



United States Mission to the OSCE

On the Situation in the Kyrgyz Republic After Parliamentary Elections

As delivered by Deputy Chief of Mission Courtney Austrian
to the Permanent Council, Vienna
October 16, 2020

The United States supports a peaceful and democratic transition in the Kyrgyz Republic. It is clear that one of the obstacles towards democratic progress is the attempt by organized crime groups to exert influence over politics and elections. This was evident with vote-buying during the October 4 elections, violence and intimidation in Ala-Too Square on October 9, and irregularities in the Parliament session on October 10.

The United States supports the efforts of Kyrgyz political leaders, political leaders, civil society, and legal scholars to return the political life of the country to a Constitutional order. Citizens and their leaders must continue to fight against the influence of organized crime and corruption in politics. The ultimate goal must be to uphold the Kyrgyz Constitution and rule of law.

The United States stands with the Kyrgyz people during this time and urges all neighbors and international partners of the Kyrgyz Republic to respect its sovereignty as the Kyrgyz people work to resolve these issues internally and without violence.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.

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