

Prime Minister Gharibashvili meets with President of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev

By Liza Mchedlidze

The Prime Minister of Georgia Irakli Gharibashvili met with the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev.

During the meeting held within the working visit of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan to Georgia, special friendly relations and strategic partnership between Georgia and the Republic of Azerbaijan were emphasized.

The high level of strategic partnership and active political dialogue between the two countries was noted. Intensive cooperation in trade and economic direction was emphasized.

Irakli Gharibashvili noted that peace and stability in the region ensures economic development. It was said that Georgia and the Republic of Azerbaijan closely cooperate in the direction of foreign policy and work with united forces to overcome existing challenges.

Willingness to further strengthen bilateral political, economic, cultural and other types of ties between the two countries was expressed.

The discussion at the meeting touched upon the security environment of the region and the world.

According to the Prime Minister of Georgia Irakli Gharibashvili, Georgia is one of the most important countries and friends of Azerbaijan.

As he stated at the briefing after the meeting with the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Ilham Aliyev, Azerbaijan is the most important strategic partner for Georgia.

"Mr. President, I welcome the initiative you announced in Prague regarding the creation of a mechanism for a joint tripartite discussion format in the South Caucasus. We also talked about existing economic, energy, trade and transport projects and their importance. Georgia is one of the most important countries and friends of Azerbaijan. Azerbaijan is the most important strategic partner of Georgia. We also reviewed important strategic projects implemented by us, which can be said to be of historical importance", said the Prime Minister.

He confirmed his willingness to fur-



ther strengthen bilateral relations.

"We confirm our full readiness to activate the relationship as much as possible for both current and planned projects. Finally, I would like to borrow from your father, the national leader of Azerbaijan, a person we respect very much, Heydar Aliyev, and recall the words he spoke during his visit to Tbilisi, Georgia, with which he addressed the Georgian society: 'Azerbaijani and Georgian people were lucky when they were given the opportunity to live next to each other and have close relations. Our ancestors saw the fruits of this happiness. Our task is to give eternal life to this tradition and pass it on to future generations.' Thank you once again", said the Prime Minister.

"I informed the Prime Minister of Geor-

gia about the ongoing peace negotiations between Azerbaijan and Armenia, and we believe that the resolution of this conflict requires the signing of a peace agreement by Azerbaijan and Armenia.

We have already shared 5 basic principles with Armenia, and we have so much that Armenia will show political will, start peace negotiations and sign a peace agreement," said the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Ilham Aliyev, at the briefing after the meeting.

"We touched on many issues during the meeting and we will continue the conversation on other issues as well. Of course, current events in the region, security issues are at the center of our discussions. After the Karabakh war, a new situation was formed.

I informed the Prime Minister of Georgia about the ongoing peace negotiations between Azerbaijan and Armenia, and we believe that the resolution of this conflict requires the signing of a peace agreement by Azerbaijan and Armenia. We have already shared 5 main principles with Armenia and we hope that Armenia will show political will, start peace talks and sign a peace agreement.

If this happens, peace will be established in the South Caucasus and there will be new opportunities for cooperation.

Today we also have the opportunity to hold consultations between Azerbaijan, Armenia and Georgia. If Armenia is ready, we will be ready to start this format today," said Ilham Aliyev.

US Ambassador to Georgia Kelly Degnan on Supreme Council of Justice's elected members and statement of Oleksiy Arestovych



By Liza Mchedlidze

The US Ambassador to Georgia Kelly Degnan commented on the statement of Oleksiy Arestovych, in which the adviser of the office of the President of Ukraine stated that "in the near future, when Ukraine gains an advantage in the war with Russia, they should switch to 'helping' Georgia. She refused to speak 'on behalf' of a member of the Ukrainian government Arestovych.

Degnan voiced the position of the United States once again and said that Washington consistently and firmly supports Georgia's aspirations for the

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Exchange Rates: US Dollar - 2.7578; Euro - 2.7076; GBP - 3.1174; 100 Russian Ruble - 4.4945; Swiss Franc - 2.7517

US Ambassador to Georgia Kelly Degnan on Supreme Council of Justice's elected members and statement of Oleksiy Arestovych

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European future, which means EU and NATO membership.

The ambassador also added that she is making every effort to ensure that Georgia achieves the Euro-Atlantic goals.

"I think that now as a candidate there is a real possibility of this [European integration] if the leaders and the people agree and take the necessary steps to implement the 12 recommendations." It is important for the process to be broad and inclusive, involving civil society, the opposition, and various interested parties.

"We are all trying to see if the leaders of Georgia can do what is necessary to achieve this goal,

which is the clear will of the Georgian people to become fully integrated into the European family and gain candidate status," the ambassador added.

The Ambassador to Georgia also noted that anything that divides Georgia and Ukraine and promotes discord between these countries benefits only Russia.

Degnan also added that Russia's invasion of Georgia and Ukraine threatens the territorial integrity and sovereignty of both countries, and this is the time when unity is needed.

