



United States Mission to the OSCE

PRESS RELEASE

September 23, 2008

U.S. Delegation to 2008 OSCE Human Dimension Implementation Meeting in Warsaw

U.S. Ambassador W. Robert Pearson will lead the U.S. delegation to the Human Dimension Implementation Meeting (HDIM) organized jointly by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and the Finnish Chairmanship of the OSCE in Warsaw, Poland, September 29 – October 10, 2008.

The annual HDIM is the OSCE region's most important human rights event of the year. Representatives of government and civil society come together to evaluate the implementation of human dimension commitments by the 56 participating States of the OSCE and to review the procedures and mechanisms for monitoring and enhancing compliance with these commitments. The event serves as a forum to bring together hundreds of government representatives, human rights activists, and international experts.

Ambassador Pearson heads the International Division at the SPECTRUM Group. He has been an innovative diplomat, dynamic leader and crisis manager in domestic and foreign assignments at the top levels of the U.S. government for more than two decades. He completed a 30-year career in 2006 with the Department of State as Director General of the Foreign Service, responsible for State Department civilian and Foreign Service personnel worldwide. He was U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Turkey during 2000 to 2003, guiding U.S. relations during a period of economic crisis for Turkey, the war in Afghanistan and the war in Iraq. Prior to that, he had assignments as Deputy Chief of Mission at the U.S. Embassy in Paris as well as the U.S. Mission to NATO in Brussels, Executive Secretary of the Department of State, Deputy Executive Secretary of the National Security Council, Deputy Assistant Secretary General of NATO and Chair of NATO's Political Committee, and a Political Officer in China. Before entering the Foreign Service, he served in the Judge Advocate General's Corps in the U.S. Navy. Ambassador Pearson is a graduate of Vanderbilt University and of the University Of Virginia School of Law. He speaks French, Chinese and Turkish.

Key Members of the U.S. Delegation to the HDIM, Sept. 29 – Oct. 10 in Warsaw

- Ambassador W. Robert Pearson (Delegation Head)
- Ambassador Julie Finley, U.S. Representative to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe
- Ambassador Karen Stewart, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor, Department of State
- Will Inboden, Advisor on Religious Freedom Issues
- Nathan Mick, Advisor on Roma Issues
- Felice Gaer, Chairperson of the US Commission on International Religious Freedom
- Fred Turner, Chief of Staff of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (Helsinki Commission)
- Bruce Turner, Acting Director, Office for European Security and Political Affairs, Department of State

For information about the HDIM: www.osce.org

For information about the U.S. Mission to the OSCE: <http://osce.usmission.gov>

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