

Danish Ambassador Anne Toft Sørensen Summoned to Foreign Ministry for Op-Ed Clarifications

BY LIZA MCHEDLIDZE

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs released information stating that Anne Toft Sørensen, the Ambassador of Denmark to Georgia, was summoned to the Foreign Ministry and has been asked for clarifications regarding her Op-Ed and "incorrect facts and political assessments."

In an article published in the Danish newspaper *Jyllandsposten*, the ambassador referred to Bidzina Ivanishvili, the founder of Georgian Dream, as an oligarch and noted that he had accumulated his wealth in Russia in the 90s.

According to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, during the meeting, the Georgian side expressed regret that the publication contained significant factual inaccuracies and non-objective assessments, which did not contribute to the formation of a positive attitude from the international community, including Danish readers, towards the country.

"The Ambassador's Op-Ed was used for political interpretations by separate forces, which naturally hinders the effective implementation of the main task defined by the European Union for the country: depolarization.

At the meeting, the Danish side expressed concern over and stated that the article was intended to support Georgia's integration into the European Union on the part of Denmark. Unfortunately, it was used in a



negative context by opponents," the statement reads.

According to the statement from the Danish Embassy in Georgia, "an excerpt has been removed from the Danish article, which is used in Georgian debates without context. The Embassy has no desire to contribute to the above and refrains from additional comments," IPN reports.

The embassy stated that Denmark has supported Georgia on its path to Euro-Atlantic integration and will continue to be a supporter, fostering cooperation for Georgia's accession to the European Union.

"The article was written for a Danish newspaper following the historic decision to grant EU candidate status to Georgia. It emphasizes Georgia's clear de-

sire to continue its EU integration and focuses on the contribution that Denmark can make to support Georgia, including through the newly opened embassy, in areas such as the green transition, peace, stability, and cooperation. Denmark has consistently supported Georgia on its path to Euro-Atlantic integration and will continue to be a supporter of cooperation for

Georgia's accession to the European Union, actively participating in the implementation of reforms.

We observe an excerpt from a Danish article being used out of context in Georgian debates. The embassy has no desire to contribute to this matter and refrains from additional comments," reads the statement from the Danish Embassy.

Tbilisi Mayor Criticizes Danish Ambassador's Statement on Bidzina Ivanishvili, Labels it 'Filthy'

BY LIZA MCHEDLIDZE

Tbilisi Mayor Kakha Kaladze reacted to Danish Ambassador Anne Toft Sørensen's statement, where she refers to Bidzina Ivanishvili as an oligarch and labeled it as 'filthy'.

According to the Tbilisi Mayor, the public knows what Bidzina Ivanishvili has done for the country and that he will continue his work in the future.

"This statement is simply filthy. The public knows very well what Bidzina Ivanishvili has done for our country. He con-

tinues his work. The most significant achievement is defeating the terrible bloody regime that we all managed together with him. Since 2012, the country has experienced progress, and development, and moved closer to European integration. This process will continue in the future," Kaladze told reporters.

Kaladze drew attention to other MEPs who, according to the mayor, make similar statements and noted that they do not hold a friendly attitude towards Georgia.

"We are aware of how a cer-

tain group of MEPs operates and how they receive funding. All of this is disguised as lobbying. With the 'Russian law' in effect in the United States of America, we have witnessed the kind of resolutions that can be obtained when money is involved.

If you're paying, you can make MEPs do anything. Those who make such obscene and outlandish statements should be truly ashamed. They have no friendly attitude towards Georgia; they pursue their own interests," Kaladze said.



The News in Brief

PREPARED BY MESSENGER STAFF

Swedish Government Allocates SEK 5 Million in Defense-Related Support to Georgia

security, and education. In addition, Ukraine will receive SEK 50 million, while Moldova will receive 5 million in defense-related support from Sweden. "The Swedish government has decided to donate SEK 5 million to Georgia as a

Russian Ministry of Defense Conducts 'Anti-Terrorist' Training in Occupied Abkhazia

tract in occupied Abkhazia. "After hearing the alarm signal, the anti-terrorist units moved to the territory of the simulated enemy, where they at-



The Russian occupation forces conducted a so-called anti-terrorist training in Abkhazia. This information was released by the military department of the 'Russian Information Network' on January 10.

According to the Ministry of Defense of Russia, they conducted "training to repel the attack of illegal armed groups." The so-called exercise was conducted with Russian military personnel at the military base of the Southern Military Dis-

tempted to breach the military base. As a result of the training, the participating unit developed the ability to act cohesively to block the terrorist group, decision-making skills in emergency situations, and knowledge of the use of intelligence, communications, and surveillance equipment. Special attention was given to the tactics of action during the blocking process and secret movement in small groups," wrote the Russian page.

← Post

Anna Lyberg @annalyb

Swedish government 🇸🇪 has decided to donate SEK 5 million to Georgia 🇬🇪 as a part of the Substantial NATO-Georgia package. Money is to be used for projects in areas such as crisis management, cyber security & information sharing @SwedeninGE

regeringen.se
Beslut om försvarsrelaterat stöd till Ukraina, Moldavien och Regeringen har beslutat att lämna stöd om 50 miljoner kronor till Ukraina, 5 miljoner kronor till Moldavien och 5 ...

The Swedish government is to allocate SEK 5 million in defense-related support to Georgia. According to the officials, this support is facilitated through various NATO funds and is intended for initiatives such as crisis management, cyber

part of the Substantial NATO-Georgia package. The money is to be used for projects in areas such as crisis management, cyber security, and information sharing," Swedish Ambassador to Georgia Anna Lyberg wrote on X.

Energy Community: Ukrhydroenergo prepares claims against the Russian Federation

The Ukrainian hydropower company Ukrhydroenergo, supported by the Energy Community Secretariat's Pro Bono Platform for Ukraine, is preparing claims against Russia for damages to Ukraine's energy infrastructure from 2022.

With the help of the platform, the company has already selected lawyers to develop a high-level litigation and arbitration strategy.

The strategy aims to establish the accountability of the Russian Federation for its targeted attacks against the company's infrastructure and assets, as well as the recovery of damages in-



flicted, including the destruction of the Kakhovka HPP. According to Ukrhydroenergo, since the beginning of the full-scale invasion in February 2022, the Russian army attacked its facilities in more than 50 instances with drones, rockets and missiles, resulting in the loss of about 2,500 MW capacity.

Two law firms have jointly pledged 375 pro bono working hours in total.

The Pro Bono Platform for Ukraine was established by the Secretariat, which is co-chaired by the European Commission, in July 2023. It allows law firms and qualified independent lawyers to join efforts to recover the damages inflicted upon Ukraine's critical energy infrastructure by dedicating any number of pro bono hours for various projects.

(eunighbourseast.eu)

Weather

Friday, January 12

Day Mostly Cloudy High: 8°C

Night Cloudy Low: 2°C

Saturday, January 13

Day Cloudy High: 4°C

Night Cloudy Low: -3°C

published by The Messenger

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