

Georgia-Russia tensions hotting up

Moscow has accused Georgia of preparing to invade its breakaway region of Abkhazia, and plans to boost Russian troops both there and in the other breakaway region of South Ossetia. Georgia denies any build-up of its own forces, and says that Russia's action is provocative

KEY RECENT EVENTS

■ **Apr 16:** Russian president **Vladimir Putin** orders government to establish legal links with Abkhazia and Ossetia – Tbilisi says move amounts to “creeping annexation” of regions

■ **Apr 21:** Tbilisi accuses Russian jet of shooting down Georgian spy drone over Abkhazia. Russia denies action

■ **Apr 24:** Georgian President **Mikhail Saakashvili** says he will seek Western support to replace Russian peacekeepers with international force

