



United States Mission to the OSCE

Approving a Zero Nominal Growth 2027 Unified Budget

As prepared for delivery by Ambassador Owens
to the Permanent Council, Vienna
September 24, 2026

As we stated last week, at last year's Ministerial Council now Assistant Secretary Hanrahan said, "If properly reformed, this organization can still play a meaningful role." We have made significant strides forward, but more is needed to meet the moment. This body, and this organization as a whole, needs to be an effective venue to pursue work on pressing security issues.

The OSCE has taken positive steps on fiscal reform, agreeing on a budget for the first time in five years designed to save €15 million. We must hold the line with a 2027 Zero Nominal Growth budget to ensure these savings are fully institutionalized.

The United States took note of the Secretary General's budget proposal released to participating States last week. Now is not the time to backslide on fiscal discipline or to put forward complicated restructuring proposals. As we have stated multiple times this year, we expect a zero nominal growth (ZNG) 2027 unified budget proposal in October which maintains the same top line budget numbers from 2026. Everyone here today should be prepared to join consensus on a ZNG budget for 2027.

Predictability and timely budgeting are critical to the OSCE's ability to respond to the region's security challenges. To that end, we need a 2027 budget adopted on time in 2026. I ask all participating States in this room to join me next week in asking that the Secretariat present a zero nominal growth (ZNG) 2027 unified budget proposal in October so that we can move beyond budget discussions and get to work.

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