# EUMM...

- Was created after the August 2008 war by the EU
- Is operationally impartial
- Aims to ensure no return to hostilities
- Supports information exchange among all parties
- Works to allow local communities to get on with their daily lives as safely and normally as possible
- Patrols day and night
- Is not an NGO and does not provide direct humanitarian aid

# We are listening:

Our monitors are always happy to speak to you! They are accompanied by Georgian- and Russianspeaking language assistants. Just indicate that you want to talk to them!

### You can also:

- Send us an email: press@eumm.eu
- Write a letter to us:

Press and Public Information Office 49 Krtsanisi Street Krtsanisi Residential Area 0114 Tbilisi, Georgia

- Visit us online: www.eumm.eu
- And join us on Facebook! www.facebook.com /eumm.geo



European Union Monitoring Mission in Georgia

# Towards security. Building confidence.



## Who are we?

## What do we do?

EUMM is an unarmed civilian monitoring mission of the European Union. The Mission was deployed in September 2008 following the EU-mediated Six Point Agreement which ended the August war.

FUMM

Our priorities are to ensure that there is no return to hostilities, to facilitate the resumption of a safe and normal life for the local communities living in the areas adjacent to Abkhazia and South Ossetia, and to build confidence between the conflict parties.

Ever since our deployment we have been patrolling day and night, particularly in the areas adjacent to the Administrative Boundary Lines (ABLs) with Abkhazia and South Ossetia to help EU decisionmakers shape their policy in Georgia and the wider region. We have around 200 monitors from various EU Member States working on the ground. Our Headquarters are in Tbilisi and we have Field Offices in Gori, Mtskheta and Zugdidi.

Our mandate is valid throughout all of Georgia. However, the *de facto* authorities of Abkhazia and South Ossetia have so far denied us access to the territories under their control. Our efforts are primarily directed at observing the security – and humanitarian situation on the ground. We monitor the impact of the conflict on people living in the areas adjacent to the ABLs and facilitate contacts between the parties in order to prevent and reduce tensions. We also monitor the situation of internally displaced persons and follow legislative - and policy developments that affect them.

We pay particular attention to the impact of the installation of physical – and other obstacles along the ABLs with Abkhazia and South Ossetia on local communities' freedom of movement and livelihood. Against this background, we regularly report about the disruption of the supply of basic facilities, such as water, as well as about difficulties to access agricultural land, schools, social services or religious sites.

Whenever an incident or other security-related issue occurs, we facilitate information exchange between parties in order to help clarify the situation, and avoid any creation or escalation of tensions.

As a fast and direct means of communication we have a Hotline, a direct telephone line that can be activated by any conflict party around the clock.

The Hotline is part of the Incident Prevention and Response Mechanism (IPRM), which also consists of regular and *ad hoc* meetings that bring all sides together. The IPRM has often proved very useful, enabling the instant exchange of information about specific incidents or events and facilitating problem-solving at the local level. It has for instance helped facilitate the release of detainees and the safety of agricultural work in the vicinity of the ABLs. It also allows for early notification of particular activities, such as military exercises.

#### What don't we do?

We are not a humanitarian – or development organisation and cannot provide aid or fund specific projects. Nevertheless, we take note of people's views and concerns, and pass on information to those who are in a position to offer the necessary help.

