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Press release

## **THE WAR IN GEORGIA AND THE RESPONSIBILITY OF EUROPEANS**

For a long time after the end of the Cold War, Europeans deluded themselves that they had gone back to being masters of their own destiny. The war in Georgia has shown them the harsh reality that it is the relations between the USA and Russia that continue and will continue to dominate Europe, despite everything.

In one fell swoop Russia's military intervention reaffirmed its own role as both a regional power, with which Europeans, Americans and former Soviet satellite states have to reckon with, and as a global nuclear power. In doing so it has asserted its influence in a region that is crucial for European energy security and the military security of the Near East, in which the Caucasus is a pivotal region directly or indirectly involving countries such as Turkey, Israel and Iran, as well as the USA.

On their part the United States are exploiting the climate of tension, through bilateral agreements with the Czech Republic, Poland and Ukraine, in order to complete the eastward shift of the line for the military containment of Russia; despite its retrenchment, Russia remains the only power that can militarily keep American influence in check regionally and globally.

As regards the European countries, they have not been able to prevent the umpteenth conflict which could have unforeseeable developments. On the contrary, with their irresponsible tolerance of Georgian rearmament and their benign neglect of Russia, the main European countries strongly contributed to the outbreak of the war. Afterwards, aside from their role as peace mediators after the event, the Europeans are once again playing a marginal and subordinate role vis-à-vis Washington's and Moscow's plans for the reorganisation of the European balance.

The European Union as such, as shown by the divergent policies implemented again in this case by France and Germany on the one hand, and by Great Britain, Poland and the Baltic States on the other, simply does not and cannot play any role independent of national policies. As confirmed by the NATO summit of 19 August, there is by now a clear inconsistency between national policies, European interests and American and Russian interests. Furthermore the European Union is a false union, without a future as an independent international player in foreign policy and security.

How different things would be with the regional and global weight of a federal core built around France, Germany and few other founder countries.

Nothing and nobody, except for the current indolence of the Europeans, and first and foremost their governments, is preventing a similar plan from being developed.

But it is mostly up to France and Germany to choose as soon as possible whether they want to create a European federal state that has the means and institutions to oversee policies that are useful to Europeans and to the world, starting from those regarding Russia, the USA and its neighbouring areas of potential conflict; or whether instead they wish to continue to supinely suffer the consequences and the risks of the increasing international anarchy.

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***Under the auspices of the Kerneuropaverein – Association for a Federal Core e.V.***  
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