

Appeal to the International Policy

The Georgian Diaspora Community Petition on the Anniversary of the Russian Invasion in Georgia in 08/08/2008

In 08/08/2008 Russian troops invaded Georgian territories. As it emerged more lately, the Russian regular armed forces had in fact penetrated into territories of Georgia days earlier, allegedly for military manoeuvres and exercises in South Ossetia as argued in the interview of the Major-General Borisov.

The Europe facilitated international policy truce was reached in august 2008 and the “six-point peace plan” with additional agreements afterwards was signed by Russia and Georgia.

Instead of the agreed restoration of the pre-war status in South Ossetia and Abkhazia, Russia in divergence of international law standards and in full ignorance of existing international treaties and regulations recognized both as independent states, formed military contracts with them and started building new military bases and airports on the territories internationally recognized to be sovereign parts of Georgia.

Furthermore, Russia vetoed and blocked extension of the UN mission in Georgia (UNOMIG) as well as the comparable mission of OSCE, making Russian military presence exclusive in South Ossetia and Abkhazia and leaving Georgian population in this Russian-backed but internationally unrecognized regions of Georgia under the threat of further oppression and terror, with no means to challenge the displacement.

We think the above requires attention of international policy and we therefore will call on the international policy and you personally, to exert diplomatic and political pressure on Russia and to warrant the execution of “six-point peace plan” so that:

- 1. Recognition of South Ossetia and Abkhazia is abolished;**
- 2. EU Monitoring Mission in Georgia is allowed to enter conflict regions;**
- 3. OSCE and UN mission in Georgia are restarted;**
- 4. Territorial integrity of Georgia is respected;**
- 5. Russia completely abides by the six-point peace plan from August 2008;**
- 6. Prime Minister Putin abides by his promises in the interview - 30/08/2008;**

Six-point peace plan as armistice: conciliated by the French President Sarkozy between Georgia and Russia, in 16/08/2008 also by Russia subscribed:

1. Not to resort to force;
2. To end hostilities definitively;
3. To provide free access for humanitarian aid;
4. Georgian military forces will have to withdraw to their usual bases;
5. Russian military forces will have to withdraw to the lines held prior to the outbreak of hostilities. Pending an international mechanism, Russian peace-keeping forces will implement additional security measures;
6. Opening of international talks on the security and stability arrangements in Abkhazia and South Ossetia.

Source:

<http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/diplo/en/Laenderinformationen/Georgien/080815-Ratsschlussfolgerung.pdf>

Interview abridgement: Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin said to Journalist Thomas Roth among other things in the ARD-TV-program in 30/08/2008:

Roth: Where do you see the task of Germany in this crisis?

Putin: We have to Germany very good relations, trustful relations, both political and economic. When we have spoken to Mr Sarkozy here at his visit, we have said, **that we don't want any territory in Georgia.** We shall move back into the security zone, which was agreed in former international treaties. **But there we won't also stay forever. We consider this as Georgian territory.** Our intention is only, to assure the security and not to do it a way, that troops and armours are baled there backdoor. And to prevent, that the possibility of a new conflict arises there. Then we address the participation of observers of the EU, the OSCE and naturally also of Germany, if the principles of cooperation are clarified.

Source:

<http://www.tagesschau.de/ausland/putin172.html>

Other Sources:

Interview of Major-General Borisow in "Radio Echo Moskau":

<http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/voensovet/596473-echo/>

Report on human rights issues following the August 2008 armed conflict,

by Thomas Hammarberg, Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe - 8 to 12 February 2009