

# Press Release

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## South Ossetia: PACE President calls for an end to the violence

Strasbourg, 08.08.2008 - On behalf of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE), its President, Lluís Maria de Puig, has issued an urgent call for an immediate end to all violence in South Ossetia.

"I appeal for calm and call on all the parties to do everything in their power to prevent any further violence," said the President.

Saying that he was deeply worried about this worsening of the conflict, he deplored the large number of civilian casualties.

"We must do everything possible to prevent war and further casualties. It is through dialogue, not violence, that tensions in the region can be brought to an end. Once again, PACE offers its support to any efforts to achieve a peaceful and democratic resolution of the conflict," said the President.

The Parliamentary Assembly brings together 318 members from the national parliaments of the 47 member states.

President: Lluís Maria de Puig (Spain, SOC) ; Secretary General of the Assembly: Mateo Sorinas.

Political Groups: EPP/CD (Group of the European People's Party); SOC (Socialist Group); EDG (European Democratic Group); ALDE (Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe); UEL (Group of the Unified European Left).