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**Statement of the Presidium of the Baltic Assembly
on the decision to hold a “referendum” in the Tskhinvali Region**

The Baltic Assembly reiterates its firm support for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Georgia within its internationally recognised borders, and stands for peaceful resolution of all conflicts.

The Baltic Assembly fully supports the European Union Statement of 16 February 2017 on the decision to hold a “referendum” in the Tskhinvali Region and the EU Statement of 9 March 2017 on the “Closure of so-called border crossings in the occupied Abkhazia region in Georgia.”

The Baltic Assembly has repeatedly emphasised that all agreements signed between the Russian Federation and the two Georgian breakaway regions of Abkhazia and Tskhinvali/South Ossetia are not legitimate, violate international law and contradict the international commitments made by the Russian Federation.

The Baltic Assembly consistently calls on the Russian Federation to fulfil its obligations under the Ceasefire Agreement of 12 August 2008 and its subsequent Implementing Measures of 8 September 2008.

The Hague, 24 March 2017