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

### **2018 Human Rights Report**

As delivered by Acting Deputy Chief of Mission Gregory Macris  
to the Permanent Council, Vienna  
March 14, 2019

On March 13, U.S. Secretary of State Michael Pompeo submitted to Congress the 2018 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices, commonly known as the Human Rights Report.

This report, now in its 43rd year, is available at [www.state.gov](http://www.state.gov). It is required by U.S. law, informs U.S. government policy, and serves as a reference for other governments, international institutions, non-governmental organizations, scholars, interested citizens, and journalists.

To quote Secretary Pompeo, “Our committed defense of human rights stems from America’s founding principles. America was founded on those self-evident truths that each of us is endowed with rights that cannot be forfeited. They are the ones upon which no government anywhere in the world should be allowed to tread. Our Constitution codified those rights into law. And with time, they became known not as American rights but more fundamentally across the world as human rights.”

Mr. Chair, the United States will continue to listen and to reply forthrightly to the news of others regarding our performance in these areas. We view such dialogue to be positive and in keeping with our OSCE commitments and we urge all participating States to exhibit the same spirit.

Thank you Mr. Chair.

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