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## United States Mission to the OSCE

# Statement Concerning the Dissolution of the State Union of Serbia and Montenegro

As delivered by Ambassador Julie Finley  
to the Permanent Council Meeting, Vienna  
June 8, 2006

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

First of all, we would like to also thank Serbia for its very thoughtful statement this morning and for the way in which many people, who did not want to see the dissolution of the State Union of Serbia and Montenegro, have accepted the outcome of the May 21<sup>st</sup> independence referendum.

We would like once again to congratulate the people of Montenegro for the peaceful, democratic and transparent manner in which the referendum took place.

We accept the fact that the referendum accurately reflects the people's view.

We encourage everyone in Montenegro and Serbia to work together in the spirit of cooperation to resolve the issues that now exist.

I would further suggest and hope that Serbia and Montenegro talk to Slovakia and the Czech Republic, which went through a very peaceful divorce some time ago.

We have received a letter from Foreign Minister Vlahovic requesting the United States' recognition of Montenegro's independence. We are considering it carefully, as we will also do with regard to Montenegro's request to accede to the OSCE and its interest in hosting a full-fledged field mission.

The United States of America looks forward to continued friendship with both countries.

Thank you.