Federica Favi: It is as a result of our efforts that Italian business delegations are coming to Georgia

European Commissioner visits Georgia

Stefan Fule, the European Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy, has visited Georgia. On July 9 Fule met President Mikheil Saakashvili in Tbilisi before travelling to Armenia. He then returned on July 11 to participate in a two-day conference in Batumi. The Commissioner also held meetings with Prime Minister Bidzina Ivanishvili, government members, lawmakers and civil society representatives.

Do Not Drink and Drive! Drunk drivers may be deprived of their licenses

Parents face stricter sanctions for the behavior of their children

Iran Has Been Encouraged to Threaten Georgia’s National Security

Music is Not Only Art, it Breaks Boundaries

Full Hotels and 31% More Tourists

Chief Prosecutor will not reverse grant of immunity
Chief Prosecutor will not reverse grant of immunity

By LIKA MOSHASHIVILI

Chief Prosecutor Archil Kbilashvili will not satisfy PM Ivanishvili’s request to reverse a decision he made to give former prison officer Vladimir Bedukadze immunity.

“The law does not give me any possibility to change this decision, even if I wanted to”, Kbilashvili said at a news conference on July 9. “So the decision will stand.”

Bedukadze was granted immunity under a special plea bargain deal because he helped expose the “systemic crime” of the inhuman treatment of inmates. He added that by making the videos public Bedukadze not only exposed these crimes but implicated himself in committing them, and did so despite the threat to his own personal safety and without having any “self-interest.”

Minister and other members of the government, Kbilashvili commented that he respects the Prime Minister’s position, which he said was a product of the “highest moral standards,” but his own position is unchanged.

Kbilashvili stated that Bedukadze had managed to sneak the videos out of the prison and hand them over to someone who could make them person a year before they were made public. He said that the videos showing the abuse of inmates were “recorded on the orders of a not-so-poor person.”

“A lot of money was paid for this,” the President said. “These tapes then appeared in the hands of this not-so-poor person, who then used them for political purposes.” He pointed out that the videos had been sufficiently qualified. However it would be unfair to blame only the Chief Prosecutor for these problems”.

Gela Nikolashvili, a human rights lawyer, thinks that Kbilashvili made an appropriate decision with regard to Bedukadze. “All the minuses and plusses must be compared. I think the plusses of this decision outweigh the minuses. I do not say that Bedukadze is an angel or hero, but he has dissolved a sadistic regime of torture and abuse in the prisons and this should be taken into account.”

By NANA GAGA

The Georgian government has received an unexplained number of the abuse videos,” Saakashvili said. “Bedukadze will then tell us how it was done. As a result, a “fairy tale” the Prime Minister’s claims that the Chief Prosecutor took the decision to grant Bedukadze immunity independently, without prior consultation with him. “The Justice Minister can, upon the instruction of the PM, demand Kbilashvili’s dismissal and I will accept his dismissal right now. If this is a real dispute between them and not some kind of game let them prove this and I will approve it. But I hope Kbilashvili and the Chief Prosecutor will not make money as was paid for the prison abuse videos.”

Parliament Overrides Two Presidential Vetoes

The Parliament overturned on July 12 presidential vetoes on two bills— one related to amendments to the law on broadcasting and another envisaging cutting of President’s powers over the Georgian National Energy and Water Supply Regulatory Commission.

The presidential objections concerning the package of bills, passed by the Parliament on May 31, envisaging reforming composition of the public TV’s board of trustees, transforming Adjarra TV’s status into public broadcasting and providing measures for more financial transparency of broadcasters, mainly concerned part of the legislation, which envisages giving the Parliament the right to disband GBP’s board of trustees in case of GBP’s budget problems or failure to fulfill its content-related programming priorities.

Another bill on which the presidential veto was overturned will shift the right of appointing chairman and members of the Georgian National Energy and Water Supply Regulatory Commission from President to Prime Minister. In his objections President Saakashvili was demanding to postpone enacting of the amendment till the end of his presidential term.

If the President again refuses to sign the bills, Parliament’s Chairman Davit Usupadze will become eligible to do that.
MORE TRAVEL AND
MORE SWEET MEMORIES

American Express Gold Card

Apply until September 1st and
get more from life.

(0 32) 2 444 300
www.amexgold.ge
The charming Ambassador of Italy to Georgia, Federica Favi, here shares her opinions on Georgia and Georgians and cultural and economic relations between Italy and Georgia.

Can you give us your impressions of Georgia?

My first involvement with Georgia came while I was in Geneva. I was there as Counselor on Humanitarian Affairs to the permanent mission of Italy to the U.N. I was appoint- ed in early September 2008, meaning that the first crisis I had to deal with was the Russian-Georgian war. This was my unexpected introduction to Georgia. I immediately felt very attached to this country. Subsequently I had many other crises to deal with, but Georgia was the first. I also came here as Ambassador unexpectedly, because I was asked to come here by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and was given half an hour to decide. They just said: are you going to Tbilisi? and I said OK, I will go to Tbilisi.

So did you like the idea of coming here?

Of course, being an Ambassador in a nice country is always perfect. I had general information about this country from September 2008, even though I had not been to Tbilisi before, and this was extremely positive. To become an Ambassador for the first time is something which interests every dip- lomat. I found it very easy to adapt to the country when I arrived. My predecessor and the whole Embassy staff welcomed me very warmly and the Georgian authorities and people and the international community in Tbilisi were all very kind, nice and amenable to me because Italians and Georgians share a particular set of emotional affinities. I feel Georgians are very close to us. Both our countries have long histories and established traditions and both our peoples are very family-oriented. You share the same values as us. We both love our countries. So I was really hap- py to come to Georgia. I can say that I really feel at home here. Even your nature is very similar to Italy’s.

What sort of cultural and educational relations do Italy and Georgia have?

There are many bilateral technical agreements between our universities and yours. We also have four archaeological missions here, financed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Italy. They have been working in Georgia for many years, and have done some very extraordinary things. We also have a tradition of offering scholarships to Georgian students. Not long ago we had a transparent selec- tion of Georgians for these scholarships with the help of our Universities Minister, and the winners included a number of students who have since become famous after studying at Santa Cecilia and the Teatro De La Scala, so we are proud of this programme. We also conduct a number of cultural exchange activities. We teach the Italian language at Tsqari School and we have an Italian professor at Javakhish- vil University who was sent here by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and is financed by it. The famous Danilare lan- guage school, where 400 stu- dents study Italian art and the Italian language, is also here. You might remember that last October the famous Gian- carlo Giannini came to Georgia and many other Italian singers have also been here in recent years. We are involved in a lot of cultural and theatrical activi- ties here and many Georgians also go to Italy for an Educa- tion.

