



საქართველოს ეროვნული სამეცნიერო ფონდი
GEORGIA NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

თბილისი 0102, უზნაძის ქ. №68; ტელ: 957 416; ფაქსი: 956 205; ელ.ფოსტა: office@gnsf.ge
68, Uznadze street, 0102 Tbilisi, Phone: +99532 957 416; Fax: +99532 956 205; e-mail: office@gnsf.ge
www.gnsf.ge



№ 1-05/812

14 08 2008წ

Dear Colleagues,

Since the Rose Revolution in November 2003 the independent and sovereign Georgia has clearly demonstrated its aspiration to build free and democratic society.

As a response to our endeavour to set close relations with the United States and the European Union and join the Euro-Atlantic space and NATO, Russian Government has increased pressure on our country first of all by inspiring pro-Russian de-facto leaders of Georgian regions Abkhazia and South Ossetia for maintain violence there and then complete separation of these regions from Georgia.

More than 15 years Russia was militarizing these regions and last few months they accumulated the entire military infrastructure on the Georgian Borders. In 8 August, using "peace-keepers" status in South Ossetia as a cover, Russian militaries (thousands of soldiers of 58th regular army and hundreds of tanks) have breached borders of Georgia and today the world is witnessing open military invasion into our country. Russian invasion spread outside of conflict region. Bombing by Russian warplanes vicinities of capital city Tbilisi, airports across the country, tenement-houses, the university and the hospital in Gori, dwellings in Poti and Senaki and other cities can hardly be explained by peace-keeping mission of Russian Federation.

Escalation of hostilities in Georgia has resulted in large numbers of casualties of our peaceful citizens irrespective of their ethnic origin. Nowadays more than 23 thousand refugees from South Ossetia, Gori and western Georgia (Russia supported also separatists in second conflict region Abkhazia in western Georgia) are placed in buildings in Tbilisi – kindergartens, schools and research institutes.

Though the President of Russian Federation has approved principles for the conflict's settlement and declared ceasefire, during 12-13 August Russian and South Ossetian troops together with informal armed groups from Russian Federation have been terrorised peaceful inhabitants in and outside the conflict regions, city of Gori and nearby villages, stealing and destroying everything, killing innocent people including local and foreign journalists.

Particularly alarming is fraudulent misrepresentation of situation in Russian mass media and websites. Representing Georgian troops as executioners Russian authorities would like to find justification of their violence spreading to areas in and outside the conflict zone.

We urge to end hostilities and to engage, without delay, in negotiations to achieve a peaceful settlement. We welcome efforts of international society and especially our foreign colleagues and partner organisations to assist in current situation and in spreading out objective information.

Please believe us, from today's developments in our country Russia is trying to start the process of violation of democratic values' and word-wide domination by means of harsh military force.

On behalf of Georgia National Science Foundation,

Natia Jokhadze,
Director