



United States Mission to the OSCE

**Response to the Address by
OSCE Parliamentary Assembly President Pons**

As delivered by Chargé d’Affaires Kate Rebholz
to the Permanent Council, Vienna
September 11, 2025

President Pons, congratulations on your election and welcome to the Permanent Council for the first time.

Thank you for recognizing that today marks 24 years since the heinous attacks on the United States that changed our world. These attacks remind us that we all must continue to combat terrorism and strengthen our collective security.

We welcome that your first official call was to the speaker of the Ukrainian Rada. President Trump has emphasized his unwavering commitment to stopping the bloodshed and securing lasting peace in Ukraine. We will continue to work with allies and partners on security guarantees that will keep Ukraine safe.

As you mentioned, the end of the Minsk Process reflects the start of a new era of peace in the South Caucasus. As President Trump said at the August 8 signing of the Joint Declaration between the leaders of Armenia and Azerbaijan at the White House, “we’ve finally succeeded in making peace.” The Trump Route for International Peace and Prosperity will offer a long-term commitment to stability and prosperity in the region. We congratulate both countries on this historic moment and look forward to their signing of the comprehensive peace agreement.

Mr. President, as you note, our organizations need reliable funding. We look forward to the adoption of an OSCE Unified Budget as soon as possible.

Finally, we should leverage the 50th anniversary of the Helsinki Final Act as an impetus for real reform at the OSCE so that it is agile and fit for purpose, directly relevant to 21st century security challenges that face our region in all three dimensions.

###