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Présidence française du Conseil de l'Union Européenne

**Conseil Permanent spécial No. 725
8 Aout 2008**

**European Union statement on the escalation of the situation
in South Ossetia (Georgia)**

The European Union expresses its serious concern regarding the violent fighting taking place in South Ossetia (Georgia).

It reiterates its commitment to Georgia's sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity, within its internationally recognized land, sea and air borders.

It urges all parties to immediately cease hostilities and to resume negotiations without delay, in order to allow a political solution to the crisis.

The European Union fully supports the endeavors of the Chairman in Office of the OSCE, including those of its field mission, and calls upon all parties to cooperate with it without delay.

The European Union, in close consultation with all the protagonists, works towards a ceasefire in order to prevent the extension of the conflict.

La Turquie, la Croatie* et l'ancienne République yougoslave de Macédoine*, pays candidats, l'Albanie, la Bosnie et Herzégovine, le Monténégro et la Serbie, pays du processus de stabilisation et d'association et candidats potentiels, l'Islande et le Liechtenstein, pays de l'Association Européenne de libre-échange et membres de l'Espace économique européen, ainsi que la République de Moldavie se rallient à cette déclaration.

*La Croatie et l'ancienne République yougoslave de Macédoine continuent à participer au processus de stabilisation et d'association.

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