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FSC.DEL/278/25 19 September 2025

ENGLISH only



United States Mission to the OSCE U.S. Statement for the Forum for Security Co-operation: Opening Statement

As delivered by Chargé d'Affaires Katherine Brucker September 17, 2025

Thank you, Mister Chair, dear Vesa,

On behalf of the United States, it is my pleasure to welcome Finland as the new Chair of this important forum. And like the Secretary General and others, I salute your willingness to chair the FSC while chairing the entire organization.

The United States welcomes your choice of security dialogue topics and composition of the experts panel, as well as your vital role to maintain the good order and smooth operation of this forum. We look forward to exploring these topics in depth in the weeks to come.

The United States is committed to the mandate that the FSC carries and notes that each session of the FSC, from its opening to its closing, should be used to reduce the risk of conflict—and should that fail—to advance the resolution of conflicts and secure peace. We regard the Finnish chairmanship as an opportunity to increase complementarity and reduce duplication between the work of the FSC and the Permanent Council. The FSC should refocus on enriching the substance of these meetings. We need a goal-oriented mindset. Without it, this body will languish in the trap of repetitive statements that neither advance our collective security nor make tangible progress on our most pressing transnational challenges.

The United States supports Finnish leadership in pursuing a more agile and relevant FSC focused on current security challenges, in particular military security issues, including military forces, armaments, and activities. This trimester is a fresh opportunity to look at how we conduct business in the FSC and ensure that it will contribute to restoring peace and stability across Europe and for all participating States.

We look forward to building on these opportunities.

Thank you, Mister Chair.