



## **United States Mission to the OSCE**

### **Reply to the Russian Federation on Ukraine**

As delivered by Chargé d'Affaires a.i. Kate M. Byrnes  
to the Permanent Council, Vienna  
February 9, 2017

In regards to the question from the Russian delegation about the U.S. position with respect to the recent escalation of violence in eastern Ukraine, it is the assessment of the United States that these are combined Russian-separatist forces and that Russia continues to provide the materiel, financial, and other direct support that fuels the conflict in eastern Ukraine.

This is the position that was laid out in detail by Ambassador Nikki Haley at the UN Security Council last week, and as the White House spokesman said on February 3, Ambassador Haley's statement in this respect was both very forceful and very, very clear.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.