

## Work on 'Ukrainian model' law on de-oligarchization to continue, Shalva Papuashvili says

By Liza Mchedlidze

The Chairman of the Parliament, Shalva Papuashvili said that the Venice Commission has sent the Georgian Parliament official response regarding Ukrainian law on de-oligarchization, which is one of the main points of 12 recommendations issued by European Union for Georgia to obtain the EU candidacy status:

"We received an official response from the Venice Commission that the work on the Ukrainian law on de-oligarchization continues," said Papuashvili.

According to him, the official response from Venice Commission also revealed that the conclusion on the Ukrainian model of de-oligarchization will be finalized in 2023, without specifying the date.

"We received an official response from the Venice Commission through the representation of the Georgian Embassy in the Council of Europe that the work on Ukrainian law continues. It is not withdrawn and the process is proceeding normally. Also, we were told that the conclusion on this project will be in 2023, although they did not give us the date. Therefore, we will consider how appropriate it is to send our project to the Venice Commission for a conclusion. This is the latest information we have.

"There will be a conclusion of the Ukrainian law, although the Venice Com-



mission cannot name a specific date," Shalva Papuashvili said.

Shalva Papuashvili answered the question whether the Parliament of Georgia will pass the law on de-oligarchization in

all three readings before 2023:

"Let's see. That is why we said that our approach was that it is identical to the Ukrainian law, so whatever the conclusion on the Ukrainian law would be,

the same would be relevant for us, although as I told you, the answer is that the final conclusion will be in 2023," Chairman of Parliament said.

## 13 NGO's release statement regarding Saakashvili's medical treatment

By Liza Mchedlidze

Non-governmental organizations have released a statement regarding the third presi-

dent of Georgia, Mikheil Saakashvili's medical treatment.

NGOs stated that according to the available reports, Mikheil

Saakashvili's health condition has worsened and the issue of further treatment should be decided not by political expediency, but only by taking into account

the standards of human life and health protection.

"According to the information spread in recent days, Mikheil Saakashvili's medical condition

is even worse and requires immediate response. Visitors also confirm the worsening condition of the ex-president. Saakashvili's health condition is highlighted by international partners and the President of Georgia.

President Salome Zourabichvili noted that if there is a conclusion about the significant worsening of Mikheil Saakashvili's condition, taking him abroad for treatment is "the right way, there is no other way."

Unfortunately, the mentioned statement from the government was followed by answers of political content, which contradicts the obligations assumed by the state in terms of human rights protection.

Therefore, we call on the authorities and all decision-makers, when discussing the need for Mikheil Saakashvili's further treatment, including the need to transfer him abroad, to be guided by the information and recommendations indicated in the experts' conclusions, and not by taking into account the political situation, in order to completely exclude the risks of further worsening of health and endangerment of life." The statement reads, which is signed by 13 different NGOs.



The News in Brief

PREPARED BY MESSENGER STAFF

**Patriarchate of Georgia statements increase risks of attacks on journalists, Media Advocacy Coalition**



On November 26, the Head of Public Relations of the Patriarchate of the Georgian Orthodox Church, Dean Andria Jagmaidze, said that 'some mass media' are helping citizens to act against the Church, and are engaged in a hidden and organized anti-church campaign. The Media Advocacy Coalition wrote regarding this statement and said that the Church representatives connecting the media with the crime that happened

in the Tskhramukha Monastery increases the risks of violent attacks against journalists. "Unfortunately, recently, the working environment for journalists in Georgia has become extremely dangerous - they are often not given the opportunity to freely perform their professional duties,

physical and verbal attacks are a concomitant part of the activities of media representatives. It is alarming that persons and organizations influencing public opinion, including the Patriarchate of Georgia, contribute to creating an even more aggressive environment towards the media with their hostile attitude and statements. "Such a reference creates confusion among the population, neglects the con-

versation about the real reasons and ways to solve it, which is so important today to reduce both violence against women and crimes against the media," the statement reads.

**Nino Lomjaria: Blaming the media for what happened in the monastery is extremely dangerous and wrong**

Public defender Nino Lomjaria responded to the statement of the Patriarchate of Georgia about the rape and violence against a nun in the Tskhramukha Monastery and noted that it is extremely dangerous and wrong to blame the media for the crime.

