



United States Mission to the OSCE

Forum for Security Cooperation Reply to the Intervention by the Russian Federation

As delivered by Ambassador James Gilmore
April 29, 2020

Mr. Chairman,

Just a few remarks in response to the distinguished representative of the Russian Federation. First of all, let me say that this has been a very distinguished meeting today and congratulations on the beginning of a very productive chairmanship. This is a very important forum and I believe it can be very constructive in adding to peace and security within the OSCE region.

With response to the remarks of the distinguished delegate from the Russian Federation, let me merely say that the joint statement made by the President of the United States and the President of Russia should be seen as a gesture of good will and an opportunity for a future more productive relationship, but a joint statement with respect to World War II certainly cannot be seen as a license for aggression or for violation of the principles set out by the OSCE and the final act of the Helsinki Accords. There is certainly plenty of room for the Russian Federation to return back to the principles it has subscribed to, to stop its intervention in Ukraine and in other countries on its periphery, to turn its attention the success and development of the Russian nation and if that were to be the case, they may be assured in the so-called spirit of the Elbe River and American goodwill.

The United States remains resolute in its position of its commitment to the Helsinki Accords and its commitment to security in Europe and that is why I am here today to continue United States participation in the Forum for Security Cooperation.