

Georgian Dream sues three Television companies for 'Home to Europe' commercial

By Liza Mchedlidze

Georgian Dream is suing three television companies: Formula, Mtavari Arkhi, and TV Pirveli in the Communications Commission for airing a commercial 'Home to Europe' for its 'Pre-elections and political plot.' The video content is from 24 June's pro-west and anti-Russian protest. The idea behind was that Georgia's European future should not be affected by the government.

The ruling party believes that the video serves to negatively shape the Georgian dream and its idea, and aims to hinder the election in future elections. At the same time, they believe that it clearly identifies the Georgian dream by referring to the faces of a specific party, and contains the presentation of the ruling party, their leaders, government representatives, and state-political officials in a negative context and serves to form a negative opinion towards them in the society.

"Based on the content of the videos, it is obvious that it is intended for an indefinite circle of people, serves to negatively



shape the MPG "Georgian Dream-Democratic Georgia" and its idea, and aims to hinder the election in future elections.

The commercial clearly identifies MPG's "Georgian Dream-Democratic Georgia" by referring to the faces of a specific party. In addition, the commercial includes the presentation of the ruling party, their leaders, government representatives,

and state-political officials in a negative context, based on excerpts taken out of the context of the statements made by them regarding the resolution of the European Parliament, the status of the candidate and the ongoing war in Ukraine, serves to form a negative opinion towards them in the public." The Georgian Dream party's statement reads.

Mtavari Arkhi and Formula responded

to the lawsuit from the ruling party. Mtavari Arkhi's lawyer Tamta Muradashvili said that there is no legal basis for the lawsuit, and one of the founders of Formula Misha Mshvildadze told the media that the government is suppressing free speech, as these three TV companies are very critical of the Georgian Dream. Misha Mshvildadze also questioned the timing of this lawsuit, as the commercial aired in June.

"Why did they do it now in August? Because immediate fines during mass rallies could cause a backlash among people. During the rallies, the situation was more sensitive, they couldn't do it right away. That's why they chose August."

The representatives of Mtavari Arkhi, Formula, and TV Pirveli say that they do not expect 'anything good' from the Communications Commission, which is headed by Bekauri, who is, according to them, very loyal to the Georgian Dream. The meeting will be held on August 11, the representatives think that it is very likely that the media companies will be fined a substantial amount.

Russians show Georgian soldier's personal file in released video, Ministry of Defense of Georgia comments

By Liza Mchedlidze

The Russian propaganda media released a video, which shows that Russians found the data of soldiers hired by Ukraine in Donbass in Lysychansk.

Since their invasion of Ukraine, Russians have been spreading the lie that all non-Ukrainian soldiers and volunteers fighting for Ukraine are hired terrorists.

In the video, one of the Russian soldiers looks at Mikheil Kamkhadze's personal file in front of the camera, which has the official marks of the Ministry of Defense of Georgia.

Among the cases is a professional Georgian soldier, Mikheil Kamkhadze, who was an instructor of the Ukrainians and trained them in NATO standard training.

Kamkhadze himself, who is now serving in the armed forces of Ukraine, says that he brought his case to the tank factory of the Ministry of Defense of Georgia in 2017, where he was supposed to be assigned, he did not take it back, and therefore the documents should have been kept in the department.

He assumes that the archive department of Juansher Burchuladze's agency handed over the case from the archive to the Kremlin.

"I couldn't physically have these documents in my hands, I submitted these documents and left them at the tank factory. After that, I waited for a call and an appointment. This process dragged on, and in 2017 I left for Ukraine. A sum of money was paid for it, and I have no doubt that the information went from here to there that 'this person came and prepared

people', then from there they requested, such is a network. This is taken from the archive and handed over" Mikheil Kamkhadze said.

Regarding the case of Mikheil Kamkhadze, the Ministry of Defense states that the personal file of the former soldier, which was in the hands of the Russians, was not kept in their archive, but in the district commissariat.

