Press Release

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From rhetoric to terrorism Statement by Terry Davis, Secretary General of the Council of Europe

Strasbourg, 14.08.2009 - A week ago, many international organisations expressed concern that the rhetoric employed by politicians in Georgia and Russia might lead to renewed violence on the anniversary of the war between these countries. I am relieved that the anniversary has passed without the escalation which worried us, but we must condemn the explosions in Abkhazia in recent days. At least two people have been killed, and several Russian tourists are reported to have been injured as a result of these explosions. These tragic events can only be described as terrorism, and it is time for everyone in the South Caucasus to recognise that terrorism is a crime and totally unacceptable in today's Europe.