

Deputy FM of Georgia Teimuraz Janjalia Meets with Deputy FM of Italy Edmondo Cirielli

BY LIZA MCHEDLIDZE

Political consultations between Georgia and the Republic of Italy were held at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The consultations were led by the Deputy Foreign Minister Teimuraz Janjalia from the Georgian side, and Edmondo Cirielli, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Italy, from the Italian side.

According to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, important issues of the agenda of the two countries were discussed at the meeting. The conversation touched on the main directions of bilateral cooperation between Georgia and Italy in the fields of politics, economy, defense and security.

"The issue of European and Euro-Atlantic integration of Georgia was emphasized. The progress of the implementation of 12 points and the steps taken by Georgia in this regard were discussed. The conversation touched on Georgia's integration into NATO and the process of preparations for the Vilnius summit. The parties also discussed the existing cooperation between Georgia and Italy within the



framework of international organizations," the statement reads.

According to Cirielli, Italy considers Georgian people as ancient friends, who have always been a part of Europe culturally,

and that Italy supports Georgia in the European Union accession process.

"Today, as the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, who is also concerned with the issues of the

Caucasus, I wanted to express Italy's support and friendship. I would like to mention the warm welcome we had from all government representatives. They once again emphasized and confirmed

their great desire for Euro-Atlantic integration, and Italy will be a great supporter of this aspiration of the Georgian people," stated Cirielli.

Ambassador of China to Georgia Zhou Qian Says China Welcomes Georgian Gov't Peaceful Approach

BY LIZA MCHEDLIDZE



Ambassador of China to Georgia, Zhou Qian, told journalists that China respects the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Georgia and welcomes the Georgian government's peaceful approach to political issues related to territorial integrity of the country.

When asked how much China can be involved in resolving the issue regarding the occupied regions of Georgia, similar to the mediation between Iran and Saudi Arabia, the Chinese Ambassador noted that Georgia or Russia have not addressed such a request to China.

Zhou Qian said that the Government of Georgia emphasizes today that the unification of the country and the settlement of the territorial problem should be done in a peaceful way.

According to Qian, they consider this to be the right direction and that China is always on the side of peace.

"In the 12-point document that we discussed regarding the solution to the Ukraine crisis, the first point refers to respect for territorial integrity and sovereignty. We always follow this principle in relation to Georgia. We respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Georgia. China has good relations with both

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Exchange Rates: US Dollar - 2.5420; Euro - 2.7817; GBP - 3.1686; 100 Russian Ruble - 3.1991; Swiss Franc - 2.8073

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Russia and Georgia, and we hope that this issue will be resolved peacefully.

However, it should be noted that until

now we have not received any request from either the Georgian side or the Russian side regarding China's involvement in solving this issue. As good partners of Georgia and Russia, we hope that this

issue will be resolved peacefully.

Today, the Government of Georgia emphasizes that the unification of the country and the resolution of the territorial problem should be done in a peaceful

way. We think that this is the right direction and we very much hope that this issue will be resolved through peace," the Ambassador stated.

The News in Brief

PREPARED BY MESSENGER STAFF

NATO to Continue Supporting Partner Countries Pressured by Russia, Jens Stoltenberg says



NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg said after the two-day meeting of foreign ministers that NATO will continue to support those partner countries, including Georgia, which are under pressure from Russia.

The ministers talked about the ongoing war in Ukraine, the deepening of relations between Russia and China and the Vilnius summit scheduled for July.

"We don't know when this war will end, but when it does, we must make sure that President Putin will no longer be able to undermine Europe's security. We agreed to start working on the development of a strategic multi-year assistance program for Ukraine. At the same time, we will continue to support our partners who are under pressure from Russia, including Moldova, Georgia and Bosnia-Herzegovina," Stoltenberg said.

According to the NATO Secretary General, the deepening of the relationship between Beijing and Moscow is now particularly

noteworthy: "China refuses to condemn Russia's aggression, and this echoes Russian propaganda. As Beijing and Moscow move against the international agenda, it is even more important that we continue to stand together," Stoltenberg stated.

Irakli Gharibashvili Meets with Minister of Infrastructure and Territorial Administration of Armenia



The Prime Minister of Georgia, Irakli Gharibashvili, met with the Minister of Infrastruc-

ture and Territorial Administration of Armenia, Gnel Sanosyan.

According to their reports, the cooperation and good neighborly relations between Armenia and Georgia in various fields were discussed at the meeting.

"They talked about cooperation between Georgia and Armenia in the regional and infrastructural spheres and the further development of relations in the mentioned direction. It was noted that the relations between the countries in the economic sphere are developing dynamically and there is signifi-

cant progress," the statement reads.

