



## **United States Mission to the OSCE**

### **On the Occasion of Europe Day**

As delivered by Charge d'Affaires Gregory Macris  
to the Permanent Council, Vienna  
May 9, 2019

Thank you, Mr. Chair.

In honor of Europe Day, the United States offers our best wishes to the citizens of the European Union. A strong and free Europe is of vital importance to the United States. We are bound together by our shared commitment to democracy, individual liberty, and the rule of law. The Transatlantic relationship – built on decades of mutual prosperity and security – remains a driving force for addressing global challenges.

The United States appreciates the European Union's role in promoting peace, security, human rights, and prosperity in Europe and around the world.

The European Union and the United States stand together on a full range of international security issues. We are strong partners in countering terrorism and violent extremism. We stand united on sanctions. We coordinate our humanitarian assistance. And we work together to help strengthen democracies, promote human rights, and bolster the rule of law.

As we commemorate Europe Day, we are reminded of the deep friendship and cooperation between the United States and the European Union. The collegiality that our mission enjoys with its EU and member state counterparts here in Vienna is further indication of those bonds.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.

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