



United States Mission to the OSCE

Case of Alexander Sodiqov

As delivered by Ambassador Daniel B. Baer
to the Permanent Council, Vienna
July 17, 2014

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

The United States expresses its deep concern about the ongoing detention of Alexander Sodiqov by the authorities of Tajikistan. Mr. Sodiqov, who is a PhD student at the University of Toronto conducting research in affiliation with the University of Exeter, travelled to Tajikistan last month to conduct academic research. He was detained by Tajikistan security services in Khorog, in the Gorno-Badakshan Autonomous Oblast, on June 16. We are closely monitoring the developments in this case, and intend to raise our concerns in more detail at next week's Permanent Council meeting. We would welcome any updates from the Government of Tajikistan on Mr. Sodiqov's case.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.