Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs Addresses Incident During Visit to Mikheil Saakashvili by Polish Doctors

By Liza Mchedlidze

The Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs has issued a statement regarding an incident that occurred during the visit of Polish doctors to President Mikheil Saakashvili at the Vivamed clinic in Tbilisi. The purpose of the visit was to provide assistance to the former president. The statement highlights that the incident was inconsistent with the agreed terms, unintentional, and unforeseen. It was promptly addressed on-site and subsequently explained during a meeting with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Georgia.

In this context, the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs expressed concern over the decision of Georgia's Special Penitentiary Service, under the Ministry of Justice, to publish the record of the search conducted on the Polish doctor, as well as a number of emotional statements made by representatives of state bodies. These actions were deemed contradictory to the principles of good cooperation.

The Polish side strongly emphasized that the incident itself, as well as its disclosure by the Georgian authorities, will not impact the assessment of the



patient's health condition, the performance of Georgian doctors, or the process of analyzing examination results.

The Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs expressed its firm commitment to continuing cooperation with Georgian partners without changes and said it stands ready to take further actions aimed at assisting both Georgian partners and the former president of Georgia, Mikheil Saakashvili.

 $\hbox{``The visit of Polish doctors to}\\$

President Mikheil Saakashvili at the Vivamed clinic in Tbilisi was intended to provide assistance to the former president. Unfortunately, an incident occurred that was inconsistent with the agreed terms, unintentional, and unforeseen. Immediate action was taken on-site, and during the subsequent meeting with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Georgia, the incident was explained in detail. Given this context, the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs expresses con-

cern about the decision made by Georgia's Special Penitentiary Service, under the Ministry of Justice, to publish the search record of the Polish doctor, as well as certain emotional statements made by representatives of the state bodies. These actions contradict the principles of good cooperation.

The Polish side wishes to emphasize that neither the incident itself nor its disclosure by the Georgian authorities will have any impact on the assessment

of the patient's health condition, the performance of Georgian doctors, or the process of analyzing examination results.

The Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs remains committed to maintaining unchanged cooperation with our Georgian partners and is prepared to undertake further actions aimed at assisting them and supporting the former president of Georgia, Mikheil Saakashvili," the statement reads.

Shalva Papuashvili Calls for Increased Transparency and Accountability in European Parliament Following Saakashvili Case



By Liza Mchedlidze

Shalva Papuashvili, the Chairman of the Parliament of Georgia, expressed his endorsement of the campaign for enhanced transparency and accountability in the European Parliament, citing the 'deplorable' incidents related to the Saakashvili case.

"This campaign not only aims to secure Saakashvili's illegal release from a fair and just sentence but also seeks to tarnish Georgia's reputation on the international stage.

The newly released FARA documents reveal that the European Parliament resolutions critical of the Georgian government were not authored by well-intentioned MEPs but were instead drafted by hired lobbyists who purposefully added biased elements to these unjust resolutions.

The recent ruling by the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) in Strasbourg confirmed that Saakashvili's request for transfer abroad for "appropriate medical treatment" was denied, as such treatment is fully available at the location where he is currently serving his sentence. This decision exposed the campaign of mistreatment against

Saakashvili as not only artificial but also entirely fabricated," stated Shalva Papuashvili.

He further emphasized that the new FARA documents cast the entire case in a more serious light.

"The campaign of mistreatment against Saakashvili was not only built on falsehoods and deceit but also involved the creation of European Parliament resolutions that were directed against the Georgian people, all orchestrated by the hands of lobbyists.

In light of this scandalous information, I urge the European Parliament members who were involved in this disgraceful campaign not only to cease their campaign against Georgia but also to rectify the damage inflicted upon our country's international reputation.

Recently, the President of the European Parliament, Roberta Metsola, rightly highlighted the need for new regulations requiring MEPs to publicly disclose their interactions with lobbyists, following the Qatargate scandal. Given the shameful experience surrounding the entire Saakashvili case, I stand in support of the campaign for

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Exchange Rates: US Dollar - 2.5692;

Euro - 2.8819;

GBP - 3.3204;

100 Russian Ruble - 2.8211; Swiss Franc - 2.9930

Shalva Papuashvili Calls for **Increased Transparency and** Accountability in European **Parliament Following** Saakashvili Case

CONTINUED FROM Page 1

increased transparency and accountability in the European Parliament," stated Papuashvili in a statement published on the Facebook page.

