



United States Mission to the OSCE

Statement on Moldova

As delivered by Chargé d'Affaires Paul W. Jones
to the Permanent Council, Vienna
August 18, 2004

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The United States is very disturbed that Transnistrian authorities have refused OSCE representatives reentry into the Transnistrian-controlled region of Moldova without indicating when they will be allowed to return.

This clearly violates the 1993 exchange of letters between the OSCE and the Transnistrian leadership, which gave the OSCE freedom of movement into and within the Transnistrian-controlled region of Moldova.

We strongly condemn this action, and insist that the OSCE be permitted reentry to continue its mandate in the region and to provide humanitarian assistance during this Transnistrian-provoked school crisis.

The Transnistrian authorities must take no further actions against the Moldavan language schools and must permit their operations to resume immediately.

The United States again urges the Russian Federation to exert its undoubted influence over the Transnistrian authorities to reopen the schools now and to return to the negotiating format.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman