



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

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**Javier SOLANA,
EU High Representative for the CFSP,
confirms the withdrawal of Russian forces
from the zones adjacent to South Ossetia and Abkhazia**

Javier SOLANA, EU High Representative for the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP), issued a statement today confirming that the European Union Monitoring Mission in Georgia has verified that Russian armed forces have dismantled 12 checkpoints and one military base in the zone adjacent to Abkhazia and five checkpoints and one signal post in the zone adjacent to South Ossetia:

“I am happy to announce that EUMM patrols have confirmed that Russian armed forces have completed their planned withdrawal from the areas adjacent to Abkhazia and South Ossetia.

This withdrawal will, we hope, allow internally displaced people to return to their homes and contribute to the normalisation of living conditions in these areas.

I further hope that the presence of EUMM monitors in these areas will decrease tensions, contribute to a sense of security and enhance respect for the rule of law.”

FOR FURTHER DETAILS:

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