The agency claims that the information about the removal of Mikheil

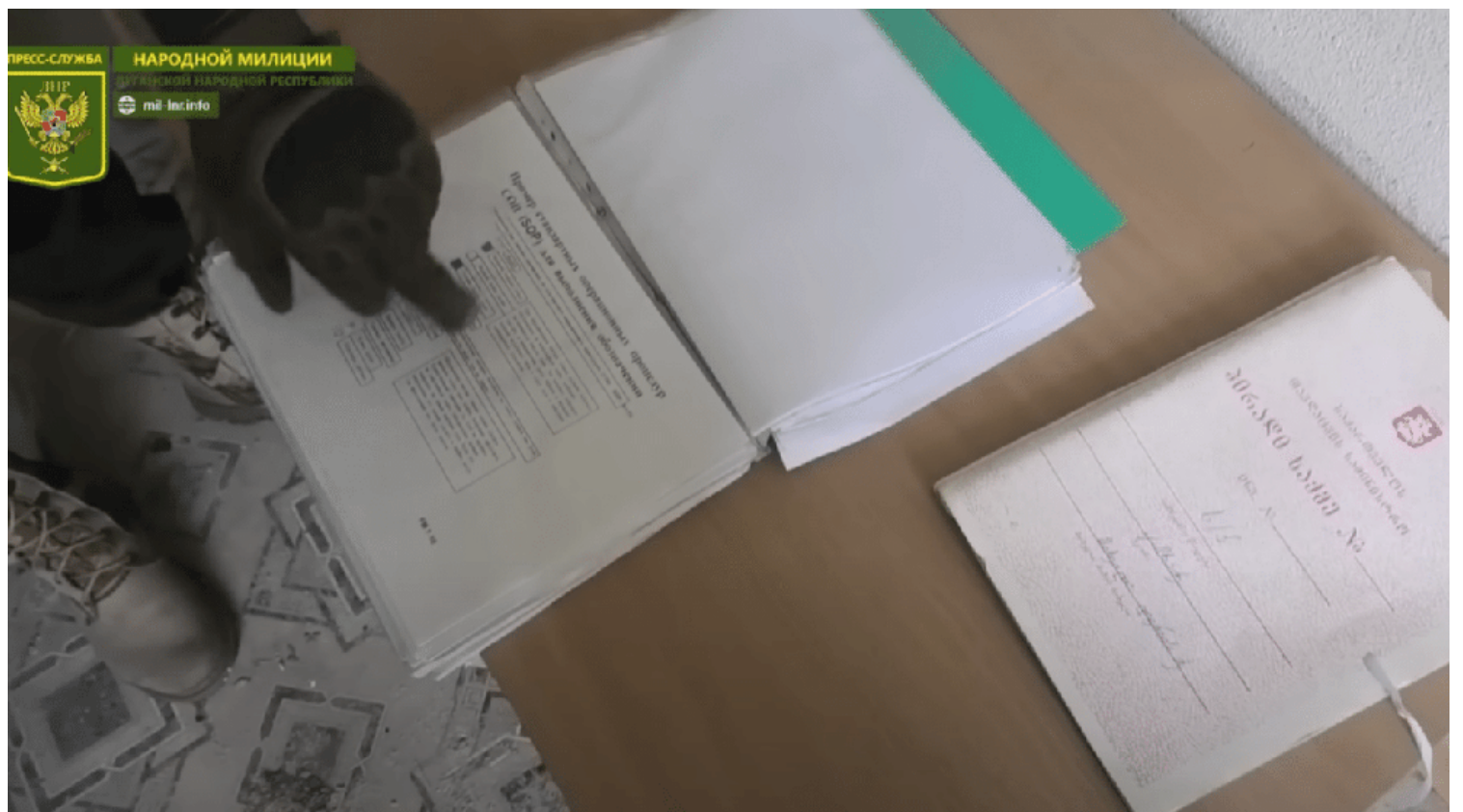
Kamkhadze's personal file from the archives of the Ministry of Defense is a lie.

In addition, according to the Ministry of Defense, they are investigating whether the documents shown in the leaked footage are actually authentic.

"After the dismissal of a military serviceman from the defense forces, their personal files are not kept in material form in the structural units of the Ministry of Defense of Georgia and the defense forces and are sent to the relevant

structures of the municipality.

