



EMBASSY OF GEORGIA TO THE REPUBLIC OF AUSTRIA
PERMANENT MISSION OF GEORGIA TO THE OSCE AND OTHER
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN VIENNA

S t a t e m e n t

of the Delegation of Georgia

in response to the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of
Armenia, H.E. Edward Nalbandian

delivered at the 955th session of the OSCE Permanent Council

Vienna, June 6, 2013

Mr. Chairman,

I would like to warmly welcome His Excellency Edward Nalbandian, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Armenia, to the OSCE Permanent Council Meeting and thank him for his presentation. I would also like to thank H.E. Foreign Minister for outlining the priorities of the Armenian Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers of the CoE.

Mr. Chairman,

Allow me to say few words about the close ties that our countries enjoy. Georgia and Armenia have formed traditionally good neighbourly relations and close cooperation in all areas of mutual interest. We value the fruitful and mutually beneficial cooperation on both bilateral and multilateral levels in various formats.

We believe that the deepening of good neighbourly relations and cooperation with Armenia is in line with the national interests of both countries and strengthens the traditional friendship between us.

Cooperation in trade, transport infrastructure, tourism, and other fields clearly contributes to the economic development of both countries. In recent years the cooperation between the two countries has strongly

intensified in different areas of bilateral interest. Armenia rates the 9th among the top ten trade partners of Georgia. This year was also marked with high level visits between our officials. Human contacts between our countries are successfully developing and Georgia intends to encourage their further expansion.

Georgia believes that the establishment of a common approach with its neighbours to the region's future development is extremely important. Georgia supports the peaceful resolution of the existing conflicts in the region, based on the principles and norms of international law, namely respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity and inviolability of internationally recognized borders of the states.

We are happy that the European Neighbourhood Policy and the Eastern Partnership have brought Georgia and Armenia, together with other partner countries closer to the EU, opening door to enhancing our economic integration and political association with the Union. Our partnership with the EU is a solid guarantee that our aspiration towards political, social and economic reforms, good governance, rule of law and human rights will remain an irreversible process.

In the end, Mr. Chairman, I would like to once again thank our distinguished guest, H.E. Minister Nalbandian for his appearance before the PC meeting today and wish him all of success in his future activities, also in capacity of the Chairman of the Committee of Ministers of the CoE.

Thank you.