

27 July 2021

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
The Kingdom of The Netherlands
Robert van Embden
MH Taskforce Coordinator ad interim

Dear Mr. Embden,

This letter is in response to your enquiry “Possibilities for an additional factual inquiry into the airspace closure above and around eastern Ukraine” dated 19 July 2021.

The Foundation carefully examined the questions raised in your letter with reference to the committee debate by the Dutch Parliament on 16 June 2021 regarding the downing of Flight MH17 and the Foundation’s final report relating to the closure of the airspace above and around eastern Ukraine.

As part of our comprehensive study, the Foundation searched for and analyzed in good faith information from two specific sources: (a) public source information available during 2020 discovered by the Foundation and (b) information received by the Foundation from Ukraine and the Russian Federation through responses to questionnaires. The Foundation believes that there is very little merit in exploring further these two specific sources of information.

The Foundation processed the information referenced above using its integrated standard for airspace security risk assessment and its proprietary risk assessment algorithms of the likelihood of attack on civil aircraft in a conflict zone. Unless information from other sources is provided, such as information from private sources or information from intelligence services, the Foundation believes no new insights are likely to be gained in re-running the same methodology using the same information sources.

I hope this letter is responsive to the questions in your letter. As always, we would also be happy to discuss these issues further if necessary.

Regards,

Hassan Shahidi

Dr. Hassan Shahidi
President and CEO
Flight Safety Foundation