



**Delegation of Ukraine  
to the OSCE**

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ENGLISH only

**Statement on the Conclusions of the Extraordinary  
European Council on Georgia**

As delivered by Ambassador Volodymyr Yelchenko to the Permanent Council  
4 September 2008

Mr. Chairman,

Ukraine welcomes the conclusions of the European Council adopted at its extraordinary meeting on 1 September 2008 concerning the situation in Georgia.

Ukraine shares the EU position that a peaceful and lasting solution to the conflict in Georgia must be based on full respect for the universally recognized principles of independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity.

In this regard Ukraine, along with all EU member countries, shares the position that the unilateral decision of the Russian Federation on the recognition of Abkhazia's and South Ossetia's independence is unacceptable, and joins the call of the EU member states on other countries to refrain from similar steps.

Ukraine welcomes the mediating role of the President of France in working out a cease-fire and insists on rigorous and full implementation of the reached agreement, especially on withdrawal of the Russian military forces to the positions held prior to the beginning of the hostilities.

Ukraine supports the intention of the European Union to strengthen the presence of observers in the conflict zone, and to provide material and financial assistance to the affected regions.

Ukraine welcomes the decision of the European Council to appoint a European Union Special Representative for the crisis in Georgia and is ready to cooperate with him/her to achieve an effective and proper settlement of the conflict.

In the regional context, Ukraine is ready to contribute to preparation of new foreign policy initiatives of the European Union aimed at further strengthening of its relations with Eastern neighbours.

I thank you.