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FSC.DEL/208/20
25 September 2020

ENGLISH only



EUROPEAN UNION

**OSCE Forum for Security Co-operation N°955
Vienna, 23 September 2020**

EU Statement in reply to the statement by Georgia

The European Union and its Member States take note of the statement by Georgia.

The EU reiterates its concern about the military activities by the Russian Federation in Georgia's breakaway regions of Abkhazia and South-Ossetia, as part of the large-scale military exercises "Kavkaz-2020".

Such exercises, organized on the territory of a sovereign State without its consent, violate international law, its norms and principles, including the ones enshrined in the UN Charter, Helsinki Final Act and Paris Charter.

The EU reiterates its firm support for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Georgia within its internationally recognised borders. The EU calls on Russia to fulfil its international obligations, including under the EU-mediated ceasefire agreement of 12 August 2008.

The Candidate Countries REPUBLIC of NORTH MACEDONIA*, MONTENEGRO* and ALBANIA*, the EFTA countries ICELAND, LIECHTENSTEIN and NORWAY, members of the European Economic Area, as well as UKRAINE, the REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA, GEORGIA and SAN MARINO align themselves with this statement.

* Republic of North Macedonia, Montenegro and Albania continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.