



United States Mission to the OSCE

Response to the Report by the Coordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities

As delivered by Deputy Chief of Mission Tim Hanway
to the Permanent Council, Vienna
March 27, 2025

Ambassador Dzhusupov, welcome back to the Permanent Council. The United States appreciates your and your team's commitment to strengthening economic and environmental security across the OSCE region.

Corruption has, for far too long, been one of the greatest threats to economic stability and security. A business environment rife with corruption is hostile to all legitimate economic activity. The United States strongly supports your work to counter corruption by enhancing financial transparency, strengthening regulatory frameworks, and ensuring that illicit actors cannot exploit weak governance. Initiatives that help participating States recover stolen assets and curb financial crimes, including money laundering, play an important role in upholding the rule of law and fostering a competitive investment climate. So, too, does strengthening investment screening mechanisms. By adopting more robust investment review processes, participating States can better safeguard their critical economic sectors from malign influence and ensure fair competition for legitimate businesses.

In the energy sector, reliable and affordable energy access underpins economic stability and growth. The OSCE can play a valuable role in initiating discussions on energy markets to improve diversification and enhance regional cooperation in concrete ways. Investing in resilient energy infrastructure, diversifying sources of energy – including fossil fuels—and ensuring transparent markets are essential components of long-term energy security and connectivity.

As we look ahead to this year's Economic and Environmental Dimension meetings, we strongly encourage greater involvement of the private sector to ensure our solutions address real-world challenges and create opportunities companies can use. Progress in the second dimension requires adherence to our commitments, including holding mandated meetings. The failure to achieve consensus on the modalities and agenda of the Economic and Environmental Forum is a setback. Mandated meetings must proceed, and we regret that participating States have not yet reached consensus.

We appreciate your efforts to ensure greater progress in the economic and environmental dimension and look forward to working with you to identify solutions to these fundamental challenges.

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