



## United States Mission to the OSCE

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# Response to Turkmenistan: Release of American Citizen Leonid Komarovsky

Delivered by Ambassador Stephan M. Minikes to the  
Permanent Council, Vienna  
May 2, 2003

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The United States welcomes the release of American citizen Leonid Komarovsky from prison in Turkmenistan. Mr. Komarovsky was detained November 26, 2002, following the November 25 attack on Turkmen President Niyazov's motorcade.

Although Mr. Komarovsky was accused of complicity in the attack, no charges were formally made in court, and he was never tried.

We look forward to a continuing dialogue with the Government of Turkmenistan on the importance of respect for human rights.

Thank you.