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United States Mission to the OSCE

On the Recent Developments in the North of Kosovo

As delivered by Chargé d'Affaires Katherine Brucker to the Permanent Council, Vienna September 5, 2024

We have expressed our concern regarding the uncoordinated and provocative actions taken by the Government of Kosovo that have had a direct and negative effect on members of the ethnic Serb community and other minority communities in Kosovo. They put Kosovan citizens and NATO-led Kosovo Force soldiers at greater risk and undermine Kosovo's reputation as a reliable international partner. We appreciate the work of those, including the OSCE Field Mission in Kosovo, the European Union Rule of Law Mission in Kosovo, and Kosovo Force, who prevent violence and call for continued restraint by all involved and affected.

We continue to support Kosovo as a sovereign, multi-ethnic democracy and urge its leaders to promote a rights-respecting and inclusive society for all those living in Kosovo. Issues related to Serbia-supported structures in Kosovo should be dealt with through the EU-facilitated Dialogue as agreed by both parties.

We see Kosovo's future as lying in Europe and fully integrated into European and Euro-Atlantic institutions. The EU-facilitated normalization Dialogue between Kosovo and Serbia is the way to ensure Kosovo has better relationships with its neighbors and advances on its European path. We reiterate our call to both Kosovo and Serbia to move forward with urgency on implementing the agreement they reached in March 2023. Ultimately, the United States believes normalization should lead to mutual recognition between Kosovo and Serbia.

The United States will remain actively engaged, in coordination with our EU partners in support of a predictable and peaceful relationship between Kosovo and Serbia on the basis of their Dialogue agreements and obligations

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