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Courtesy translation

## **STATEMENT**

by Lolita Čigāne, Chairperson of the European Affairs Committee of the Saeima, and Ojārs Ēriks Kalniņš, Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Saeima,

## On support for the territorial integrity of Georgia and its integration in the European Union

## 21 October 2015 Riga

Lolita Čigāne, Chairperson of the European Affairs Committee of the Saeima, and Ojārs Ēriks Kalniņš, Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Saeima, having met with Teimuraz Janjalia, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Georgia to the Republic of Latvia,

**reaffirm** Latvia's unwavering support for Georgia's sovereignty and territorial integrity within its internationally recognised borders;

**strongly condemn** the Treaty on Alliance and Integration signed on 18 March 2015 between Russia and South Ossetia, as well as the Partnership Treaty between Russia and Abkhazia signed on 24 November 2014, both of which, in essence, constitute annexation of Abkhazia and South Ossetia regions;

**hold unacceptable** that the border guard of the Russian Federation has relocated the border markers on the administrative boundary between the Tbilisi-controlled territory and the South Ossetia occupied by the Russian Federation;

**indicate** that the aggressive external policy of the Russian Federation is designed to undermine Europe's security;

**commend** the progress achieved by Georgia in implementing the Visa Liberalisation Action Plan, and support introduction of a visa-free regime;

**support** further integration of Georgia in the European Union, and emphasise the need for Georgia to focus on successful implementation of the European Union Association Agreement in the coming years;

**support** Georgia's efforts of integration in NATO, complimenting Georgia's contribution to NATO operations, as well as NATO's special support programme for Georgia.

**Lolita Čigāne**Chairperson of the European Affairs
Committee of the Saeima

Ojārs Ēriks Kalniņš Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Saeima