EU Ambassador to Georgia visits EU-funded projects in Imereti



71 projects in various municipalities.

The Ambassador then visited the first green waste composting centre in Kutaisi, established with the financial assistance of the EU. The centre is

On 3-5 April, Pawel Herczynski, Ambassador of the European Union to Georgia, visited the Imereti region for the first time. During the three-day trip, the Ambassador visited projects supported by the EU Delegation to Georgia and implemented by local action groups in Kutaisi and Tskaltubo.

In Kutaisi, the ambassador visited the Colchis Fountain, which has been rehabilitated with EU funds. The project is part of the joint regional development programme between the European Union and the Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure of Georgia. The objective of the programme is to reduce regional disparities, improve people's living conditions and develop the economy in the regions of Georgia. In total, over GEL 65 million have been transferred to Imereti in 2021-2022 to develop

the first facility in Western Georgia that composts biodegradable waste and contributes to the improvement of the environment in the municipality.

Ambassador Herczynski also met with personnel of the employment centre, as well as local young people who have developed new skills and found employment thanks to EU support channelled through the Education Development and Employment Centre (EDEC).

In Imereti, Ambassador Herczynski also visited Akaki Tsereteli Kutaisi State University, where he met students and answered their questions about EU-Georgia relations. The Ambassador also travelled to Tskaltubo to meet with the members of the Local Action Group and local businesses, supported by the EU.

(euneighbourseast.eu)

Weather

Thursday, April 6

Day Partly Cloudy

High: 18°C

Night Showers

Low: 8°C

Friday, April 7

Day Partly Cloudy

High: 19°C

Night Showers

Low: 10°C

The Robert Schuman European School is an institution where students share Georgian and European traditions, that contributes to the integration of Georgian youth into the European educational space.

Consequently, the Day of European Union is especially celebrated in our school. This day allows us once again to think and understand European values and develop in their footsteps.

Thus, on May 5, with the support of the Botanical Garden, The Robert Schuman European School programme "Modzgvvari" will hold an educational-cognitive project "We are part of Europe!" in the open festive space of the Botanical Garden.

During the project, information stands will be presented as a proof that European values and connection with them have always been relevant for Georgia. The stands will cover following topics:

- The roots of Europe are in ancient Georgia.
- Together with the European Union, we are stronger!
- Gender equality as a European value in Georgia.
- Georgian women in the parliament.
- In the footsteps of European cinema.
- Was the 1921 constitution European?
- Ilia's European ideas.
- Beginning of higher education, renaissance thinking, and democracy in medieval Georgia.
- Renaissance in medieval literature

The project will be decorated by European dances and songs performed by the students of our school. Additionally, Georgian and European cuisine will be presented.

We invite you to an interesting, informative, diverse, and entertaining event.



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43, Chovelidze st., Tbilisi, 0108, Georgia
Founded by Prof.

Zaza Gachechiladze

Tamar Gachechiladze
Publisher

Mob.: +995 599 565621; +995 577 760000
E-mail: messenger@messenger.com.ge
http://www.messenger.com.ge/

Nino Metreveli

Commercial Director

Mariam Mchedlidze

Editor-in-Chief

Khatuna Gogichaishvili

Layout Designer, Photographer

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The Messenger preserves the style of a source written in English where possible.

The English-Speaking Union of Georgia PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION 2023

This year ESU-Georgia is celebrating its anniversary: 25 years of ESU-Georgia as well as 25 years of its Public Speaking Competition. We are proud that we managed to send 38 young speakers to London to participate in the final.

ESU-Georgia is sponsored by the bank of Georgia.

The main goal of the ESU is promoting friendship and understanding through the English language. Over the last century, the English-Speaking Union

(ESU) has become a unique global educational charity that brings together people of different languages and cultures. ESU is involved in many cultural and educational programmes. The most popular is the International Public Speaking Competition. It is the largest public speaking competition in the world. It involves 1 000,000 students from over 50 countries. Through the international final in London, students from around the world have the opportunity to meet, form

friendships and understanding that will last a lifetime.

This year we also celebrated the success of Maia Tkemaladze, an English teacher from Sachkhere. She was award winner of the ESU Best Teacher competition in 2018 and with her award has set up a Public Speaking Club in Sachkhere. Three of her club members have taken part in the Public Speaking Competitions held across Georgia this year, and have all got through to the final.

This year's theme was: "You don't get a second chance to make a first impression"

The winner is Elene Gureshidze
The Runner-up - Bachana Ugrekhelidze

The third prize winner Elene Bakhutashvili

Elene Gureshidze will go to London on 8th of May to participate in the International final together with representatives from more than 50 countries.

Good luck, Elene!





