



United States Mission to the OSCE

Moldovan Law on Transnistria's Status

As delivered by Chargé d'Affaires Paul W. Jones
to the Permanent Council, Vienna
July 28, 2005

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The United States is committed to supporting the search for a solution to the Transnistria conflict: a solution which is peaceful and which strengthens Moldova's sovereignty, territorial integrity and democratic institutions. We applaud the efforts of the OSCE Mission to Moldova to advance the prospects for such a settlement.

On July 22, consistent with the plan put forward by President Yushchenko of Ukraine, the Parliament of Moldova passed a law on basic principles for the status of Transnistria. We hope that the parties, with the support of the international community, will now move forward toward democratic elections in Transnistria, which will set the stage for a lasting settlement of the conflict.

The United States supports the objectives of democratization and demilitarization of Transnistria, and we call once again on the Russian Federation to complete the withdrawal of its troops and munitions from Moldovan territory as it pledged to do at Istanbul six years ago.

We hope that the passage of the law on principles for the status of Transnistria will open the way to renewed negotiations. The United States reiterates its willingness to play a role in such negotiations, if asked to do so by the parties.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.