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**Statement by  
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Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Integration  
of the Republic of Croatia**

**(14<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Council of the OSCE  
Brussels, 4 – 5 December 2005)**

Mr. Chairman,  
Excellencies,  
Ladies and gentlemen,

It is a pleasure to be back in Brussels once again and share with you some thoughts about the efforts of my Government to ensure that the fundamental values, principles and standards of the OSCE are reflected not only in our legislation and policy, but in the every day lives of all who call Croatia home, as well as in the work of our Organization.

Croatia has aligned itself with the EU Statement which gives me an opportunity to concentrate on issues of particular importance to Croatia.

We deeply believe that there can be no lasting peace and stability without respect for human rights, fundamental freedoms, the rule of law, democracy and economic development. Therefore, we must all work together in order to respond efficiently to all challenges and resulting cross-dimensional threats in a more efficient way.