

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

July 10, 2026

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Johnson,

As the Members of the South Carolina Delegation, we write to respectfully request your support for hosting the 2027 Annual Session of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe Parliamentary Assembly (OSCE PA) in Charleston, South Carolina.

For more than two years, extensive planning has been undertaken to bring this prestigious international gathering to the United States. Charleston was selected because it offers an exceptional venue, world-class dining and hospitality, a rich history, and an ideal setting to welcome parliamentary delegations from nearly sixty participating states. Charleston receives 8 million tourists a year from around the world, excited to experience the rich flavors, dining scene, beaches, and unique hospitality that South Carolina offers. Reservations have already been secured for the Charleston Gaillard Center and surrounding hotels, invitations have been distributed to OSCE Ambassadors, and significant planning is already underway.

Hosting the Annual Session in the United States would send an unmistakable message of American leadership and reaffirm our nation's enduring commitment to transatlantic security, democracy, human rights, and the rules-based international order. It also celebrates America as a leader, setting international policy by example.

South Carolina is uniquely positioned to host this event successfully. Charleston has repeatedly demonstrated its ability to accommodate major international conferences and high-profile diplomatic events. Charleston hosts the Charleston Conference for Scholarly Publishing annually, an event five times the size of the OSCE PA, demonstrating the ability for the city to handle the influx of visitors. The city possesses outstanding convention facilities, ample hotel capacity, an internationally recognized tourism and hospitality industry, with strong support from state and local officials. Additionally, institutions such as The Citadel, the College of Charleston, and numerous civic and local organizations stand ready to provide volunteers and logistical assistance, helping ensure the event is conducted efficiently and cost-effectively.

We also recognize the importance of responsible stewardship of taxpayer dollars. We are grateful to Chairman Mario Diaz-Balart, that the funding for this conference has been included in the FY27 National Security, Department of State, and Related Programs Appropriations Bill. We believe the projected federal investment represents a modest cost relative to the significant

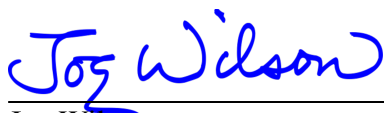
diplomatic, economic, and strategic benefits of hosting hundreds of parliamentarians and officials from across Europe, Central Asia, and North America in the United States. Beyond the direct economic impact on South Carolina and the United States, hosting the Annual Session would strengthen relationships with key allies, showcase American values, and reinforce U.S. leadership within the OSCE at a critical moment for European and global security.

America has successfully hosted major international parliamentary gatherings in the past, demonstrating our nation's capacity to convene democratic allies in support of shared security interests. The United States should continue that tradition. Allowing another country to assume hosting responsibilities after preparations are already well under way would unnecessarily diminish an opportunity to showcase American leadership and could create uncertainty among our allies regarding our willingness to lead international institutions. It has been deeply disappointing to hear a United States Senator advocating against American hosting under the claims of insufficient catering and volunteers in Charleston, instead favoring Belgrade, Serbia. The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly has not held its Annual Session in the United States since 2005 in Washington, D.C., making the 2027 gathering an especially important opportunity.

We respectfully ask that you work with House and Senate Leadership, specifically Senate Helsinki Commission Chairman Roger Wicker, and the appropriate committees to ensure the United States remains the host of the 2027 OSCE Parliamentary Assembly Annual Session in Charleston. We stand ready to work with you and all stakeholders to ensure this event is a success and reflects the very best of our country.

Thank you for your leadership and your consideration of this request.

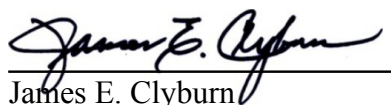
Sincerely,



Joe Wilson
Member of Congress
Chairman
U.S. Helsinki Commission



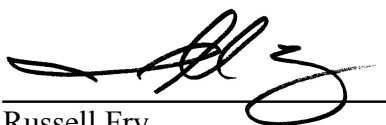
Nancy Mace
Member of Congress



James E. Clyburn
Member of Congress



William R. Timmons, IV
Member of Congress

A stylized, cursive handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Fry', positioned above a horizontal line.

Russell Fry
Member of Congress

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ralph Norman', positioned above a horizontal line.

Ralph Norman
Member of Congress

A handwritten signature in black ink, clearly legible as 'Sheri Biggs', positioned above a horizontal line.

Sheri Biggs
Member of Congress