



United States Mission to the OSCE
**Statement on the Detention of
Ukrainian Journalist Anton Skiba**

As delivered by Ambassador Daniel Baer
to the Permanent Council, Vienna
July 24, 2014

The United States is deeply concerned by the detention of Ukrainian journalist Anton Skiba, after he was reportedly kidnapped two days ago outside a hotel in Donetsk by Russian-supported separatists. Mr. Skiba has worked for a number of news outlets, including for CNN and BBC. CNN reportedly has endeavored to secure Mr. Skiba's release for the last two days without success. Representative on Freedom of Media Dunja Mijatović has also called for his immediate release, noting that journalists too often are targeted for doing their jobs. We call for the immediate release of Anton Skiba, and all the hostages held by Russian-backed separatists.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.