

June 7, 2018

Dear Mr Polyanskiy, First Deputy Permanent Representative of Russia to the UN,

it is only a public secret that I contacted you a while ago and criticised your country for its fundamentally flawed information policy in the MH17-drama. I will now substantiate my criticism.

1) My country, Royal Kingdom of The Netherlands, suffered most in this tragedy since the vast majority of the victims had the Dutch nationality. From a Dutch perspective:

There are more than twenty countries publicly defending one position: Russia is responsible for the downing of the Malaysian Boeing. On the other hand, Russia comes up with more than twenty stories allegedly proving this is not true. Regardless of the real facts, this is bad perception management!

2) I understand the MH17-drama is one of the many issues troubling Russian foreign policy at the moment. However, for us Dutch this drama is the most tragic event of the last decade. Unfortunately, again from Dutch perspective, Russia has not shown enough respect and most of all not enough empathy for a mourning nation. I will spare you some painful examples to make my point.

3) Russia only takes a stand and offers new information to the public under 'Zugzwang'. In other words, every time your 'partners' disseminate new allegations Russia responds, but in four years has never taken the initiative to present one coherent, conclusive story of what really happened to the Malaysian Boeing.

Hopefully you will accept my words as constructive criticism. In case you are interested in further exchange of thoughts, you know how to contact me.

Respectfully,

Max van der Werff