



## United States Mission to the OSCE

### **Statement on Turkmenistan: Expulsion of OSCE Head of Center, Ambassador Badescu**

As delivered by Deputy Chief of Mission Paul W. Jones  
to the Permanent Council, Vienna  
July 22, 2004

Thank you Mr. Chairman. The United States is deeply dismayed by the chain of events that has led to the effective expulsion of Ambassador Badescu, the OSCE Head of Center in Ashgabat.

Ambassador Badescu has served with great distinction in Ashgabat, presiding during an intensely difficult period, including times when Turkmenistan's relationships with the OSCE and the international community have been strained.

Through it all, Ambassador Badescu has worked to build bridges with the people and the government of Turkmenistan, by promoting OSCE values and principles, in accordance with the Center's mandate.

We see no grounds whatsoever, therefore, for the government of Turkmenistan in barring an administrative six-month extension for Ambassador Badescu.

We renew our call on the Turkmen Government to reverse its decision and, barring that, urge the OSCE to identify a new Head of Mission soon so that the OSCE Center can continue to function fully and appropriately, as outlined in its mandate. The United States calls on the Bulgarian Chairmanship to engage urgently and intensively with appropriate parties in an effort to resolve this situation.

Finally, we call on the OSCE Secretariat to honor fully the OSCE's contractual obligations to Ambassador Badescu and to ensure that she receives all compensation and services in full accord with these obligations.

Thank you.