# Georgia and Germany Interior Ministers Discuss Law Enforcement, Migration, and Employment Opportunities for Georgian Citizens

By Liza Mchedlidze

uring his official visit to the Federal Republic of Germany, Vakhtang Gomelauri, the Minister of Internal Affairs of Georgia, held a meeting with Nancy Faeser, the Federal Minister of Internal Affairs of Germany.

According to the information released by the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the German authorities have expressed their interest in establishing bilateral working groups with the goal of enabling Georgian citizens with various professions to legally work in Germany.

Based on the provided information, at the meeting, the Minister of Internal Affairs of Georgia and the Federal Minister of Internal Affairs of Germany exchanged views on matters of mutual interest, particularly in the area of law enforcement, and discussed possibilities for future relations between their countries.

Gomelauri highlighted the significance of productive collaboration with the German law enforcement agencies and expressed gratitude to the German side for their unwavering support in enhancing the capabilities of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia. The discussions placed a particular emphasis on the measures taken to combat illegal migration and organized crime, along with the role of police attachés in these endeavors.



Gomelauri expressed his willingness to dispatch Georgian police officers to the pertinent departments of the German Ministry of Internal Affairs, highlighting that this move would aid in the dual goal of combating organized crime and monitoring illegal migration flows.

The German representatives acknowledged that Georgia has been successfully implementing the readmission agreement with the European Union and high-

lighted the effective cooperation between Germany and Georgia in this regard. Moreover, they positively evaluated the measures taken by Georgia, including current reforms aimed at addressing the challenges of visa-free

travel with the European Union.

The German side expressed its interest in establishing bilateral working groups to facilitate legal employment opportunities for Georgian citizens with diverse skill sets in Germany.

# GD Chairman Irakli Kobakhidze Meets With The Council of Europe Parliamentary Assembly Speakers



### By Liza Mchedlidze

uring his visit to Strasbourg for the spring session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe Georgian Dream Chairman Irakli Kobakhidze discussed ith the speakers of the Assem. bly about the current political processes surrounding the 12 points. He informed them about the progress made in relation to the implementation of the 12 points and discussed the statement made by them. According to Kobakhidze, he also shared critical remarks about their report. "We had critical remarks about their report, their statement," he said.

The Chairman reported that the speakers of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe had a productive and friendly meeting, where they discussed the implementation of the 12 points, including the draft law on de-oligarchization which was sent to the Venice Commission for their review. They also talked about the need for systemic reforms and personal approach changes to be implemented concurrently.

According Kobakhodze, during the meeting, he provided an update on the progress made towards implepenting the 12 recommended and informed the speakers of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe that the draft law on de-oligarchization had been sent to the Venice Commission for review and the party is eagerly awaiting their conclusion. Kobakhidze emphasized that systemic reforms would continue alongside the implementation of changes on a personal level.

They expressed their approval that the draft law on deoligarchization had been submitted to the Venice Commission and stated that they would wait for the commission's next report before discussing the matter further.

The meeting also discussed the details of the ongoing judicial reform and agreed to collaborate on finalizing the reform packages.

Exchange Rates: US Dollar - 2.5019;

Euro - 2.7661;

GBP - 3.1226;

100 Russian Ruble - **3.0604**;

Swiss Franc - **2.8165** 

## The News in Brief

PREPARED BY MESSENGER STAFF

**Education Minister** Giorgi Amilakhvari **Meets With UK** Ambassador to Georgia **Mark Clayton** 

Education Giorgi Amilakhvari informed British Ambassador Mark Clayton about the upcoming developments planned for the education system and shared his own vision for the sector. They also discussed the progress of ongoing and completed joint projects,



The Minister of Education and Science of Georgia, Giorgi Amilakhvari held a meeting with the Ambassador of Great Britain to Georgia, Mark Clayton.

During the meeting, Minister

which have been supported by the British Council.

Amilakhvari thanked Mark Clayton for many years of cooperation and noted that within the framework of the fruitful partnership between the countries, a number of important initiatives were implemented in terms of the development of the education and science system.

At the meeting, the parties discussed cooperation mechanisms between universities and research institutes of Georgia and Great Britain. In addition, they discussed the issues of creating a new concept of remote/ online education and introducing joint and dual programs in higher educational institutions of Georgia.

The British ambassador reaffirmed his commitment to strengthening future cooperation and emphasized that the already close partnership between the two countries will become even more dynamic.

#### **Minister of Education** and Science Giorgi Amilakhvari Discusses Plans for School Meals in Georgia

The Minister of Education and Science Giorgi Amilakhvari, told journalists that once suitable nutrition infrastructure is established in schools, discussions will begin on how to provide meals to all students. He also mentioned that this system is already in place in some schools.

'Certainly there are challenges and we will not run away from them. We talk about it openly. Among them is, of course, the issue of school meals, which has dogged our system for

schools will follow closely, where one of the important and main components is the canteen infrastructure, i.e. setting up the infrastructure in schools which is then necessary for the service to provide our children with a quality, safe food supply," and Amilakhvari said.

The Education Minister men-



three decades. The unprecedented infrastructural projects that are currently underway and the construction and rehabilitation of 400 schools are planned for 2-3 years, and another 400

tioned that the Ministry is currently exploring various international experiences, research, approaches, and methodologies related to implementing school

# EU Foreign Affairs Council: Ukraine, Moldova, and Georgia in focus

The EU Foreign Affairs Council took place on 24 April, with the situation in Ukraine, Georgia and Moldova as priority topics.

Ukrainian Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba addressed the EU ministers via video conference, and briefed them about the latest developments on the ground and Ukraine's military priorities and needs, especially in terms of ammunition and missiles.

EU High Representative Josep Borrell highlighted that in total the EU and its member states have already facilitated the delivery to Ukraine of over Euro13 billion in military support.

He also updated ministers on EU military support to Ukraine in the context of the three-track



### Weather

Thursday, April 27



Night T-storm

Low: 12°C

Friday, April 28

Day Partly Cloudy High: 25°C

Night T-storm

Low: 13°C

plan. On track one, the EU adopted an assistance measure under the European Peace Facility worth Euro1 billion to address Ukraine's most immediate needs. EU member states are

also finalising work on track two, to facilitate joint procurement. Lastly, the European Commission will soon present concrete proposals on how to ramp up the European defence production capacity under track three.

Ministers were also informed about the activities of the EU Military Assistance Mission in support of Ukraine (EUMAM Ukraine), which has already

exceeded its initial target by training over 16,000 Ukrainian soldiers. The EU aims to train a total of 30,000 soldiers by the end of 2023.

EU Foreign Ministers also held an informal exchange with the Georgian Foreign Minister, Ilia Darchiashvili, and confirmed that Georgia has made significant progress in many key reforms. They also highlighted that rule of law, human rights, media, civil society and independent state institutions are important elements for each country aspiring to join the EU.

Concerning Moldova, the Foreign Affairs Council established a new civilian EU CSDP partnership mission (EUPM Moldova), reached a broad agreement on a new framework for sanctions against those who destabilise the country, and on allocating further Euro40 million coming from the European Peace Facility to support Moldova's defence capabilities.

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