

EUROPEAN UNION MONITORING MISSION IN GEORGIA (EUMM GEORGIA)

On September 15th, 2008, the Council of the European Union adopted Council Joint Action 2008/736/CFSP, by means of which it established the EU Monitoring Mission in Georgia (EUMM), commencing as of October 1st, 2008, and originally authorised for 12 months. Its mandate has since been extended twice and is currently effective until 14 September 2011. The long-term goal of the mission is to achieve stability in Georgia and the region, whereas the short-term objectives are: stabilization of the situation through reducing the risk of hostilities and implementation of the Agreement of August 12th, 2008.

EUMM's task is to ensure civilian monitoring over the activities of the sides involved in the conflict, covering the whole territory of Georgia, including South Ossetia and Abkhazia, to accomplish full compliance with the provisions of the Agreement reached and the subsequent measures adopted. EUMM is working in close cooperation with other international organizations, such as the UN and the OSCE, aiming to contribute to the stabilisation, normalisation and confidence building in support of finding a lasting political solution for Georgia.

The main directions of EUMM's are as follows:

Stabilising, observing, analysing and reporting on the situation related to the stabilisation process and in full compliance with the Agreement, including withdrawal of troops, guaranteeing the freedom of movement, as well as identifying infringements of human rights and international humanitarian law;

Normalising, observing, analysing and reporting on the situation related to the normalisation of the process of civilian governance, and including the rule of law, effective law-enforcement authorities and adequate public order. The mission also monitors the security of the transport communications, energy infrastructures and services, as well as policy and security aspects relating to the return of internally displaced persons and refugees.

Confidence building: contributing to reducing tension through interaction, facilitation of conflicts between sides, and other confidence building measures.

In February 2009, the mission was restructured, transforming the initially national teams into mixed ones.

Bulgaria contributes 12 monitors to EUMM, deployed to Tbilisi, Gori and Zugdidi.

More information about the mission is available at: <http://www.eumm.eu/>