



PARLIAMENT OF GEORGIA

## COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN INTEGRATION

15-0448/4-7/19  
15-04-19

For the attention of Presidential Troika of COSAC:

Mr. Reinhold LOPATKA

Chairman of the Standing Sub-Committee on European Union Affairs of the National Council  
Austria

Ms. Gabriela CRETU

Chairperson of the European Affairs Committee  
Senate of Romania

Mr. Angel TÎLVĂR

Chairperson of the European Affairs Committee  
Chamber of Deputies of Romania

Mr Arto SATONEN

Chair of the Grand Committee  
Parliament of Finland

Dear Colleagues,

I would like to express my sincere gratitude for close cooperation in the format of COSAC which we take as a demonstration of good will and support towards Georgia's progress on its European integration path. Let me also express special thanks to Romanian Presidency for hosting successful COSAC Bureau meeting in January which I had an honor attend.

Georgia is a clear front-runner of the Eastern Partnership and a successful Associated partner of the EU. However, its progress and development occurs on the challenging background of occupation of twenty percent of its territories by the Russian Federation that persists for over 10 years in blatant violation of the fundamental norms and principles of international law. Russia continues to violate its obligations under the EU-mediated 12 August 2008 Ceasefire Agreement, notably to withdraw all its military forces from Georgia's occupied territories and remove all impediments for establishment of international security mechanisms. Furthermore, the Russian Federation intensifies its illegal steps towards factual annexation of Georgia's occupied regions.

The European Parliament adopted a resolution on the Occupied Territories of Georgia ten years after the Russian invasion of 14 June 2018 reiterating its unwavering support for the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Georgia, within its internationally recognised borders and condemning intense military build-up, installations of barbed wire fences along the occupation line, deprivation of life, restrictions of freedom of movement, arbitrary detentions and kidnappings of peaceful villagers, as well as

severe human rights violations and discrimination of ethnic Georgians by the Russian Federation and its occupation regimes. The tendency of deprivation of life of Georgian citizens by Russian occupation regimes in Sokhumi and Tskhinvali emphasizes the utmost importance of support to the "Otkhozoria-Tatunashvili List", which serves as a list of perpetrators of human rights violations, imposing the restrictive measures against those individuals, as a preventive step to avoid further human rights abuses and ethnically driven violence in Georgia's occupied territories.

In November 2018 following the footsteps of the European Parliament, Irish Senate passed a Motion on support for the territorial integrity of Georgia and its integration into the European Union, calling on Irish Government to impose restrictive measures on the individuals charged with grave human rights violations and to support Georgia's integration into the European Union. Similar resolution was adopted by the Lithuanian Parliament on the Commemoration of the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Occupation of a part of the Territory of Georgia.

Considering the above, I would like to address you with the request to discuss the issue of Georgia's security and sovereignty during the upcoming Plenary Meeting in Bucharest in order to mobilize international attention and support of our European partners towards safeguarding European values and peace and stability on the European continent. As a result of these discussions, we would request members of COSAC to bring this matter to the attention of their own national parliaments and to issue a declaration of support to Georgia's strive towards the EU integration, its sovereignty, territorial integrity, non-recognition of its occupied territories and its policy of peaceful conflict resolution. This would also echo the resolution of the European Parliament, which addresses all EU member States National Parliaments to „adopt an approach consistent with that of the European Parliament and the policies [of the national parliaments of the Member States] by using clearer and more precise terms in defining Russian aggression in Georgia as occupation by the Russian Federation of the Georgian territories of Abkhazia and Tskhinvali Region/South Ossetia“.

Putting this issue on the agenda of COSAC plenary will significantly contribute to strengthening Georgia's sovereignty and territorial integrity and, more broadly, to reinforcing peace and security in Europe.

For your information I have attached Resolution by the European Parliament, the Motion passed by the Irish Seanad and the Resolution adopted by the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania in support of Georgia.

Sincerely,



Tamar KHULORDAVA

Chairperson