

# THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

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## **Press release on summoning the ambassador of the Kingdom of Belgium to Russia**

1213-18-06-2015

On June 18, the Foreign Ministry summoned Alex Van Meuwen, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Belgium to Russia, to hand him a letter of protest over freezing the accounts of the Russian Embassy in Belgium, Russia's permanent missions to the EU and NATO in Brussels, as well as several other Russian organisations in Belgium.

The Belgian Ambassador has been notified that Russia considers these actions by the Belgian authorities to be openly unfriendly and in direct violation of the generally accepted standards of international law, and that it demands that the Belgian authorities take immediate measures to restore the sovereign rights of the Russian Federation, which have been disregarded in Belgium, and to provide for the normal operation of Russian organisations and legal entities. Otherwise, Russia will be forced to consider an appropriate response with regard to the property of the Kingdom of Belgium in Russia, including the property of the Belgian Embassy in Moscow and Belgian legal entities.

The Belgian Ambassador said he would immediately inform the Belgian authorities about the Russian letter of protest.

June 18, 2015