# Georgian Dream accuses GYLA of revolution-minded approach to the upcoming elections

GD talked about the recent statement of GYLA about electoral districts



GYLA filed a special lawsuit a few days ago

### By Nika Gamtsemlidze

Georgian Dream links the Young Law yers' Association to a 'revolutionary scenario' and accuses it of creating problems for self-government elections.

"It is disturbing that what the United National Movement did openly on their own 5 years ago is now being done in the name of a non-governmental organization. It is worrying that two weeks before the elections, an organization with the status of a non-governmental organization is planning to create a problem for the elections with a new absurd claim," said the Chairman of the ruling party, Irakli Kobakhidze.

In a lawsuit filed with the Constitutional Court, GYLA requests that the boundaries of the majoritarian constituencies established for the self-government elections be declared unconstitutional.

The organization believes that since, for example, the number of voters living in Saburtalo is 2.5 times higher, than the number of voters in Mtatsminda, the weight of Saburtalo voters decreases 2.5 times compared to the weight of Mtatsminda voters because both districts elect one MP in Tbilisi Sakrebulo.

According to Irakli Kobakhidze, questioning the electoral system on the pretext that the majoritarian constituencies are not thoroughly equalized is "complete"

nonsense

The United National Movement has lost all hope of achieving any success in the October 2 elections. "Considering this background, they see the only solution is to create artificial problems and confuse the situation," Kobakhidze said, adding that the law was passed three months ago on the basis of a broad political consensus and that GYLA had not objected to anything in the process.

GYLA called the accusation of Irakli Kobakhidze "legal nonsense". GYLA Chairperson, Nika Simonishvili said that due to the time and practice given to the court by law, this case will not be substantially resolved before the elections and in the near future, and the subsequent decision by the court will not affect the outcome of these elections, as it did when the old parliamentary majority boundaries were declared unconstitutional.

He also added that the main idea behind their lawsuit is to make sure that every single citizen has the same weight in the elections, adding that GYLA has never had any type of political interest.

In the lawsuit, GYLA argues that the boundaries of the majoritarian constituencies established for local self-government elections violate the principle of equal voting weight, which is why the challenged norms should be declared unconstitutional with regard to suffrage and equal rights.



Kobakhidze called GYLA's constitution a 'complete nonsense'

Exchange Rates: US Dollar - 3.1112;

Euro - 3.6653;

GBP - 4.2910; 100 Russian Ruble - 4.2817;

Swiss Franc - 3.3551

# Elene Khoshtaria starts a legal dispute against SSS about leaked files

The files leaked about a week ago and it contains personal information about people

By Nika Gamtsemlidze

Elene Khoshtaria, the leader of the political party Droa, is going to start a legal battle against the State Security Service, which will go to the European Court of Human Rights.

Elene Khoshtaria says that according to the secret records, in all the documents published so far, the part in which she is mentioned, really happened, which is a confirmation of the authenticity of the records.

Elene Khoshtaria calls on other politicians, activists, and lawyers to unite in this legal battle to work together to create a legal practice against illegal wiretapping and blackmail in private.

She also added that demonstrating the audacity of this scale and the reaction of the Georgian Dream that the recording of diplomats, kindergarten teachers, and principals is normal, requires a response from Georgian society.

In addition to this, Koshtaria also said that she will never in her life talk about the files containing the personal data about people, no matter how 'winning it could be'.

"I am going to fight against this great evil, and I call on all our friends, the citizens of Georgia, there is so much that we should all start the legal process together, which will eventually reach the European Court of Human Rights. Let's set an im-



Koshtaria called on other political parties to do the same

Prosecutor's Office of Georgia started an investigation about the leaked files

portant precedent that Georgian citizens in the country do not get used to illegal recordings at any stage and will never get used to it," said Khoshtaria.

According to the party's lawyer, Giga Lemonjava, the legal dispute against illegal files will have two purposes: the first is to let those working at SSS and collecting illegal recordings about people know that they can't get away with such things. The second one, according to him, is to establish a single, uniform, legal standard about wiretapping and illegal surveillance in Georgia.

Several other people also said that they found their actual conversations in the files, which they say means that the files are actually accurate and real. Many of them called on everyone who found themselves in the recordings to take legal steps

against the files.

The files from SSS were leaked last week. It was sent to numerous Georgian media outlets by an anonymous person. The files include conversations and personal life facts that were kept as tools of blackmailing members of the Georgian church.

The Prosecutor's Office announced that an official investigation has started about the leaked files.

# EBRD supports upgrade of municipal vehicle fleet in Tbilisi

The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) is extending a •9.6 million sovereign loan to the municipality of Tbilisi in Georgia for the upgrading of the city's municipal services vehicle fleet.

The financing is provided under the Green Cities Framework 2. Earlier, the Bank financed the renewal of the city's solid-waste

### Weather

Monday, September 20

Day Partly Cloudy
High: 30°C
Night Clear

Tuesday, September 21

Day Clear
High: 30°C

Night Partly Cloudy
Low: 18°C

collection fleet and transfer station, as well as the upgrading of the leachate collection system. The new project will include the acquisition of solid-waste collection vehicles, machinery and equipment, as well as the optimisation of digital routes and operations management systems.

"The upgraded vehicles will significantly cut emissions and air pollution and reduce safety risks. The project will bring substantial environmental improvements for the citizens of Tbilisi," Catarina Bjorlin Hansen, EBRD Director for the Caucasus, said.

The EBRD is a leading insti-



Photo: European Union

tutional investor in Georgia and, to date, has invested almost •4.3

billion in the country through 266 projects in the financial, cor-

porate, infrastructure and energy sectors.

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