How can we persuade Italian Investors to come to Geor- gia?

Georgia did a lot to encour- age this under its previous gov- ernment and this governments doing the same. Business dele- gations from Sicily, Rome and northern Italy visit Georgia regularly to get acquainted with this country and obtain neces- sary information. One delega- tion was interested in hydro- electric power stations, as is the case in Zugdidi, which involves establishing fac- tories to process hazelnuts for use in confectionery and train- ing locals in hazelnut cultivation, is a veritable challenge and will continue through 2015. We have in general very signifi- cant economic relations and last year we achieved a record trade turnover between our two coun- tries of over two hundred mil- lion euro. We also have direct flights between Rome and Tbilisi twice a week. Alitalia flies from Tbilisi on Tuesdays and Sundays and from Rome to Tbilisi on Mondays and Sat- urdays, using Airbus A320 planes offering business and economy class services. Georgian passen- gers in transit elsewhere also take these flights. The visa application pro- cess for Georgians has also im- proved. The Embassy has seen a huge increase in the number of visa applications. Last year there were about 8,000, and the latest figures show that in the first five months of 2013 visa requests from Georgian citizens increased by 106.7%. However the application pro- cess took a long time because we did not employ any extra personnel, and arrived at the point where two employees were simply not enough for the job. We want to comply with the rules and have shorter wait- ing times for appointments, and therefore asked a private company to help us. We issued 10,000 visas in a short period, and in the end only one company proved able to meet its terms and take on this extremely important task, which is Visa Manage- ment Services (VMS) a ren- owned Italian company legal- ly registered in Georgia, which is based at Rustaveli 27 and supplies the same services to the Italian Consulates in Rus- sia and Ukraine. They manage a huge number of Italian visa applications. They take care of all the procedures, but the actual decisions remain the prerogative of the Italian Embas- sary. VMS has a lot of staff and can therefore offer appointments within a very short time - currently, this pro- cess takes only a day. A suc- cessful applicant can receive a visa within a maximum of ten days.

What was the political situ- ation in the country when you came and what is it like now?

I think Georgia achieved great success by holding fair and democratic elections last October. This was very impor- tant for the country. The new government has succeeded in reconfirming the Western ori- entation of Georgia. This is extremely important for us. We are happy to see that Geo- rgia is still interested in NATO and the European Union. We support Georgia in this direc- tion. We also believe in Geo- rgia’s territorial integrity. I think that the decision of the new government to restore contact with Russia demonstrates cour- age and pragmatism. It is sim- ply not possible for Georgia to thrive without cultivating posi- tive relations with such a large neighbour. We note that Geo- rgia has been very clear in terms of what the red line in relations with Russia must be. Of course, we will continue to contribute to facilitating the peaceful reso- lution of the existing conflicts; we support the Geneva talks, in which Georgia is deeply en- gaged.

I also believe that the coun- try needs to combat the culture of impunity, and must pursue this ambition and establish rule of law and justice, as these are very important. It seems that the country is making progress in this area, and the appointment of new judges is helping to address this. I can only observe.

What do you think about the expropriation process tak- ing place in Georgia?

It has been very difficult until now. Sometimes I see posi- tive elements in this parliamen- tarian cooperation, such as dur- ing the recent meeting on con- stitutional reforms, but some- times as foreign observers we see difficulties between the two sides. However I believe that even small expropriation can be positive and constructive. I think it is good for both politi- cal sides to conduct their fight inside the country and not broadcast their problems to the rest of the world. If you aspire to membership of important international organisations you should demonstrate as far as possible that you can conduct constructive internal dialogue. Most of the world thought that Georgia and its previous government were ex- tremely democratic, while in reality we lived in a disquiet- ingly undemocratic environ- ment, now we have to show the international community what the reality was? No. I do not agree with this. I disagree completely. I think the rest of the world is able to judge for itself.

But does it do so?

Of course. You need to un- derstand that the small details of your internal affairs can be addressed inside the country, because making your problems public can damage the image of the country, whether this is done by the government or the President. Georgia should be presented in the best way it can be, as the country deserves it.

Do you think there is enough progress in the Russian-Geor- gian negotiations of the Russian-Georgian conflict? It is true that the negotiations of the Georgian-Russi- an conflict were a brutal regime which stayed in power by intimidating people.

We cannot judge this. I can- not judge the country by the videos I see. The courts must decide whether crimes were committed or not. What I saw on the videos was a crime, but I do not know how I can deter- mine who committed it I have no instrument with which to judge. I can only observe.

There was no need to show those videos to us. They should only be shown to the judges and the courts. I support all the ini- tiatives being taken against the culture of impunity and the establish- ment of good, proper justice as this is in the interests of the country.

What do you think about the rehabilitation process tak- ing place in Georgia?

It has been very difficult until now. Sometimes I see posi- tive elements in this parliamen- tarian cooperation, such as dur- ing the recent meeting on con- stitutional reforms, but some- times as foreign observers we see difficulties between the two sides. However I believe that even small expropriation can be positive and constructive. I think it is good for both politi- cal sides to conduct their fight inside the country and not broadcast their problems to the rest of the world. If you aspire to membership of important international organisations you should demonstrate as far as possible that you can conduct constructive internal dialogue. Most of the world thought that Georgia and its previous government were ex- tremely democratic, while in reality we lived in a disquiet- ingly undemocratic environ- ment, now we have to show the international community what the reality was? No. I do not agree with this. I disagree completely. I think the rest of the world is able to judge for itself.

But does it do so?

Of course. You need to un- derstand that the small details of your internal affairs can be addressed inside the country, because making your problems public can damage the image of the country, whether this is done by the government or the President. Georgia should be presented in the best way it can be, as the country deserves it.

Do you think there is enough progress in the Russian-Geor- gian conflict? It is true that the negotiations of the Georgian-Russi- an conflict were a brutal regime which stayed in power by intimidating people.

We cannot judge this. I can- not judge the country by the videos I see. The courts must decide whether crimes were committed or not. What I saw on the videos was a crime, but I do not know how I can deter- mine who committed it I have no instrument with which to judge. I can only observe.

There was no need to show those videos to us. They should only be shown to the judges and the courts. I support all the ini- tiatives being taken against the culture of impunity and the establish-ment of good, proper justice as this is in the interests
Exclusively for Silknet’s internet subscribers

Notebooks for special prices

699 Gel
579 Gel
You save: 120 Gel

640 Gel
550 Gel
You save: 90 Gel

Devices provided by
Camara Systems
Al. Yazbegi ave. 19

Devices provided by
“Ultra” store
Gvini Aghmari 23, Al. Kazbegi ave. 9

Become our internet subscriber for 6 months, and get a notebook on special terms!

