



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**



Brussels, 13 August 2009
12645/09 (Presse 248)
P 99
(OR. en)

**Declaration by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union
on Russian Prime Minister Putin's visit to the Georgian region
of Abkhazia**

The European Union notes with concern that the Prime Minister of the Russian Federation, Vladimir Putin, has paid a visit to the Georgian region of Abkhazia, without prior consent of the Georgian authorities.

The EU does not consider this visit compatible with the principle of territorial integrity nor helpful for the international efforts to stabilise the region.

The EU reiterates its support for Georgia's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

P R E S S
