

COMMON SECURITY AND DEFENCE POLICY European Union Monitoring Mission (EUMM) in Georgia

Updated: April 2012 Georgia/19

Background

The EU Monitoring Mission in Georgia (EUMM) is an unarmed and non-executive civilian monitoring mission. It was established by the European Union on 15 September 2008.

Over 200 civilian monitors were sent by EU Member States to contribute to the stabilisation of the situation on the ground following the August 2008 conflict. EUMM monitors compliance by all sides with the EU brokered Six-Point Agreement of 12 August, signed by both Georgia Russia, and the Agreement and on Implementing Measures of 8 September 2008.



EUMM Georgia ©

The Mission started its monitoring activities on 1 October

2008, beginning with oversight of the withdrawal of Russian armed forces from the areas adjacent to South Ossetia and Abkhazia.

Ever since, the Mission has been patrolling day and night, particularly in the areas adjacent to the South Ossetian and Abkhazian Administrative Boundary Lines. The Mission's efforts have been primarily directed at observing the situation on the ground, reporting on incidents, and, generally, through its presence in the relevant areas, contributing to improving the security situation.

All 27 EU Member States contribute personnel, both women and men, from a variety of civilian, police and military backgrounds. This mixture of professional skills and experiences has been vital to ensure a balanced and effective approach to a complex environment.

Mandate and objectives

The Mission's mandate consists of stabilisation, normalisation and confidence building, as well as reporting to the EU in order to inform European policy-making and thus contribute to the future EU engagement in the region.

Originally authorised for 12 months, the mandate has since been extended three times and is currently effective until 14 September 2012.

EUMM is mandated to cover the whole territory of Georgia, within the country's internationally recognised borders, but the de facto authorities in Abkhazia and South Ossetia have so far denied access to the territories under their control.



EUMM Georgia ©



EUMM Georgia ©



EUMM Georgia ©

Mission's achievements

EUMM is working to prevent the renewal of an armed conflict, as well as to help make the areas adjacent to the Administrative Boundary Lines of the breakaway regions of Abkhazia and South Ossetia safe and secure for the local residents.

The Mission contributes to create conditions whereby civilians can cross the Administrative Boundary Lines of Abkhazia and South Ossetia in both directions without fear and obstacles, thus reducing the detrimental effects of dividing lines.

Under an agreement reached at the Geneva Discussions in February 2009, regular meetings between all the parties to the conflict take place to discuss and resolve specific incidents and issues, with the aim of developing greater confidence and co-operation between the parties. This forum, called the Incident Prevention and Response Mechanism, has held a series of meetings with participants from EUMM, UN, OSCE, Georgia, Russia, Abkhazia and South Ossetia.



Mission's Field offices

The map on the right depicts EUMM field offices' areas of responsibility.

The Mission has its Headquarters in Tbilisi and three Regional Field Offices in Mtskheta, Gori and Zugdidi.

Each Field Office has three teams covering:

• <u>Confidence Building</u> in the areas adjacent to Abkhazian and South Ossetian Administrative Boundary Lines;

• <u>Compliance with the Memoranda of</u> <u>Understanding</u> signed between the Mission and the Georgian Ministries of Defence and Internal Affairs;

<u>Human security aspects</u> of conflict management



Based in Brussels, the **Civilian Planning and Conduct Capability (CPCC)** is the permanent structure responsible for an autonomous operational conduct of civilian CSDP operations. Under the political control and strategic direction of the Political and Security Committee and the overall authority of the High Representative, the CPCC ensures the effective planning and conduct of civilian CSDP crisis management operations, as well as the proper implementation of all mission-related tasks.

More information and background documents available on: <u>www.consilium.europa.eu/csdp</u> and <u>www.eeas.europa.eu</u>

The European Union's **Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP)** includes the gradual framing of a common defence policy which might in time lead to a common defence. The CSDP allows the Union to develop its civilian and military capacities for crisis management and conflict prevention at international level, thus helping to maintain peace and international security, in accordance with the United Nations Charter. The CSDP includes a strong conflict prevention component.