



ACTIVITY REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN-IN-OFFICE (7 to 13 September)

OSCE Chairman De Gucht statement on fifth anniversary of 9/11 attacks

BRUSSELS, 11 September 2006 - The OSCE Chairman-in-Office, Belgian Foreign Minister Karel De Gucht, issued a statement on the fifth anniversary of the 11 September attacks. For the Chairman, the threat of terrorism is a serious concern for all states in the OSCE region and the OSCE is deeply involved in working with others in this regard. However, when fighting terrorism, we need to ensure that the fundamental freedoms and human rights are not sacrificed in the name of protecting citizens.

OSCE Chairman urged all sides to ensure calm in the Georgian-Ossetian conflict zone and find workable solutions

BRUSSELS, 11 September 2006 - The OSCE Chairman-in-Office, Minister Karel De Gucht, expressed concern about recent incidents of extensive firing in the zone of the Georgian-Ossetian conflict, including last Friday's fatal shooting incident near Tbeti. Minister De Gucht urged all sides to exercise calm, and refrain from any use of violence in the conflict zone.

OSCE Chairman condemned shooting incident in Serbian snap local election

BRUSSELS, 11 September 2006 - The OSCE Chairman-in-Office, Minister Karel De Gucht, expressed his concern about the violence surrounding snap local elections in Novi Pazar, Serbia, and condemned the killing of one of the election candidates, Ruzdija Durovic.

The Chairman-in-Office said the crime should be urgently investigated.