"Very soon after the tragedy of Terjola, the worst, cruelest crime took place in Tskhramukha monastery, the whole country is shaken, but blaming the causes of this crime on the representatives of specific media outlets is extremely dangerous and wrong. Tomorrow, a citizen provoked by this statement may physically assault or rape a journalist, which we have already seen many times.

It is impossible, it is dangerous to speculate on such topics and create an image of the enemy out of innocent people.

I want to wish the victim of violence a speedy recovery! I hope that in this difficult time, he will receive proper emotional support from those around him," said Nino Lomjaria.



**EU launches 'School buses for Ukraine' campaign and donates Euro14 million**

The EU has launched a solidarity campaign to bring more buses to Ukraine.

The European Commission is calling on public and private entities in the EU and beyond to join forces and show solidarity, by donating in the coming months buses that are essential to bring Ukrainian children safely back to their schools.

Potential donors can do that through the EU Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM), which has already been critical in channeling vital support to Ukraine and its people, including shelter, food,



hospital equipment, ambulances, fire trucks, and much more.

"Ukrainian children need school buses. Europe is now donating Euro14 million for this. And we need more. This is why the European Commission is organising a solidarity campaign to donate school buses for Ukraine by early 2023. Together, we can help Ukrainian children - the future of Ukraine," said Ursula von der Leyen, President of the European Commission.

According to the Commission, 5.7 million school-aged children have been impacted by Russia's aggression, and over 2,800 education facilities have been damaged or destroyed.

(euneighbourseast.eu)

Weather

Monday, November 28

Day ☀️ Clear  
High: 13°C

Night ☁️ Mostly Cloudy  
Low: 8°C

Tuesday, November 29

Day 🌧️ Showers  
High: 10°C

Night ☁️ Cloudy  
Low: 7°C

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# The Inclusive Dance Performance IN C - Tbilisi

“IN C – Tbilisi” is an experimental dance performance bringing together actors with intellectual disabilities with independent dancers from Georgia and the Berlin-based dance company Sasha Waltz & Guests, performing an inclusive version of the IN C dance piece created by Sasha Waltz.

IN C is based on the revolutionary musical piece by American composer Terry Riley by the same name, considered to be one of the pioneer compositions of minimalist music. Sasha Waltz and her dancers developed innovative, experimental choreographic material which follows a similarly variable structure of the music. This is a piece that is made in the moment, on-the-spot, and never repeated. Each member develops a unique sensitivity of how far their freedom can go while

not damaging the whole.

In C is an exercise in democracy - as Sasha Waltz describes her piece. What happens when the democracy exercise is performed on stage by dancers of different physical, mental, or cultural experiences? This question became the inspiration to create IN C - Tbilisi, the inclusive version of the original piece, where disabled and non-disabled dancers from Tbilisi and Berlin would perform together on the stage.

IN C - Tbilisi aims to support the integration of disabled people into artistic life in Georgia, to assist their professional development and to embrace inclusive elements in the dialogue between the Georgian and international art world.

The project is implemented by the non-profit organization “InForm - Platform for

Inclusive Minds.” The platform promotes the development of inclusive art in Georgia and creates opportunities for integrating people with disabilities into the larger society through art.

The project is supported by the Ministry of Culture Sports and Youth of Georgia; Tbilisi City Hall; Goethe institute under the programme “Kultur in Bewegung: regionaler Mobilitätsfonds des Goethe-Instituts Osteuropa und Zentralasien,” UN Women, Adjara Group, Georgian Healthcare Group, Archi Group, Atelie Makratelli.

Project partners: Wise Music, Cantaloupe Music, TVE Studio, Venturenauten

Sasha Waltz & Guests was founded in 1993 by Sasha Waltz and Jochen Sandig in Berlin. Since then, more than 150 artists from 25 countries – architects, vi-

sual artists, choreographers, film-makers, musicians, actors and dancers – have taken part as “guests” in more than 30 productions, Dialoge projects and films. The active repertoire includes 18 dance pieces, and 100 performances around the world each year.

**IN C -Tbilisi**  
Inclusive Dance Performance

**InForm – Platform for Inclusive Minds**  
**1,2,3 Decemeber, 19.00**  
*Royal District Theatre*  
*10 Gia Abesadze st.*

*Tickets at: [biletebi.ge](https://biletebi.ge)*

*<https://biletebi.ge/in-c-tbilisi/Schedule>*



Photos by: Patricia López Calvo, Karin Odendahl, Annie Davarashvili