

# Press Release

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## **Council of Europe Secretary General Terry Davis meets Russian Foreign Minister Serguey Lavrov in Moscow**

Strasbourg, 12.11.2008 - The Secretary General and Minister Lavrov discussed relations between the Russian Federation and the Council of Europe following the conflict in the South Caucasus and the evaluation by the Secretary General that both Georgia and Russia have not kept their commitments to the Council of Europe. They also discussed several human rights issues in Europe. The Secretary General also raised the issue of Protocol 14 on the reform of the European Convention of Human Rights and the commitment of the Russian Federation to abolish the death penalty in law. There was also an extended discussion about the wish of Belarus to be involved in Council of Europe activities.

## **Le Secrétaire Général du Conseil de l'Europe, Terry Davis, rencontre le ministre russe des Affaires étrangères, Sergueï Lavrov, à Moscou**

Strasbourg, 12.11.2008 - Le Secrétaire Général et M. Lavrov se sont entretenus sur les relations entre la Fédération de Russie et le Conseil de l'Europe suite au conflit du Sud-Caucase et au non-respect, selon le Secrétaire Général, des engagements pris par la Géorgie et la Russie envers le Conseil de l'Europe. Ils ont aussi discuté de plusieurs questions sur les droits de l'homme en Europe. Le Secrétaire Général a également soulevé la question du Protocole 14, qui porte sur la réforme de la Convention européenne des droits de l'homme, et l'engagement pris par la Fédération de Russie d'abolir, en droit, la peine de mort. Ils ont, enfin, longuement examiné le souhait du Bélarus de prendre part aux activités du Conseil de l'Europe.

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