2 100 100
www.silknet.com

Fiber Optic Technologies
Centre Point Group founders face 11 years imprisonment

The two owners of one of Georgia’s largest property development and construction companies, the Center Point Group, which has gained notoriety for allegedly duping thousands of its clients, have been charged with large-scale fraud and embezzlement. Maia Rcheulishvili and Rusudan Ker- valishvili, the founders of the company, may each face up to 11 years in prison.

According to a statement made by the Prosecutor’s Office, Rusudan Kervalishvili, an MP in the previous parliament, Maia Rcheulishvili, her sister and a 33% shareholder in the Dexus company, which was given the management of the Center Point Group a few years ago, are accused of skim- ming off millions of dollars which should have been spent on constructing apartment blocks in Tbilisi, helped by Tsaguria.

The Center Point Group became very popular soon after it was founded in 2004 and thousands of people paid for apartments it promised to build which never materialized. Some buildings which according to the contracts issued should have been completed by 2007 were not constructed at all. The Prosecutor’s Office said on July 11 that the completion of these projects became impossible after Maia Rcheulishvili and Rusudan Kervalishvili, the founders of the Group, embezzled GEL 11 million through “various illegal schemes.”

After the Center Point Group announced it could not meet its obligations the company’s management was handed over to the newly established firm Dexus in September, 2010. The latter pledged to deliver Center Point Group’s outstanding projects within three years, but required additional investment to do so. Some of this was attracted by asking cli- ents to make additional payments on top of those they had already paid to Center Point Group when purchasing their yet unbuilt flats. Dexus, says that as of March 2013 it had fulfilled its obligations to 2,200 clients of the Center Point Group, but the latter terminated its management contract with Dexus at that point, citing disagreements over how to fulfill its obligations to the remaining customers.

While the two owners of the Center Point Group were released from the Prosecutor’s Office after interrogation, Tsaguria remained under arrest. The Prosecutor’s Office claims that in 2011 Tsaguria helped Rcheulishvili and Kervalishvili embezzle USD 615,000. He denies the charge.

Rcheulishvili has commented on the proceedings and insisted she is not guilty. She maintains that she and her sis- ter handed over property in the amount of $94,215,000 dollars to Dexus Management and this capital should have been suffi- cient to cover all debts and com- plete all the constructions. Rcheulishvili also said that her company remained “fully oper- ational” despite her arrest.

“I am not pleading guilty. I have not fully familiarized my- self with the documentation concerning this case. They will send me the papers and I will study them,” Rcheulishvili said after being indicted at the Pros- ecutor’s Office.

Asked by a journalist whether she though the charg- es had a political motivation or not, Rcheulishvili noted that she could see no such connection. “I will cooperate with the investigation in order to im- prove the situation of the com- pany. I am surprised to be in- dicted in an election period shortly after the statements made by the Justice Minister and the PM about refraining from further detentions,” Ker- valishvili said.

Although Kervalishvili was a UNM MP and Deputy Speaker of Parliament from 2008 to 2012 she was never an especially active polit- ical figure and completely dis- tanced herself from politics af- ter serving her four-year term in Parliament.

Maia Rcheulishvili’s hus- band, Vakhtang Rcheulishvili, was an MP in the 1990s and early 2000s but left politics af- ter the 2003 Rose Revolution. He has commented that the company will have no com- plaints from customers “withi- n a year” if left to get on with its work, but “the only things its customers receive if its founders and managers Maia Rcheulishvili and Rusudan Ker- valishvili are found guilty of unlawful appropriation of millions by the court. Tbilisi City Court partially upheld Public Prosecutor’s peti- tion and an executive mea- sures imposed a fine in the amount of 250-250 lari for the founders of Centre Point Rusudan Kervalishvili and Maia Rcheulishvili. The Court rejected Prosecutors’ petition about imprisonment of the founders of Dexus Ivane Tsaguria. Ivane Tsaguria was released from the Court room on bail of 100 thousand lari which he has to pay within 30 days.

CDM Leader Runs for President

Giorgi Targamadze, leader of the Christian-Democratic Movement (CDM), announced on Friday about intention to run for president in the October 27 elections.

Targamadze said that he’s expecting presidential elections to go into a run-off as none of the candidates will be able to win an outright victory in the first round on October 27.

“We have a great hope that Georgian people’s major value, Christian democracy, together with my team and my candidacy will become one of the main motives for the representative of Georgian Christian Democrats to be in the second round of election,” Targamadze said.

CDM, which was established in 2008 and represented parliamentary minority group in the previous parliament, failed in the October 2012 parliamentary elections to clear 5% threshold required for endorsing members to the legislative body and garnered only 2.68% of votes.

Other candidates who have so far confirmed their intention to run in the October presidential election are Georgian Dream coalition’s Giorgi Margvelashvili, who is the Education Minister; Nino Burjanadze, leader of the Democratic Movement-Uniqa Georgia party; leader of Labor Party Shalva Natelashvili and former Labor Party member Nestan Kirtadze.

President Saakashvili’s UNM party is now in the process of selecting its presidential candidate through internal party elections, which is held in six stages involving regional conferences and debates between primary candidates, after two regional conferences former parliament speaker and now leader of UNM parliamentary minority group David Bakradze is leading in the primaries.

The deadline for submitting applications to the Central Election Commission for being registered as a presidential candidate expires on September 7.

Akaki Bobokhidze: President Should Resign from the Chairing of UNM

Akaki Bobokhidze, the member of Parliamentary Minority states during his interview with the newspaper “the Versia”, that he would demand resignation of a president of Georgia from the UNM party’s chair. He considers, that the party should be led by the people who did not make a mistake, or were not direct participants of the crime which happened.

“I consider, that the president of Georgia should leave the post of the UNM chair!,, This is my position and I tell you about it for the first time with you, I have not offered it to the party year, though I am going to do it in nearest future with my peers.

I hope it will be shared by others, as the party should lead by the people who did not make the mistake or were not directly involved in the crime! Generally, initially the mistake was made, by integration of party and power structures’ leaders. Such mistake should not be done by any party, as consolidation of political and power levers will bring to the wrong actions. Of course, in my statement I consider myself first of all, as I had to foresee the mistakes, but I had missed”, says Bobokhidze.
Parents face stricter sanctions for the behavior of their children

By: LELA TINTSADZE, GT

The Ministry of Internal Affairs has asked parliament to make amendments to the Administrative Code which would strengthen the existing sanctions against parents who do not keep their children away from drink and drugs.

