



EUROPEAN UNION

**Permanent Council Nr 878
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EU statement on the elections in the breakaway region of Abkhazia in Georgia

The European Union would like to draw the attention of the Permanent Council to the statement by the spokesperson of the EU High Representative, Catherine Ashton, on the elections in the breakaway region of Abkhazia in Georgia, issued on 27 August, in which it was stated:

‘In view of the reports today from Sukhumi in the breakaway region of Abkhazia in Georgia that Mr Alexander Ankvab has been elected as new president, this statement is to recall that the European Union does not recognise the constitutional and legal framework within which these elections have taken place.

The European Union reiterates its support to the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Georgia, as recognised by international law. The European Union would in this context like to emphasise the importance of the Geneva International Discussions in ensuring the security and stability in the region’.