



United States Mission to the OSCE
**Statement on Conduct of October 3
Elections in Bosnia and Herzegovina**

As delivered by Ambassador Ian Kelly
to the Permanent Council, Vienna
October 12, 2010

The United States congratulates Bosnia and Herzegovina on its October 3 general elections. We concur with the October 4 Preliminary Statement issued by ODIHR, the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, the Council of Europe Parliamentary Assembly, and the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, which assessed that the elections were generally in line with international standards for democratic elections, although certain areas, including ethnicity and residence-based limitations to active and passive suffrage rights, require further action.

We welcome the increased turnout for the election, and we urge the country's leaders to find common ground in support of a better future for all citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina. We look forward to the formation of a government committed to tackling the outstanding constitutional and other issues needed to place Bosnia and Herzegovina on a firm path to Euro-Atlantic integration.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.