

H.E. Mr Irakli Kobakhidze Chairman of the Parliament of Georgia 26, Abashidze Street Kutaisi, Georgia, 4600

7 June 2017

Dear Mr Chairman.

On behalf of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, I would like to thank you and the Parliament of Georgia once again for hosting what was an historic first Assembly Session in Georgia, as well as for dedicating so much of your time to participate in key aspects of the programme.

In your address to the Assembly's Plenary Sitting, you underlined Georgia's devotion to European values and your commitment to the development of democratic institutions. NATO, you rightly said, is not only about peace, but is also concerned with nurturing democratic ideas and values. Membership of NATO, you argued, would bring freedom and independence, a sentiment which very much resonated with delegates.

I am convinced that all participants in the Session have left Georgia with a better understanding of the difficult geopolitical environment which your country must navigate, and therefore with an even greater appreciation for Georgia's remarkable contribution to our common security. I am delighted that our support for Georgia's sovereignty, territorial integrity and Euro-Atlantic aspirations was reaffirmed in the strong declaration which the Assembly adopted at the conclusion of our Session.

I must also extend my profound thanks to you for hosting the reception at the Georgian Parliament on the Sunday evening. It was an occasion which none of us will ever forget. The setting, the entertainment and the hospitality were magnificent and I would be very appreciative if you could pass on my thanks to all those who contributed to its success.

Thank you once again for your leadership, and for the Georgian Parliament's valued contribution to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly. This Spring Session of the Assembly has been an important and memorable occasion, and your contribution and commitment were absolutely central to that success.

Yours sincerely

Paolo Alli