

# Russia redraws map of Europe

Russian president Dmitry Medvedev's decision to recognise two breakaway Georgian regions as independent states signals the Kremlin's determination to shape its neighbours' destinies even at the risk of confrontation with the West



■ Moscow

## Baltic states:

Only ex-Soviet republics to join NATO and EU, have sizeable Russian minorities. Fear failure by West to stop Russia in Georgia makes it easier for Kremlin to interfere elsewhere

**Belarus:** Embroiled in trade row over energy supplies. Kremlin annoyed by **President Lukashenko's** lukewarm response to Russia's intervention in Georgia

## 2 UKRAINE



**Sevastopol:** Ukraine wants to renegotiate lease for HQ of Russia's Black Sea fleet

Republic of Crimea

**1 GEORGIA:** Has recalled all but two diplomats from its embassy in Moscow following Russia's recognition of regions



**Abkhazia:** Population 250,000 – 30% ethnic Abkhaz, rest Russian, Armenian, Georgian

**South Ossetia:** Population 70,000 – majority ethnic Ossetian



## 3 MOLDOVA :

**Trans-Dniester:** Split from Moldova in 1990, fought war in 1992. 60% of around 540,000 population is ethnic Russian or Ukrainian

Following Georgian war, Moldova's **President Voronin** has turned to EU for help in finding peaceful way out of "frozen conflict"



## 2 UKRAINE:

**President Yushchenko** pressing for NATO and EU membership

Georgia conflict has widened rifts among country's political leaders over whether to steer Kiev towards Moscow or West

**Analysts say Crimea, where 60% of 2 million population is ethnic Russian, could be used by Russia to destabilise Ukraine**