The U.S. Department of Justice has released information on lobbying firms hired by Giuli Alasania and Mikheil Saakashvili, detailing their activities. According to the docu-

lobbying firms ments, 'Akerman' and 'GP International' engaged in various activities over a six-month reporting period, including those related to European Parliament resolutions, sanctions against Georgia, attempts to secure a meeting with the President of Georgia to request Saakashvili's pardon, and engagement with Polish doc-

The News in Brief

PREPARED BY MESSENGER STAFF

Concerns Raised by European Parliamentarian Andrews **Kubilius Over Georgian** Government's Commitment to EU Membership

government's dedication to Georgia's ambition of joining the European Union. Kubilius pointed out that the conduct exhibited by government representatives contradicts the standards expected from a country aspiring to become an EU member.

"This is not a political issue but a humanitarian one. It is Mikheil evident that



During an interview with 'Formula', European Parliamentarian Andrius Kubilius raised concerns about the Georgian Saakashvili is suffering in prison, so we have appealed to the government of Georgia, specifically the ruling party, to dem-

onstrate humanity. I will refrain from discussing the politicization of the law, but it is purely a humanitarian matter.

I witnessed the strong reaction from the leaders of the ruling party, including statements from the Speaker of the Parliament and the Prime Minister, who expressed their displeasure towards the Members of the European Parliament (MEPs). I am not surprised by their reactions, but such behavior is quite different from what we would expect from a country aspiring to become an EU member.

I still have doubts about whether the Georgian government truly desires Georgia's membership in the European Union. At times, it appears they are actively working against attaining candidate status. Their daily actions towards the opposition, media, and minority groups suggest that they are attempting to dissuade the European Union from granting Georgia candidate status," Andrius Kubilius stated.

Maka Bochorishvili Addresses Polish MFA's **Statement on Doctor Incident**



Maka Bochorishvili, Chairman of the European Integration Committee of the Parliament of Georgia, expressed her concern regarding the statement released by the Polish Foreign Ministry. Bochorishvili stated that she perceived the exploitation of Georgian goodwill in an untrustworthy manner. She specifically referred to the Polish Foreign Ministry's statement regarding the disclosure of the search record of the Polish doctor who

visited Mikheil Saakashvili at the Vivamed Clinic in Tbilisi.

Bochorishvili stated that Georgia's decision to permit the visit of Polish doctors to treat Mikheil Saakashvili was founded on the principles of good cooperation.

"I also failed to appreciate their actions during this visit, which was re-

ally confusing and indicated that there were no good intentions here. Such a statement is incomprehensible to us when we are talking about emotions, while the goodwill of the Georgian side was used so dishonestly," said Bochorishvili.

The programme aims to transform the IT sector in Georgia by

introducing world-class stan-

dards, improving skills and creating exceptional employment

prospects for Georgian citizens.

Much attention will be paid to

the promotion of women in the

ment project represents a transformative leap in Georgia's IT

sector's future. This programme

will foster job creation by provid-

ing opportunities for innovators and entrepreneurs to collaborate

with international IT firms, ul-

Georgia's competitive edge in the

Cendrowicz, Head of Cooperation

at the European Union.

strengthening

said Nicholas

(euneighbourseast.eu)

The IT ecosystem develop-

IT industry.

timately

region,"

Do IT with the EU: Georgia to launch IT Ecosystem Development project with EU support

ore than 1,300 Georgians will be trained in in-demand and highly-paid specialities on the global market, including programming, project management, design, and others.

This will be made possible by the initiative 'Do IT with the EU', a comprehensive IT ecosystem development plan to be launched this September by Georgia's Innovation and Technology Agency (GITA) and the European Union. A cooperation agreement was recently endorsed by GITA and the EU.

Weather

Thursday, July 20



Night O Clear Low: 22°C

Friday, July 21

Day Partly Cloudy

High: 34°C Night Partly Cloudy



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