Under the existing code, if under aged persons take drugs without a prescription from a doctor or get drunk in a public place their parents or guardians are given the warning or a 200 GEL fine. Under the bill submitted to parliament this fine will be increased from 200 to 500 GEL.

Head of the Ministry’s legal department Zviad Okropiridze says that insufficient attention has been paid to this issue in the past. “Actually, these were sleeping or dead articles in the Code of Administrative Violations, either partially implemented or not implemented at all. In some cases, the person who bore administrative responsibility for the young person’s actions was not involved in the case in any way,” said Okropiridze.

Article 135 of the Administrative Code, which concerns buying and selling alcohol, is also being amended. There is currently a gap in the law, which the MIA rather than parliament is responsible for amending. From now on, the selling of alcoholic beverages to underage persons will carry a fine of 500 GEL. A repeat violation within a year will carry a fine of 800 GEL. If a parent or any other person gives alcohol to a minor this will also attract a fine of GEL on each occasion it occurs.

The MIA believes that Article 135 as it stood was unworkable and was therefore not implemented appropriately. “Parents did not pay relevant attention to it as the sanctions it imposed were very low. Parents’ sense of responsibility will increase when the law becomes stricter,” said Okropiridze.

“This is not only about bringing children up. The article clearly states that parents and guardians are responsible in law if those they are responsible for in law the rest of the time take drugs without prescription, join them in doing so, get drunk in public places and buy, receive or drink alcohol,” he said.

Teona Kuchava, UNICEF Programme Coordinator, says that the main focus of the amendments is to reduce problematic behaviour, and therefore it would be better to provide the family with support so that it can cope with the problems posed by the child rather than punish these families by means of legal sanctions.

“Support for families would involve consultation with the social services, child protection and education sectors. Some work should be undertaken with the child themselves in order to overcome certain problems,” said Kuchava.

According to the Civil Code of Georgia, a parent is obliged to bring up a child in a healthy environment, under normal conditions, and to care for its health. “The family plays a great role in this regard, and in most cases anti-social behaviour is provoked by dysfunction within the family or other problems which make it impossible to overcome without intervention. Therefore, we have to strengthen the skills and capacities of families to cope with such behaviour. We cannot limit ourselves to involving the law enforcement system. Other factors are at work here, and in most cases involving other agencies may produce better results,” said Teona Kuchava, who added that a family’s financial situation is also a significant cause of anti-social behaviour among their children.

“When a parent tries to avoid fulfilling their parental obligations this is another matter. In such cases severe measures should be taken by the law. But when we are dealing with a child’s problematic behaviour and the family being unable to cope with it, it is more effective to offer support to the family,” she said.

The UNICEF child protection unit provides as well as lobbying for family support rather than sanctions. The Ministry of Justice has also developed a crime prevention strategy aimed at minors. This contains three levels of prevention, and special focus is placed on the second level, which is aimed at those who are at risk of committing a crime. The strategy seeks to minimize the risk factors which might provoke them into criminality. Proper identification of minors at risk of criminal involvement and the development of effective referral mechanisms are important for the achievement of the goals of second level prevention.

Do Not Drink and Drive!

Drunk drivers may be deprived of their licenses

By: TATIA GAGUA, GT

Everyone acknowledges that a drunk driver is a potential killer. Yet despite this, the set penalties for drink-driving, we often hear that a car accident has been caused by a drunk driver. The imposition of a 200 GEL fine for drunk driving, under Article 116 of the Administrative Code, has seemingly had little effect.

Therefore the Interior Ministry is planning to make the law stricter. It is proposing to punish anyone caught driving after they have drunk more than a set legal limit, as determined by the standard on the breathalyser test, by depriving them of their driving licence for a year rather than fining them. If the person is under 18, they will lose their licence for 2 years.

According to the Office of National Statistics 3,539 car accidents were reported in 2012. Of these, around 5% were caused by drinking. The Georgian Times has conducted a driver survey and found a broad measure of support for the new proposals. The majority of drivers we spoke to agreed that the existing 200 GEL fine is no deterrent to those who wish to put themselves and others at risk by driving whilst under the influence and approve of the initiative to make penalties stricter. Some disagree with the idea of an immediate deprivation of licence, but even those drivers supporting doubled the fine and reassessing the legal alcohol limit. Most describe depriving drunk-drivers of their licences for a year is quite a humana sanction.

Western countries traditionally have low tolerance of drunk drivers. In the United Kingdom, a drunk driver can expect several months imprisonment AND a fine AND disqualification from driving for at least 12 months. U.S. legislation varies from state to state but follows a similar pattern. In California for example drunk driving car- ries a prison sentence of between 96 hours and 6 months or a fine and deprivation of driving licence, and repeated violations carry stricter sanctions, specifically imprisonment of between 90 days and 1 year, a further fine and loss of driving licence for 2 years. In most countries the size of fines imposed depends on the degree of drunkenness registered by the breathalyser test.

Zviad Okropiridze, head of MIA’s legal department, told GT that the 200 GEL fine is clearly not sufficient as statistics show that drunk driving is becoming more common, and in recent times much more common. Stricter penalties are therefore being proposed in order to control the situation. He added that in some countries drunk driving is a criminal offense and Georgia’s mere administrative punishment is quite inadequate. He added that a driver who has already been deprived of his licence will also be fined 700 GEL, and have their licence taken off them again for a further year, in cases of repeat violation.

The proposals have been incorporated in a draft bill which is currently under discussion in parliament, and its passage would significantly increase public safety.
Iran Has Been Encouraged to Threaten Georgia’s National Security

By Dr. Vakhtang Maisaia, GT

In recent times the international press has most often mentioned Georgia within its ongoing coverage of the so-called “Iran problem”, in other words the Western concern over Iran’s involvement in regional affairs. Since the Syrian crisis evolved and the “Iranian nuclear dossier” was published this story has gained added impetus.

The Wall Street Journal article of 29 June 2013 has provoked much discussion. This identifies the “Iranian Revolutionary Guards” as one of the customers of the Iranian company “Farsi Civilization Development Co.” which sells various products in Georgia ranging from tomato sauce to bathroom tiles. On 9 July The Algemeiner followed this up by stating that: “The EU Must Designate Iran’s Revolutionary Guards as Terrorists.” This article, by Stephen Hoffman, underscored the impact of the IRG’s activities at international level. It said that: “The IRG is a branch of Iran’s government committed to protecting Iran’s Islamist revolution. They do this through brutally suppressing democracy at home and by exporting revolution abroad, generally through terrorism.

