

Draft Resolution on Georgia-Russian conflict

Drafted by:

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On 7th of August 2008 the conflict broke out when Georgia launched an assault to wrest back control of the Moscow-backed breakaway region of South Ossetia, triggering a counter-offensive by Russian troops who advanced beyond South Ossetia into Georgia's heartland.

Russia, poured thousands of troops into South Ossetia, and launched bombing raids both over the province and on targets in the rest of Georgia.

Russian forces occupied parts of Georgia adjoining South Ossetia.

They also moved from bases in Abkhazia into parts of Western Georgia, and the Russian fleet went into action against the Georgian navy.

Hundreds of people were killed. UNHCR declares: 122,000 people have been provided emergency relief, more than 158,000 people were displaced during the recent conflict – 128,000 within Georgia and some 30,000 who fled to the Russian Federation.

Since 21 of August Russia and NATO have suspended all military co-operation.

On 26th of August President Dmitry Medvedev has signed a decree that Russia formally recognises the independence of the breakaway Georgian regions of South Ossetia and Abkhazia.

Being profoundly concerned that:

Military activities led to the suffering of innocent people, forced to leave their homes.

Russia uses military tools to change the borders of a sovereign state.

Development of the conflict has the potential to destabilize the entire Caucasus region.

YEPP declares:

- Only a political resolution of this or any other conflict is acceptable.
- It is necessary to preserve the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Georgia.
- The recognition of breakaway Georgian regions of South Ossetia and Abkhazia by Russian Federation contradicts the international law, violating the principle of territorial integrity and threatens basic international order.

- The EU and its institutions, as well as other international bodies need to play an important and active political role on the ground, facilitating the peace process.
- The actions of Russia demands decisive reaction from the European Union and the international community.
- The people, innocent victims of this conflict, need to have the opportunity to lead their normal lives again as soon as possible.

YEPP calls upon EU to:

- implement all possible diplomatic measures to protect integrity and sovereignty of Georgian state.
- form an international mission to investigate the conflict thoroughly.
- encourage the Russian and Georgian authorities having a joined peace conference.
- be consistent to its decision to suspend negotiations on EU-Russia agreement and consider suspension on WTO Russia membership before the solution of the conflict.
- send an ESDP mission to the region and to participate in the renegotiation of the new arrangements in the region.
- acknowledge the legitimate preparations and aspirations of Georgia and Ukraine to join the NATO membership Action plan.
- be actively involved in the reconstruction and revitalisation of Georgian economy, infrastructure and social life.
- make Russian and South Ossetia authorities to guaranty return of people who were resettled from their homes

YEPP calls upon the EPP and its factions in the EU and other European and international organizations to take active part in debates and actions in order to slow the conflict and introduce a stronger monitoring over Russian foreign policy in regard to its neighbor states, especially Georgia, Ukraine and Moldova, to prevent similar military developments.