Degnan responded to the election of Levan Murusidze and Dimitri Gvirtsishvili as non-judge members of the Supreme Council of Justice and said that the European Commission will

evaluate this.

According to the ambassador, an independent, truly impartial court is very important for any democracy.

"As you mentioned, justice reform is one of the 12 recommendations of the European Union. It is not only in the list of 12 recommendations, it is also mentioned in the Association Agreement with the European Union, and it is a very important area. However, it is very important for democracy to have an independent, truly impartial judiciary to protect democracy.

The judicial reform process should be broad, inclusive, and civil society representatives, opposition, and interested parties should participate in it, not only

because they have an interest in this field, but also because they have very good ideas and opinions on how to improve the Georgian justice system.

While traveling to the regions of Georgia, I had the privilege to meet with the judges of the regional courts and learn about the very important work they do. I can say that there are many judges who are dedicated and professional in their work.

I hope that the justice reform will solve the real challenges facing the courts. For example, in some courts there are a lot of accumulated cases, in some places there is a lack of judges, and most importantly, citizens should receive proper support in terms of justice," said Degnan.

The News in Brief

PREPARED BY MESSENGER STAFF

President Zourabichvili wasn't informed about Ilham Aliyev's working visit to Georgia, Administration says

informed about the working visit of the President of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev to Georgia. This is stated in the statement issued by the administration of the President of Georgia.

As the administration of the president states, despite the desire and readiness of the presi-

Azerbaijan, Mr. Ilham Aliyev to Georgia.

Due to the importance of the issue, the administration of the President of Georgia considers it appropriate to inform the public that the President was not informed about the working visit of the President of our neighboring and friendly country, Mr. Ilham Aliyev, to Georgia.

Despite the desire and readiness of the President of Georgia, unfortunately, the meeting between the presidents, which is traditionally held during the visit of all heads of state to the country,

lic of Azerbaijan with an official visit in the near future," the President's administration said in a statement.

Azerbaijan to export electricity to the world market, the route will pass through Georgia, says Aliyev

According to Ilham Aliyev, Azerbaijan plans to increase the export of natural gas and oil. The energy export routes will pass through Georgia, the Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan oil pipeline will be overloaded, and the Baku-Supsa pipeline will be developed.

Also, according to Ilham Aliyev, Azerbaijan plans to export electricity to international markets, the route of which will also pass through Georgia.

"The new projects also envisage the implementation of electricity projects. Azerbaijan intends to export electricity to international markets. Of course, our route will definitely pass through Georgia.

10 GW is our renewable energy capacity and through the Caspian Sea we have the opportunity to export 157 GW. This is the indicator established by international calculations and forecasts.

This will be a new target orientation, in order to export electricity and as in other directions, we believe that Georgia and Azerbaijan will successfully cooperate in this direction as well. In general, the potential of our cooperation, potential of energy corridors, prosperity will increase," Ilham Aliyev said.

კრედიტების აღმინისტრაციის განცხადება

საქართველოს პრეზიდენტი მიხეილ სააკაშვილის განცხადებით, აზერბაიჯანის რესპუბლიკის პრეზიდენტის, ბათონი ილჰამ ალიევის სამუშაო ვიზიტს საქართველოში

საკითხის შეიშვალაობიდან გამომდინარე, საქართველოს პრეზიდენტის აღმინისტრაცია მიზანშეწონილად მიიჩნევს საზოგადოებას აცნობოს, რომ პრეზიდენტი არ ყოფილა ინფორმირებული ჩვენი მეზობელი და მეგობარი ქვეყნის პრეზიდენტის, ბათონი ილჰამ ალიევის საქართველოში სამუშაო ვიზიტის შესახებ

საქართველოს პრეზიდენტის სურვილისა და მზობის მიუხედავად, სამწუხაროდ, პრეზიდენტებს შორის ვერ შედგა შეხვედრა, რომელიც ქვეყანაში ყველა სახელმწიფო მეთაურის ვიზიტისას ტრადიციულად იმართება

საქართველოს პრეზიდენტი კიდევ ერთხელ გამოხატავს მზობასა და სურვილს, უახლოეს მომავალში, ოფიციალური ვიზიტით უმასპინძლოს აზერბაიჯანის რესპუბლიკის პრეზიდენტს

The President of Georgia Salome Zourabichvili was not

Weather

Tuesday, October 25

Day Partly Cloudy High: 19°C

Night Partly Cloudy Low: 8°C

Wednesday, October 26

Day Partly Cloudy High: 17°C

Night Partly Cloudy Low: 8°C

dent of Georgia, "unfortunately, the meeting between the presidents could not take place," and Salome Zourabichvili expresses her readiness and desire to host the president of Azerbaijan on an official visit in the near future.

"The President of Georgia welcomes the working visit of the President of the Republic of

could not take place.

"The President of Georgia once again expresses his readiness and desire to host the President of the Republic

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