



United States Mission to the OSCE
**Statement on the Death of Journalist
Pavel Sheremet**

As delivered by Ambassador Daniel B. Baer
to the Permanent Council, Vienna
July 21, 2016

The United States was shocked and saddened by the news of the killing of prominent journalist Pavel Sheremet in a car explosion in Kyiv yesterday morning.

We join Ukrainian President Poroshenko in his swift condemnation of the attack, and stand ready to provide assistance to help Ukrainian law enforcement bring the perpetrators to justice. We welcome statements by Ukrainian police and the Prosecutor General that this act will be fully investigated and the perpetrators will be brought to justice.

Pavel Sheremet led a life of purpose and integrity. He was a fearless practitioner and supporter of freedom of expression and a beacon of hope for a brighter future for Ukraine. His commitment to OSCE principles of human rights, democracy, and the unimpeded flow of information was recognized with the 2002 OSCE Prize for Journalism and Democracy.

We extend our sympathies to his partner Olena Prytula, his family, his colleagues at Ukrainska Pravda, and his many friends and defenders of freedom of expression, including for the media, in Ukraine.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.