This is either through the creation of terror groups, for instance Herzbullah in the 1980s, or sending their own operatives into countries including Azerbaijan, Georgia, Iran, Kenya, Venezuela and the United States. This is often done through the IRG’s external branch, the Quds Force, which has been engaged in terrorist activities as well as training and providing financial support for groups such as Islamic Jihad and Hamas.” The newspaper’s list of countries in which the IRG has been active included Georgia.

In 2010, Georgia decided to lift visa requirements for Iranian nationals. It is one of just three countries in Europe and the Middle East which granted Iranians such easy access. The number of companies registered in Georgia by Iranians shot up to 1,489 last year, having been just 34 in 2010. According to both Georgian government officials and Iranian businessmen themselves, the warm welcome given them has more recently led to growing numbers of Iranian nationals moving to Tbilisi from Dubai—which, under U.S. pressure, has tightened its restrictions on Iranian businesses.

All this makes it very clear why the President of Georgia and his most prominent supporters, including then Prime Minister Nika Gilauri, so frequently visited the Middle East and Persian Gulf countries during their tenures.

In 2010, Georgia decided to lift visa requirements for Iranian nationals. It is one of just three countries in Europe and the Middle East which granted Iranians such easy access. The number of companies registered in Georgia by Iranians shot up to 1,489 last year, having been just 34 in 2010. According to both Georgian government officials and Iranian businessmen themselves, the warm welcome given them has more recently led to growing numbers of Iranian nationals moving to Tbilisi from Dubai—which, under U.S. pressure, has tightened its restrictions on Iranian businesses.

All this makes it very clear why the President of Georgia and his most prominent supporters, including then Prime Minister Nika Gilauri, so frequently visited the Middle East and Persian Gulf countries during their tenures. One of their favourite destinations was certainly of interest to Iran - namely Dubai. These visits need to be evaluated, at the very least from the perspectives of conflict of interest and corruption, features endemic to the nine years of UNM rule, before the terrorism aspect is even considered.

However, if this were not enough, another factor needs to be taken into consideration. Two major newspapers have suddenly discovered and written about this story in back-to-back articles when the Georgians indicated have little standing left in Georgia. Are there not grounds for concern that these individuals might have been cooperating with foreign special services whilst encouraging IRG activity in Georgia, and receiving money for doing so? This also needs to be seriously investigated and proper decisions taken.

Dr. Vakhtang Maisaia
Military expert, Associate Professor at Sukhishvili Teaching University
Director, the GT Ari Strategic Studies Centre

Egypt and Turkey: Clash of Civilizations—Truth or Mystification???

By Dr. Vakhtang Maisaia, GT

In 1993 the famous and influential journal Foreign Affairs published an article by Professor Samuel Huntington entitled: “Clash of Civilizations????” in which he expressed some interesting thoughts on the future development of global politics (Huntington later expanded on this discussion in his 1996 book The Clash of Civilizations and the Remaking of the World Order). In sum, Huntington defined the clash of civilizations as a new historical process that in previous epochs, the international system was mainly about struggles between monarchs, nations and ideologies, primarily within Western civilization.

But after the Cold War global politics moved into a new phase in which non-Western civilizations were more the exploited recipients of Western civilization but important actors in their own right, shaping and moving world history alongside the West. Huntington also argued that civilization conflicts are “particularly prevalent between Muslims and non-Muslims”, identifying the “bloody borders” between Islamic and non-Islamic civilizations. This conflict dates back as far as the initial thrust of Islam into Europe.

More recent factors contributing to a Western-Islamic clash, Huntington wrote, are the Islamic Resurgence, the demographic explosion within Islam and the Islamic fundamentalist annihilation with Western universality—that is, the idea that all civilizations should adopt Western values. A combination of all these historical and modern factors, Huntington suggested in his Foreign Affairs article and in much more detail in his 1996 book, would lead to a bloody clash between Islamic and Western civilizations.

Huntington wrote all this almost 20 years ago, but the “Clash of Civilizations” he describes has now emerged in two Islamic countries, Turkey and Egypt, where clashes on religious matters are striking at the heart of the state.

In Turkey conflict arose due to ecological disagreements and has now become a political religious standoff between moderate political Islamists, led by the Erdogan government, and the Islamic and the Islamic and the Islamic and the Islamic and the Islamic military leaders, led by the several Presidents during that period, Abdel Nasser, Anwar Sadat and Hosni Mubarak, were high-ranking military officers.

Dr. Vakhtang Maisaia
Military expert, Associate Professor at Sukhishvili Teaching University
Director, the GT Ari Strategic Studies Centre

In Egypt the situation is worsening on a daily basis. It is assumed that the escalation of conflict in the Sinai Peninsula is being coordinated by Sheikh Muhammad al-Zawahiri, the brother of Al-Qaeda leader Ayman al-Zawahiri and himself a leader of the Egyptian Salafi-Jamaat.

Zawahiri issued a fatwa, authorizing a jihad against Egypt’s secular opposition, military and police force. This puts Egypt on the slippery slope to a civil war which the jihadists appear happy to provoke.

The global jihadist discourse orchestrated by Al-Qaeda is stepping up its propaganda against Egypt’s security forces, secular opponents and Coptic Christians, all of whom it sees as bitter enemies of Islam who wish only to thwart Egypt’s wish to transform itself into an Islamic state. The clash between the military and the Islamic Brotherhood has now become the country’s new civil authorities are seeking to project an air of normalcy.

On 9 July Interim President Adly Mansour appointed a new Prime Minister and Vice President and laid out a pathway to holding quick elections, amending the constitution and ensuring a return to democracy. Then at the last moment he proposed to the Brotherhood that it participate in forming the new government, but the Brotherhood unsurprisingly rejected this proposal.

Egypt is no longer the Levant’s leading state, and the newly established democratic institutions are many particular- ly vulnerable by the fact that the military are perfectly capable of running the country. They did in fact do so, without a break, from 1952 until the Arab Spring (all three Presidents during that period, Abdel Nasser, Anwar Sadat and Hosni Mubarak, were high-ranking military officers).

Dr. Vakhtang Maisaia
Military expert, Associate Professor at Sukhishvili Teaching University
Director, the GT Ari Strategic Studies Centre
European Commissioner visits Georgia

By LIKAMOUSHASHIVILI

Stefan Fule, the European Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy, has visited Georgia. On July 9 Fule met President Mikheil Saakashvili in Tbilisi before travelling to Armenia. He then returned on July 11 to participate in a two-day conference in Batumi. The Commissioner also held meetings with Prime Minister Bidzina Ivanishvili, government members, lawmakers and civil society representatives.

“In order to make Georgia’s transition a genuine success we still need to see further strengthening of its democratic institutions and deeper efforts to prevent polarisation within society,” commented Fule in his speech.

