



United States Mission to the OSCE
U.S. Statement for the
Forum for Security Cooperation:
Security Dialogue: Code of Conduct,
Strengthening Compliance

As delivered by Acting Deputy Chief of Mission Dave Haugen
May 20, 2026

Mr. Chairman,

The United States thanks Georgia for organizing this important Security Dialogue and the panelists for their contributions.

Thirty years after its adoption, the OSCE Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security remains as relevant as ever. Its core principles -- democratic control of armed forces, accountability, transparency, and adherence to national and international law -- form the foundation of responsible military conduct and comprehensive security.

These principles are not merely aspirational. They require concrete implementation through robust institutions, comprehensive training, independent oversight, and genuine accountability.

The United States takes these commitments seriously.

Adherence to the code, however, is not only a matter of legal and organizational structure. The Code of Conduct reflects the commitment by all OSCE

participating States to fulfill the Geneva Conventions, including with regard to the treatment of civilians in war.

We also must recognize that all participating States face ongoing challenges. New operational environments, evolving security threats, and emerging technologies demand that we continuously update our training and adherence mechanisms.

The United States remains committed to working with all participating States to strengthen implementation of the Code of Conduct and enhance security across our region.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.