



## Spanish Presidency of the European Union

**OSCE Permanent Council No. 798  
Vienna, 18<sup>th</sup> March 2010**

### **EU statement on a recent Georgian television programme**

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The European Union expresses its concern at the security implications of the misleading broadcast aired by the Georgian TV channel Imedi on 13 March, containing, inter alia, a simulation of a Russian invasion, which understandably caused anxiety amongst the Georgian public. We commend the National Communications Commission of Georgia for its prompt condemnation of the Imedi channel report.

We consider this incident, especially in the present political context, not helpful for the ongoing national and international efforts to stabilize the situation on the ground, including by the European Union Monitoring Mission. We refer to the EUMM statement made on 16 March in which it was highlighted that such incidents have the potential to seriously destabilize the situation close to the administrative boundary lines.

We are also concerned by the fact that footage of officials of EU Member States was used in this fake broadcast.

We welcome the statement made on 15 March by the new Representative on the Freedom of the Media, Ms. Dunja Mijatovic, on this issue, and hope with her that similar incidents will be avoided in the future.

Los países candidatos TURQUÍA, CROACIA\* y la ANTIGUA REPÚBLICA YUGOSLAVA DE MACEDONIA\*, los países del Proceso de Estabilización y Asociación y los países candidatos potenciales, ALBANIA, BOSNIA Y HERZEGOVINA, MONTENEGRO y SERBIA, los países de la Asociación Europea de Libre Comercio y los miembros del Espacio Económico Europeo, ISLANDIA, LIECHTENSTEIN y NORUEGA se suman a esta declaración.

\*Croacia y la Antigua República Yugoslava de Macedonia siguen perteneciendo al proceso de Estabilización y Asociación