The Commissioner said that the EU fully respects the pledge of the new government to the Georgian people to address any legacy of the past, but trusts that this will be done in full conformity with Georgia’s international obligations and European values.

“It is necessary to proceed with fairness and relevant process. Georgia should move forward, not stay in the past, and not constantly talk about what was done by the former government. It should look to the future and do its best to continue its development of democratic processes,” explained Stefan Fule.

Regarding the arrests of former ministers, the Commissioner stated that the EU expects the Georgian authorities to pursue justice in these cases “impartially and free from political motivation.”

“No one is above the law, but at the same time a free, transparent and impartial process needs to be adopted and applied,” Fule noted.

Speaking at a joint press conference with the Commissioner PM Ivanishvili commented that Georgia is moving into a “new stage” of relations with the European Union which “will make Georgia’s EU integration irreversible.” He expressed hope that the Vilnius summit would be “historic.”

Georgia expects to sign an Association Agreement with the EU, which includes a deep and comprehensive free trade treaty, at the Eastern Partnership summit in Vilnius in November. He has to be taken in a European way. There is no other way to get there,” Fule explained. He added that the summit would mark a watershed in EU-Georgia relations.

During the meeting PM Ivanishvili stressed his government’s commitment to the co-habitation process, and in this context mentioned his recent meeting with United National Movement parliamentary minority leader Davit Bakradze, and Parliamentary Chairman Davit Usupashvili that his private seaside residence in Sukhumi, western Georgia, on July 6. He also noted that the October presidential elections would demonstrate that “the country is moving ahead in terms of democratic development.”

Stefan Fule praised Ivanishvili’s July 10 statement that his government had “an ambitious and desire to hold an exemplary clean, free and fair” presidential election on October 27. “Let me also express my appreciation for your decision of yesterday, which, I think, has set the right tone for this important event in Georgia,” Fule said. “However, we still need to see a further strengthening of Georgia’s democratic institutions and the promotion of political pluralism and media freedom,” he added.

Also on July 11 Stefan Fule and State Minister for Europe and Euro-Atlantic Integration Alexi Petridadze, signed a financing agreement. This stipulates that the European Union will allocate EUR 16 million to Georgia to help enhance Georgia’s border management and migration services.

N E W S

Governor of Samegrelo Sentenced to Four Years in Prison

Tengiz Gunava, governor of Samegrelo region in western Georgia, was arrested in court room on July 12 after the Tbilisi City Court found him guilty of embezzlement while serving as head of the Interior Ministry’s internal investigations unit in 2012. Gunava, who pleaded not guilty, was sentenced to four years in jail. His lawyer said that the verdict would be appealed to higher court.

The guilty verdict against Gunava was delivered in connection with two separate cases, involving embezzlement of 3,000 liters of petroleum and GEL 49,500.

At the time when President Saakashvili appointed Gunava as governor of Samegrelo region in January, 2013, the latter was already facing criminal charges.

Apart of embezzlement, Gunava was also facing charges of exceeding official powers with use of firearm; he was accused of inflicting light bodily injuries to his driver when he served as chief of police of the Samegrelo region in March, 2012.

The Tbilisi City Court acquitted Gunava of these latter charges.

Gunava came into public attention in mid-November, 2012 when he was arrested on charges related to illegal possession of arms and drug. Gunava, whom the court at the time released on bail, said charges were fabricated and accused the police of planting weapon; in late December the Interior Ministry said it sacked five of its employees in connection to Gunava’s arrest.

Later in November 2012, Gunava was again arrested and charged with embezzlement; at the time Gunava was again released on bail.

Bidzina Ivanishvili: I don’t think Guvana’s detention was politically motivated

I don’t think Gunava’s detention was politically motivated - Bidzina Ivanishvili We cannot say that everything is politically motivated, Prime Minister Bidzina Ivanishvili said while commenting on the National Movement statements about the detention of Samegrelo-Zemo Svaneti Governor Tengiz Gunava.

According to the PM, everybody, including the minority, should respect law-enforcement agencies and court.

“I don’t think that Gunava’s detention was politically motivated. The opposition makes such statements during each detention and it is not right. Law-enforcement agencies should be respected, including by the minority. They should be given possibility to work properly. We cannot say that everything is politically motivated,” Ivanishvili said.

Tengiz Gunava was sentenced to 4 years of jail by the City Court yesterday.

Margvelashvili will presumably be replaced by Tamar Sanikidze

Margvelashvili will presumably be replaced by Tamar Sanikidze Reports say Giorgi Margvelashvili will name his deputy Tamar Sanikidze for the post of the Minister of Education and Science. Sanikidze had been Financial Director of the Georgian Institute of Public Affairs from 2010 to 2012. She was appointed as a Deputy Education Minister when Giorgi Margvelashvili took the Minister’s post.

Giorgi Margvelashvili will officially name the ministerial candidate on 15 July. According to him, he has already negotiated the new candidacy with the PM.

David Usupashvili: Mikheil Saakashvili’s statements are out of comments

Parliament Speaker, david Usupashvili does not comment on the President demand about submission of the document on Khidashesvili resignation by the Government.

Usupashvili advises president as a friend and a colleague, not to hinder conducting of the pre-election campaign of their party peers.

“It was discussed much whether decision of Khidashesvili was right or not, but as for MikheilSaakashvili statements, I am not commenting on it, as it is a long time that it is out of comment. But I would have one advice to him as a past colleague, friend and now as a country president, do not hinder his party, his party members from election campaign,” said David Usupashvili in Batumi after meeting with Stefan Fule, European Commissioner.
Nino Kambegashvili: Music is Not Only Art, it Breaks Boundaries

By: Eka Buchukuri, GT

Nino Kambegashvili, the famous pianist, is in Tbilisi now conducting charitable activities for children throughout Georgia. She is giving new musical instruments manufactured in Germany, music and teaching manuals to local school pupils. Some of these are also being interviewed, auditioned and selected for participation in the Golden Key festival, which will support them in their future career not only in Georgia but outside the country. Here she talks about her life and work and hopes for the future.

Can you tell us about your work in Germany?

