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**STATEMENT BY  
MR. MAXIM BUYAKEVICH, DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF  
THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, AT THE 1535th MEETING OF THE  
OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

25 September 2025

**In response to the address by the Co-Chairs of the International Discussions on the  
Trans-Caucasus**

Madam Chairperson,

We welcome to the Permanent Council the distinguished Co-Chairs of the International Discussions on Security and Stability in the Trans-Caucasus from the OSCE, the United Nations and the European Union. We thank them for their detailed assessments of the situation in the region and of how that negotiation format is functioning.

We consider the International Discussions on Security and Stability in the Trans-Caucasus to be an effective multilateral format for maintaining direct dialogue on issues pertaining to the post-conflict re-establishment of relations between Georgia on the one hand, and Abkhazia and South Ossetia on the other. As we see it, the main objective of the International Discussions on the Trans-Caucasus continues to be to achieve lasting peace in the region, at the core of which must be the task of ensuring reliable security for Abkhazia and South Ossetia. An important condition for accomplishing this task is that Georgia should give guarantees for the non-use of force against Abkhazia and South Ossetia, guarantees enshrined in a relevant legally binding agreement.

We are seeing attempts by certain political forces both within Georgia and beyond its borders to revise by force the status quo that has arisen in the region. Calls for the status of independent Abkhazia and independent South Ossetia to be revised are frequently to be heard even in the halls of our Organization. At the same time, we note the efforts by the North Atlantic Alliance to draw Georgia into the implementation of its militaristic plans in the Trans-Caucasus region, not least by regularly conducting combined military exercises involving troops from Georgia and the armed forces of NATO countries. We believe that such actions run counter to the joint work on post-conflict normalization that is being undertaken within the framework of the International Discussions on the Trans-Caucasus.

Further stabilization of the situation in the region could be facilitated through confirmation here at the OSCE, including in the course of discussions, of the “conciliatory” statements made by the Georgian authorities with regard to the Republic of Abkhazia and the Republic of South Ossetia, accompanied by their

translation into practice. In particular, initiation of the process of delimitation and demarcation of Georgia's State borders with Abkhazia and South Ossetia could be considered.

The attempts to politicize topics of a humanitarian nature are not conducive either to accomplishing the tasks in hand. Traditionally, this counterproductive approach has manifested itself in Georgia's persistent pushing of an extremely biased United Nations General Assembly resolution on internally displaced persons and refugees. We are convinced that the discussion of this sensitive topic must take place exclusively at those international platforms to which representatives of Abkhazia and South Ossetia have access.

We rate highly the effectiveness of the communication channels created under the aegis of the International Discussions on the Trans-Caucasus. This refers, first and foremost, to the smooth functioning of the Incident Prevention and Response Mechanism (IPRM) on the Georgian-South Ossetian border in the village of Ergnet, but also to the hotlines, which make it possible to promptly ease tensions on the ground. We are looking forward to viable proposals for relaunching the work of the IPRM in the Abkhazian town of Gal.

In closing, we should like to wish the Co-Chairs every success in their work going forward.

Thank you for your attention.