

## POLITICS



### **Aleksi Petriashvili delivers a speech at Crans-Montana International Economic Forum**

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The Georgian State Minister for Integration into European and Euro-Atlantic structures Aleksandre Petriashvili took part in the session - "New terrorist threats and their impact on international business, oil and gas industry" – held within the framework of the forum.

The State Minister talked about challenges regarding Georgia's aspiration to become integrated into Euro-Atlantic structures, Georgia's participation in international peacekeeping operations and threats in the region during a speech.

"One of the highest officials of NATO military leadership paid attention to Afghanistan operation, noting that the Armed Forces of Georgia are one of the classic ones in Afghanistan operation. We also talked about the capacities of Georgia's involvement in military operation in Mali via the EU and the ongoing negotiations between the EU and Georgia, but a particular attention was focused on the tense situation which is around the regional energy projects, caused by implementation of the subsequent occupation of the occupation lines and the Georgian territories", - Petriashvili said.

The State Minister underlined in his speech that the European and NATO integration is the Georgian government's unchangeable foreign political priority. Aleksandre Petriashvili paid a particular attention to the issues of initiating the EU Association and Free Trade Agreements and signing these ones at Vilnius summit in the near future. The State Minister also talked about the current political situation in Georgia, particularly, about the pre-election environment in the country.

The State Minister answered questions of the meeting's participants after his speech.