I have been in Germany 14 years, since I graduated from the Conservatory. I am the founder and President of the Georgian-German Music Association in Frankfurt am Main, and also the founder and organiser of the Golden Key, an international piano competition for children. Children from crisis countries, like Afghanistan, Iran, Palestine and Israel, as well as from the Caucasus, Georgia and Russia participate in this competition. Last year children from Afghanistan participated for the first time. In 2008, a children’s music school was opened in Afghanistan under the auspices of NATO, and I was invited there in spring. I taught children and conducted concerts for ten days. I met Georgian soldiers serving in Afghanistan and thus we had the idea to invite the children of Georgian soldiers to enter our competition. Four such children were brought to Frankfurt on May 17 and performed in concert with the German-based kids. The Ministry of Defence supported this endeavour, and I would like to personally thank the Minister, Irakli Alasania, who covered the expenses of the trip together with their parents. I sorted out their accommodation. We have also conducted a live concert for Georgian soldiers at the base. The Ministry of Defence is trying to create good conditions for our soldiers.

This year we are selecting two children from each of eight Georgian municipalities to take to Frankfurt to participate in the Golden Key competition. We will conduct master classes. In May I brought the director of the Petres publishing house from Frankfurt here along with the founder of the German Pianist Awards, Maria Petres, and five electric pianists. Malek, and other colleagues. We brought music literature, donated by Petres, and five electric pianos; we conducted master classes and selected the children who will be taken to the Frankfurt music school. They will take German Language courses in the first half of the day and the music classes in the second. The Ministry of Culture and Triball City Hall support the implementation of this project very much, and I would like to thank them for this. I would also like to thank the head of the City Hall’s economic and political department, Zviad Archvadze, who has supported us very much. I would like to conduct online master classes for regional music teachers, which will be given by German musicians. There is one further project we are planning but I would like to keep the details to myself at present, although I have a great desire to visit Galia and for children from Galia to participate in our competition. There are three music schools became interested in how the young inmates live in the juvenile units, what conditions they are given and what interests and needs they have. They have well furnished rooms, sports playgrounds, gyms and a perfect Director, Tato Gelfgabkhiani, who has lots of ideas. I suggested we could open a music school for the young people. Of course most youngsters are not interested in classical music, especially the more active ones, and therefore they told me that they are interested in learning the guitar and bass guitar and percussion instruments. Finally, we have organised such a project and they will study music for 6 months, with music teachers delivering classes for 4 times a week, and they will enter the new school after the completion of its really on July 20, only if they study well and learn music. I promised them that they would hold a joint open air concert on the great veranda of the penitentiary building.

These children are from economically deprived families and got there due to their difficult life conditions. We have to support them in everything so that they can find their way in life after leaving the penitentiary institution. I promised them that if they learn music they will go on to study at music school and then teach music professionally at other juvenile institutions. Let us create some kind of employment institute.

What other plans do you have, are you going to be undertaking any more projects in the future?

We are planning quite a big and grandiose project. It will be a German-Azeri-Georgian Summit in 2014. We would like to invite Bill Gates as a speaker, though this is still under negotiation. Big entrepreneurs and business people will be invited from all three countries, and this is also under negotiation now. The summit will last 5 days, and we plan to include economic as well as cultural events. Business meetings, business lunches, and conferences will be held in the first part of a day and the second part will consist of cultural events such as concerts and exhibitions, and I would like to involve theatre and cinema representatives as well. Artists from all three countries will take part. I have great hope that participants from many other countries will be involved in future summits of this type and they will increase in scope.

INTERVIEW

PM calls on the parliamentary majority to refrain from ‘tough talking’ with the opposition

PM calls on the parliamentary majority to refrain from ‘tough talking’ with the opposition Prime Minister Bidzina Ivanishvili has called on the parliamentary majority to refrain from ‘tough talking’ with the opposition. According to the Prime Minister, the confrontation between the opposition and the majority should be defused.

I asked the majority to refrain from ‘tough talking’ with the opposition. We should somehow manage to diffuse the confrontation between the parliamentary majority and minority. I offered my team members to take the first step as they represent the majority’, Ivanishvili said.

According to him, members of the government and the opposition should not forget they have a common country.

I told them – don’t forget that we have a common country. We should spend our energy not on conflicts but on efforts aimed at developing our country’, Ivanishvili said.

The PM also called on members of his team to refrain from making statements that can affect court decisions. getime.ge

Kote Kublashvili cannot see any sign of pressure in case of Samegrelo-Zemo Svaneti Governor

Kote Kublashvili cannot see any sign of pressure in case of Samegrelo-Zemo Svaneti Governor Kote Kublashvili, the Chairman of the Supreme Court of Georgia, cannot see any sign of pressure in case of Samegrelo-Zemo Svaneti Governor Tengiz Gunava. According to him, the case had not been considered in the Supreme Court. Samegrelo-Zemo Svaneti Governor Tengiz Gunava was sentenced to 4 years of jail. He was sentenced to 8 years by the judge, though on the basis of the amnesty, the punishment was reduced to 4 years. Tengiz Gunava was taken to the penitentiary facility after the court’s judgment was declared.

getime.ge
Full Hotels and 31% More Tourists

By LELA TSINTSADZE, GT

The summer tourist season officially opened on May 1. In this hot summer the resorts are becoming more and more overcrowded. The Black Sea coast hotels are full and there are more foreign tourists enjoying the country than before.

In the first 5 months of 2013, i.e. including only the first month of the summer season, a 31% increase in tourist numbers was registered, and a 37% increase is projected for the whole year. The greatest contributor to this growth has been tourists from Russia and other foreign countries. Including June as well, 2,188,721 international visitors entered Georgia, 29% more than in the corresponding period last year.

Tourism from Poland has increased by 98%, from Ukraine by 73%, from Russia by 69%, from Armenia by 55%, from Kazakhstan by 54% and from Israel by 32%.

The highest numbers of foreign tourists have been recorded in Anaklia, Kutaisi, Borjomi, Batumi, Kobuleti, Kazbegi, Sighnaghi and Fekali. In Adjara, the chain hotels are proving much more popular than the local independent ones.

Giorgi Sigua, head of the national tourist authority, says that Tbilisi and Batumi see the greatest number of visitors and that the hotels in Batumi are full of Georgian as well as foreign tourists.

Room prices are rising on demand, and prices will not be regulated until more hotels open. Batumi’s hotels are now overcrowded. “We have hotels, but the demand is much higher. The tourists need more. Demand is now so high due to the Georgian image as tourist country is now so high due to the Georgian image as tourist country. It is good for the treatment of bones and joints. Red blood cell and haemoglobin levels increase here due to the resort’s elevation. Beshumi has similar features, as it is also a mountain and balneological resort. It is in Khulo, 1,950 metres above sea level. Its main assets are the transparency of its air and low humidity, lack of ultraviolet rays and good drinking and mineral water supplies.

Shovi is located in Zemo Racha, 25 km from the town of Oni. It features a good pine forest, clean air, a peaceful environment and mountain rivers.

