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United States Mission to the OSCE

Response to the Report by the Head of the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brian Aggeler

As delivered by Chargé d'Affaires Katherine Brucker to the Permanent Council, Vienna March 27, 2025

Ambassador Aggeler, dear Brian, welcome back for I guess that is going to be your final regular Permanent Council report. Thank you so much for your clear and strategic Mission leadership this year and during your tenure as head of mission. We appreciate you ensuring the OSCE's presence is visible and active across Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) to fully support its stability.

I welcome the Mission's work, as detailed in your report, to advance ethnic reconciliation, combat corruption and counter terrorism, strengthen border security, control small arms and light weapons, and promote good governance. I encourage further work to strengthen a free and fair market economy, fight transnational organized crime, and ensure foreign investments adhere to international best practices.

Ensuring BiH's stability is critical to preventing conflict and to maintaining security in BiH and the broader Western Balkans region. For 30 years, our commitment to the Dayton Peace Agreement and a stable and secure BiH has been unwavering. The United States strongly supports BiH's sovereignty, territorial integrity, and multi-ethnic character.

We encourage political leaders in BiH to engage in constructive and responsible dialogue. We oppose actions that threaten Bosnia and Herzegovina's security and stability.

Ambassador Aggeler, we thank you and your team for your dedicated work. The United States will continue to support the field mission in advancing stability and prosperity in BiH and the region.

Before closing however, I want to thank you for once again reminding us how imperative it is that we adopt a Unified Budget now. Please convey to your team our gratitude for their hard work and accomplishments under unnecessarily difficult conditions inflicted on them by us.

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