



*Delegation to the EU-Armenia Parliamentary Partnership Committee,
the EU-Azerbaijan Parliamentary Cooperation Committee
and the EU-Georgia Parliamentary Association Committee*

STATEMENT

BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE DELEGATION, MEP Sajjad KARIM

**on the 10th anniversary of the deployment of the EU Monitoring Mission in Georgia
(EUMM)**

Strasbourg, 1 October 2018 - “Today marks the 10th anniversary of the deployment of the European Union Monitoring Mission in Georgia (EUMM), in the aftermath of the Russian aggression of August 2008 and the signature of the Six-Point Agreement that ended the war.

For the past decade, the EUMM has decisively contributed to enhance security and stability in the region, conducting day and night over 65,000 patrols along the Administrative Boundary Lines (ABLs) with Abkhazia and South Ossetia, thus facilitating the resumption of a safe and normal life - insofar as possible - for the populations who live in the vicinity of the ABLs, and building up confidence amongst the parties concerned, notably through its Hotline and its support to the Incident Prevention and Response Mechanism (IPRM) meetings.

We call on the Russian Federation to honour its international obligations, and notably to grant the EUMM access to the occupied regions, in accordance with the aforementioned Six-Point Agreement. At the same time, we commend the Georgian authorities on their laudable readiness for dialogue, illustrated i.a. by the “A Step for a Better Future” peace initiative.

The EU’s recent decision to extend the mandate of the EUMM for a further two years, until December 2020, is yet another proof of its commitment to contribute to a peaceful solution of the conflict, by negotiation and diplomacy.”

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