliamentary elections in Armenia

Madam Chairperson,

We congratulate our Armenian friends on the conduct of the early parliamentary elections on 20 June.

The election process was monitored as usual by numerous domestic and foreign observers, including from Russia. Among them were representatives of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) and its Interparliamentary Assembly, the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO) and the OSCE.

The international community spoke positively on the whole about the expression of the people's will. According to Ilhom Nematov, head of the CIS observation mission in Armenia, the elections were held in accordance with the requirements of the Electoral Code, and the observers did not register any major irregularities that could have affected the voting results. Similar assessments were also made by the CSTO observer mission, as well as by the international observation mission comprising the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe.

Russian President Vladimir Putin congratulated Nikol Pashinyan on the victory of the Civil Contract party he leads and wished him success in forming a new government in Armenia. The mutual desire to strengthen friendly relations between Russia and Armenia in every possible way was confirmed.

We expect that the results of the vote, once legally formalized, will contribute to Armenia's progressive development, as well as to peace, security and stability throughout the Trans-Caucasus region, first and foremost through the implementation of the trilateral statements of 9 November 2020 and 11 January 2021 by the leaders of Azerbaijan, Armenia and Russia.

Thank you for your attention.