<u>Press Releases: Violence in Macedonian</u> <u>Parliament</u>

Press Statement Mark C. Toner

Deputy Department Spokesperson

Washington, DC April 28, 2017

The United States strongly condemns the violent attacks on members of the Macedonian parliament which followed the election of Talat Xhaferi as Speaker of Parliament. We will work with the new Speaker to support democracy and to help Macedonia move forward on its European path.

Violence has no place in the democratic process. We express our deepest sympathies to those Members of Parliament injured in the attacks and their families. The United States calls on Macedonian authorities to ensure the security of all Members of Parliament, to investigate the attack thoroughly, and to hold accountable those who committed acts of violence.

We urge all parties to remain calm, resolve any differences peacefully, and respect Macedonia's laws and democratic processes.

The Office of Website Management, Bureau of Public Affairs, manages this site as a portal for information from the U.S. State Department. External links to other Internet sites should not be construed as an endorsement of the views or privacy policies contained therein.