

## **Statement by NATO Secretary General on the so-called treaty between the Abkhazia region of Georgia and Russia**

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NATO fully supports the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Georgia within its internationally recognised borders. Therefore, we do not recognise the so-called treaty on alliance and strategic partnership signed between the Georgian region of Abkhazia and Russia on 24 November.



This so-called treaty does not contribute to a peaceful and lasting settlement of the situation in Georgia. On the contrary, it violates Georgia's sovereignty and territorial integrity and blatantly contradicts the principles of international law, OSCE principles and Russia's international commitments.

We continue to call on Russia to reverse its recognition of the South Ossetia and Abkhazia regions of Georgia as independent states and to withdraw its forces from Georgia.