The personal file of Mikheil Kamkhadze has been forwarded from the Ministry of Defense to the relevant district commissariat and is kept there in its original state. Thus, it is impossible for reserve officers' personal files to leave any agency. Accordingly, the appropriate service will determine whether the documents shown in the media footage are actually authentic and where they were found in Ukraine." statement reads.



Exchange Rates: US Dollar - 2.7100; Euro - 2.7729; GBP - 3.2813; 100 Russian Ruble - 4.4734; Swiss Franc - 2.8440

BY MALKHAZ MATSABERIDZE

A glimpse of the Russian Threat

The post of Dmitry Medvedev, the former president of Russia and currently the deputy secretary of the Security Council of this country, appeared on the social network and quickly disappeared as if the page had been hacked and the published post did not belong to Medvedev. In fact, there was nothing mentioned in this post that Medvedev or Putin hadn't already said, or rather, done. The opposition saw a great threat to Georgia in this 'disappearing' post of Medvedev, and the government did not consider it necessary to criticize the Russian government again.

The appearance of Medvedev's mentioned post naturally caused a great response, but the post was soon taken down. Dmitry Medvedev's assistant simply stated that Medvedev's page on the social network was hacked. For many, this was not convincing, and they considered the 'disappearing' post to be a part of Russian propaganda, which was published, without taking 'responsibility' for it.

After reading Medvedev's disappearing post, it becomes clear that those who accuse the current Russian government of trying to restore the Soviet Union are wrong. This is actually about the restoration of the Russian

Empire of the time of the Romanovs, and the states created after the collapse of this empire and then the Soviet Union have no place in this plan. Specifically, Medvedev's post contained threats against Ukraine, Georgia, and Kazakhstan. It turns out that these countries exist on 'Russian lands' and to 'justify' their imperial plans, whether it is Putin or Medvedev, they have invented 'their' version of history. Before Medvedev, in 2019, Putin himself told us a similar version of history directed against Georgia.

From Medvedev's post, we 'learn' that it turns out that Georgia did not exist at all, and that in the 19th century, Russia 'joined' five kingdoms-principalities on the territory of Georgia (it did not conquer, but joined, because according to the Russian version of history, Moscow has never conquered anyone). Today, if Georgia wants to return to the occupied territories, it would be able to do so only as part of Russia.

The representatives of the Georgian government did not attach any importance to Medvedev's 'outrageous' post. One of them said - the post was fake and took it down, the other

said 'Medvedev is gone', that is, he is no longer in power, the third - do we know the true history of Georgia and what is the significance of what they write in the name of Medvedev.

In short, no one made a critical statement regarding the incident, nor did they ask questions about Russian politicians. However, these people often have critical statements and questions about the West.

It should be noted that on the second day of the scandal that broke out due to Medvedev's post, a fake report was broadcast on Shida Kartli's local television (Gori) - as if Gharibashvili had come to Moscow and met Putin, Putin returned Abkhazia and the Tskhinvali region to Georgia, America came out against this and called for the restoration of Russian-Georgian relations. Then the heads of Western non-governmental organizations and the public defender were arrested. Viewers were only told at the end of the show that it was a fictional report.

The report was fabricated, but the idea expressed in it is a central axis of Russian propaganda. If we "get away" from the West, Moscow will "return" the occupied territories of Georgia to us.

Restoring the territorial integrity of Georgia is opposed only by the West and primarily the USA. The authors of such a propaganda message probably consider the population of Georgia to be very stupid.

Unlike the government, the opposition saw real danger in Putin's post. According to 'National Movement' deputy Levan Bezhashvili, Medvedev's statement was widely spread. According to him, "the website of the head of the Security Council is not easily hacked. This was a deliberate statement and a warning to Georgia, Kazakhstan, and the entire progressive world about their real plans."

The 'friendly' policy toward Russia does not reduce the threat of aggression, but on the contrary, it increases this threat. According to the opposition, in order to deal with the threats coming from Russia, Georgia should actively cooperate with the West, while the Georgian government, on the contrary, confronts the West. For illustration, interesting data was published by OC-Media. The statements made by the chairman of Georgian Dream Irakli Kobakhidze for four months,

from February 24 to July 27, after the Russian attack on Ukraine, were counted. It turned out that during this period he made critical comments against Russia only 9 times, 26 times against Ukraine and Ukrainian officials, and 57 critical comments against the West. The statistics are impressive, however, the representatives of the Georgian government mispronounce these statistics.

