



United States Mission to the OSCE
**Statement Given in Support of the Latvian
Report on the Herberts Cukurs Play**

As delivered by Political Counselor Michael Kellehan
to the Permanent Council, Vienna
October 16, 2014

One of the ways we can make progress on our commitments to OSCE principles—and demonstrate leadership—is by voluntarily sharing issues of concern within our own countries. We thank the Government of Latvia for raising the issue of the Herberts Cukurs play, and for speaking out about it. A government can protect the right to freedom of expression and at the same time condemn efforts to minimize the crimes committed during the Holocaust. Indeed, we should all speak out to condemn speech that runs manifestly counter to our shared goal of tolerant, rights-respecting societies.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.