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## NATO CHIEF AFFIRMS SUPPORT FOR GEORGIA'S EURO-ATLANTIC INTEGRATION

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Georgia Today (18 March 2024)

At the joint briefing with the Georgian Prime Minister, Irakli Kobakhidze, NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg emphasized the importance of the partnership between NATO and Georgia, particularly in addressing security challenges in the Black Sea region.

At our meeting, we also addressed security in the Black Sea, which matters for both Georgia and NATO. Russias war put freedom of navigation in the Black Sea at risk and threatened global food supplies. But with our support, Ukraine has pushed back, destroying or damaging a significant part of Russias Black Sea fleet. Ukrainian success has allowed them to reopen grain shipping which is vital for the economy and global food security.

NATOs partnership with Georgia is strong and today we discussed how to develop it even further. In January, we agreed to a new individually tailored partnership program to deepen the partnership between Georgia and NATO. And I welcome the progress made in areas like crisis management, cybersecurity, and military engineering.

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