

## **Independent International Commission Report on South Ossetia, July 25, 2008**

Increased tensions between Russia and Georgia in recent months pose a serious threat to peace and stability in the region and beyond.

Mutual accusations, military buildups and non-routine exercises that violate the 1992 cease-fire might lead to uncontrolled escalation and even violence.

The 'war of words' in the media involves local and international newspapers.

It seems that intervention and mediation by external powers, such as the US and the European Union, are necessary to constrain further escalation by Russia and Georgia, the two bitter rivals.

Fig. 5.2. Scenario format: International Commission Report