

September 30, 2009



**STATEMENT FROM SOUTH OSSETIAN
PRESIDENT EDUARD KOKOITY IN RESPONSE
TO THE EUROPEAN UNION REPORT ON THE GEORGIA WAR**

“Since the night of August 7, 2008, when their world was shattered by Georgian rockets and artillery, the people of South Ossetia have known the truth. Today, the European Union report has confirmed that Georgian President Mikheil Saakashvili violated international law when he launched his brutal attack on my country, killing hundreds and leaving thousands homeless.

“Saakashvili is a war criminal and it is time for the world to stop rewarding him with billions of dollars in aid and military equipment. If the West is serious about promoting peace in the Caucasus it must hold Georgia’s president responsible for his reckless behavior and reconsider its misguided policies. To continue to arm and finance a leader who launched a military attack that killed innocent civilians is abhorrent.

“There is no going back. South Ossetia is an independent nation and will never again be part of Georgia. “

–Eduard Kokoity, President, The Republic of South Ossetia