Borjomi is located in South-Eastern Georgia. It is surrounded by a coniferous forest and therefore summers there are rather cool. It is world famous for its mineral water, which has a positive effect on the stomach and intestines.

Tskaltubo is a comprehensive resort especially famous for its thermal mineral baths. Tskaltubo’s springs have in-comparable curative properties.

Georgia is the place to regain your health but also has an endless variety of resorts. Consequently the country caters for tourists with any taste. Its highest Georgian resort is Tskaltubo. It is famous for curing lung disease, peritonitis, malaria and secondary anaemia. Red blood cell and haemoglobin levels increase here due to the resort’s elevation. Beshumi has similar features, as it is also a mountain and balneological resort. It is in Khulo, 1,950 metres above sea level. Its main assets are the...
The Georgian Times trilingual online portal offers the latest Georgian news and analysis in English, Georgian and Russian languages.

www.geotimes.ge

Be one of our 35,000 plus daily readers and visit Geotimes.ge today.
In the sweat of the crowd: the inspiration behind DJ Sikha (London) from Medical student to mailroom assistant to DJ

BY TAKO AGARASHIVIL G

A couple of years ago I was invited by an admirer (at the time) of mine to a super cool very friend's party in a little bar on Shoreditch Street. When I got there I learned that DJ Sikha (a Georgian guy who lives in London) would be spinning with his friend the multimedia (I would say) artist Kudatu (Dato Machavariani). I can say without fear of contradiction that this was an absolutely killer party of party animals there said that they didn't hear such music in all their lives.

George Sikhaidulidze, aka DJ Sikha, is a 90s kid. He was raised on alternative, punk rock, grunge and progressive rock. His world was ruled by the music by David Bowie, Led Zeppelin, Pink Floyd, Gilbert O'Sullivan, Fatic, The Doors and the Mahavishnu Orchestra which featured John McLaughlin and others. His world was then broken apart by the British electronic group Underworld. Then came Bjork, Massive Attack and the Prodigy and he found he had a wonderful fusion on his hands. All this music collided in his mind, and most importantly he started developing and advancing it.

Sikha is a stable, confident, fun, enthusiastic, absorbing, cur- rious and development young man. After talking to him in a low key environment you certainly get the impression that he doesn’t go under the influence easily. His mind is so vast and doesn’t wonder too many “places” be- fore making his decisions. He is a very important, sets his target and achieves it. Being a child he entered medical school. He still thinks he could have been a linguist. Instead he is now pretty famous in the nightlife industry. You know what to expect when you go to a club when you have seen his name on the poster.

Although Sikha still thinks that being a doctor is a more re- spectable and stable job for a guy he provoked a major drama in the day. Was your significant? He got support from his family, but after 9 months I came back to Georgia having exhausted all their resources. Then I could ei- ther go to school here in Tbilisi, or go back to London and earned my own living. The big club in east London. The company was working for ap- plied for a work permit for me because I held a medical diplo- ma. I deloped my medical license, but medical career was no longer a priority for me. I figured I could have a fast track di- rect to citizenship. Of course this was top of my wish list. What was the best outcome? I was going to try to get to the successful part because I know I am a successful DJ. How did your success come about? It is a strange story. I was trying to get to the successful part but I wasn’t successful (yet). Then he asked me if I had been to Fabri and the visa officer wouldn’t issue us a visa. He stood up for a minute and said that this is the last time I am going to ask but I am going to ask to do all the things to get the visa but asked me to keep it a secret. Then all of a sudden he got really very low voice, if you go ever clubbing. At that moment I was sure I was being filmed for a show like ‘Punk’d’. I didn’t know what the best answer would be but I punched for telling the truth and said yes. Then Levan told me I had been to Fabri (a big club in London). Again I chose the truth and told him what was there. So he said, “Yeah, I think I know where you go.” I am coming to the truth, I knew him and his number and suggested that we meet another time.

Where did you make your first performance? At first Levan and I spun to- gether at a little bar in east Lon- don. Luckilly there got a guy from Belarus, who liked my spinning and booked me in a dance line-up. Names like Ion Ludwig and Mark Henning were involved. I was hired in those kind of lineups now.

What was the best outcome? I was going to try to get to the successful part because I know I am a successful DJ. How did you get to the successful part? I was going to try to get to the successful part because I know I am a successful DJ. What's the most success you could explain? To spin a really good set and get by at the same time. Have you achieved this? I can say that I haven't done yet, but you are a successful DJ by now. So I just quit, travelled and then came back here. I am not saying that I am an experienced DJ. I am just trying it out. Berlin is the most active city and I think I am a bit obsessed. Of course I have confi- dently think about. I have accom- plished my main mission. I have the full confidence that I am not chained to the post. So- viet world anymore.

What are your other priori- ties? To get a long term contract with a big label.

Do you have any bookings from this? I haven't been invited to yet. I have a job with Nokia for an online advertise- ment.

What is stopping you from getting to the successful part? Have you achieved this? I can say that I haven't done yet, but you are a successful DJ by now. So I just quit, travelled and then came back here. I am not saying that I am an experienced DJ. I am just trying it out. Berlin is the most active city and I think I am a bit obsessed. Of course I have confi- dently think about. I have accom- plished my main mission. I have the full confidence that I am not chained to the post. So- viet world anymore.

What are your other priori- ties? To get a long term contract with a big label.

Do you have any bookings from this? I haven't been invited to yet. I have a job with Nokia for an online advertise- ment.

What is stopping you from getting to the successful part?
SUNDAY BRUNCH

Gather around with your friends and family on Sundays for brunch at Tbilisi Marriott where we will cater to every family member! Sunday Brunch at Parnas captures the essence of Marriott’s glamorous culinary tradition where Chef Pedro Gonzalez offers a variety of delights on the buffet with comfort cuisine combined with modern flavor. Everyone will find Sunday Brunch exciting with unlimited complimentary wines from Telavi Wine Cellar, mimosas for the ladies and kids’ game room equipped with Xbox KINECT for your little one to enjoy!

Every Sunday, 12:3 PM
Buffet - 47 GEL + VAT
Buffet, unlimited white and red wine - 59 GEL + VAT
Children under 9 free of charge. Ages 9 to 13 - 25 GEL + VAT
Special discounts for the parties 10 and more
10% discount for our returning guests

Tbilisi Marriott Hotel
13 Rustaveli Avenue, Tbilisi 0108, Georgia (Caucasus Region)
Telephone: +995 32 277 90 00
Fax: +995 32 277 92 10
Tbilisi.marriott@marriott.com
TbilisMarriott.com
SOCAR’s multi-functional building officially recognized as one of the world’s most popular

Amazing SOCAR-McDonalds on the black sea coast in Batumi