



United States Mission to the OSCE

Reply to Russia on the Occasion of the 71st Anniversary of the End of World War II

As delivered by U.S. Ambassador Daniel B. Baer
to the Permanent Council, Vienna
May 12, 2016

I'd like to respond as well briefly to say, once again, we try very hard to be careful and precise with our language, and the statement on behalf of the US delegation today was not improvised; it was a careful explanation of our position.

And to make it more clear: I reject the notion that we should somehow separate out what happened 71 years ago, and what is happening today. I think the message that a large number of delegations around this table have conveyed today is the sadness that we feel in seeing the contrast between the honor displayed by so many millions of Soviet citizens (and other citizens) and the dishonor of Russia's actions today.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.