After the war that started in Ukraine, citizens of Russia and Belarus, who are planning to stay here for a long time, have moved to Georgia massively and have already registered thousands of companies in the country. The opposition sees this as a serious threat. The 'Lelo' party calls on the Georgian authorities to establish a visa regime for the citizens of Russia and Belarus, although it is clear that 'Georgian Dream' will not do this.

In the fall, it will become clear how the Georgian Dream is going to fulfill the 12 recommendations of the European Union. At this time, the opposition is also preparing to talk about the possible departure of Mikheil Saakashvili from politics and the application of the deputies from the Georgian Dream to establish a new anti-Western political force a sign of the expected regrouping of forces in Georgian politics.

The News in Brief

Prepared by Messenger Staff

Kelly Degnan on her meeting with Ivanishvili: We didn't talk about his personal financial deals



US Ambassador to Georgia Kelly Degnan, in an interview with Formula, talked about the meeting with Bidzina Ivanishvili and noted that during the communication they dis-

cussed the US-Georgia partnership and Washington's support for the country.

"Obviously, I don't want to make assumptions about Mr. Ivanishvili's motives. From my side, I can say that as a rule, we do not publicize private meetings. Whether it is with Mr. Ivanishvili or someone else. It is simply not the accepted rule for diplomacy to do so, if the other side prefers, not to make it public, but as soon as it became clear that Bidzina Ivanishvili himself was speaking about this meeting, I confirmed that we met and talked about the US-Georgia partnership and many other areas where the US is trying to support the development of Georgia.

Obviously, Mr. Ivanishvili is a very influential Georgian, he is a very successful businessman, and therefore, it is normal that we would like to meet with him, as with many other citizens of Georgia. In fact, this is exactly what diplomats do. Our task is to meet as many different representatives in the country as possible."

As the ambassador noted, she

did not discuss the issue of his personal finances during the meeting with Ivanishvili.

"We didn't talk about his personal financial deals, sanctions, or anything that could be seen as an attempt to blackmail or drag Georgia into the war. There was no discussion of these topics during the meeting..."

As I said, I meet many different people in Georgia - very influential successful Georgians, students, and teachers. I meet so many different people because I want to better understand Georgian culture, Georgian society, and Georgian dreams, and aspirations. I want to understand how the USA can better help Georgia," said the ambassador.

Bidzina Ivanishvili published a letter on July 27, in which she says that after the start of the war, she met US Ambassador Kelly Degnan on March 21.

Elene Khoshtaria accuses Gov't of betraying Georgian heroes

"Droa" party's leader Elene

Khoshtaria, made a statement regarding the Russian propaganda media's released video, where it is shown that Russians have somehow acquired a personal file from the Archives of the Ministry of Defense of Georgia of Ukraine's hired Georgian soldier.

According to Khoshtaria, it is a betrayal on the part of the Georgian government that the information about the Georgian soldiers was in the hands of the Russians. "Droa" leader added that the ruling party not only does not respect the soldiers who fight and die against Russia in Ukraine but also endangers them.



"We saw a specific document

in the hands of a specific occupier. In the hands of the occupier who tortured Antsukhelidze and whom Georgians are fighting today on the territory of Ukraine. In the hands of the occupier who seized our territories, who kidnaps Georgian citizens, who expelled the IDPs, and tortured women and children.

Today, Ukraine is fighting these occupiers to protect us, the citizens of Georgia are fighting, whom we should respect, and here, the "Georgian Dream" is putting these soldiers in concrete danger. This is betrayal. Our state is giving information about our heroes to our enemies.

I have no demand for the Defense because I have no illusions that the agency that shares information will make any conscientious explanation. I have no illusions about the investigation because this investigation is hijacked, but I also have no illusions that we, the Georgian society, will forgive the fact of betrayal to the "Georgian Dream" said Elene Khoshtaria.

Weather

Wednesday, August 10

Day Partly Cloudy
High: 32°C

Night Clear
Low: 22°C

Thursday, August 11

Day Clear
High: 33°C

Night Partly Cloudy
Low: 23°C

published by

The Messenger

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