

## Georgian Prime Minister Speaks at Unveiling of Shota Rustaveli's Sculpture at Beijing University of Language and Culture

By Liza Mchedlidze

The government administration reported the unveiling of the sculpture of Shota Rustaveli at Beijing University of Language and Culture. Members of the Georgian government, including Prime Minister Irakli Gharibashvili, attended the event and the Prime Minister delivered a speech.

Gharibashvili expressed his belief that placing Shota Rustaveli's monument in the university space signifies a commitment to cultural exchange, knowledge-sharing, and fostering friendship between Georgia and China.

In his speech, the Prime Minister extended his gratitude to President Xi Jinping for the invitation to the People's Republic of China and Chengdu for the opening ceremony of the Summer World University Games. He emphasized that the relations between Georgia and China have now reached the level of a new strategic partnership.

The Prime Minister also highlighted Georgia's willingness to strengthen ties with China in the field of education. As part of the current visit, the Georgian government signed a memorandum



dum that includes provisions for teaching Chinese language in Georgian primary and secondary schools. Gharibashvili believes that this initiative will significantly contribute to enhancing mutual understanding between the two nations.

"Let me begin by saying how

grateful I am to His Excellency President Xi Jinping for inviting me and my delegation to the People's Republic of China and Chengdu for the opening ceremony of the Summer World University Games.

We are very grateful for the special hospitality and warm

welcome. I must mention that I am extremely happy that from now on the relations between our countries have risen to the level of a new strategic partnership.

We gathered today with immense pride and joy to celebrate the unveiling of Shota Rustaveli's sculpture at Beijing

Language and Culture University. I must say that I was especially pleased when, during the meeting with President Xi, he warmly mentioned our great poet Shota Rustaveli in his speech," said Gharibashvili in his speech.

## Memorandum Signed Between China's Sichuan Province and the Autonomous Republic of Adjara

By Liza Mchedlidze



Within the framework of Prime Minister of Georgia, Irakli Gharibashvili's visit to the People's Republic of China, an agreement was signed to establish friendly relations between the Autonomous Republic of Adjara of Georgia and the Sichuan Province of China.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs reported that the document was signed by Georgia's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Iliia Darchiashvili, and Sichuan's Governor, Huang Qiang.

Following the signing ceremony, a meeting took place to discuss the prospects of further deepening the relations between Adjara and Sichuan. Governor Huang Qiang presented the potential of the Sichuan region in various areas such as green energy, high technology, and tourism. He expressed readiness to host high-level delegations from Georgia in Sichuan to foster concrete and result-oriented cooperation between the two regions.

In response, Darchiashvili provided information about Georgia, highlighting its geographically strategic location and significance



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CONTINUED FROM Page 1

within the Middle Corridor and Silk Road projects. He emphasized Georgia's growing tourism

potential and expressed a willingness to develop beneficial cooperation with China and its provinces. Specific attention was given to the advantages of the

Adjara region and its various sectors. The minister outlined the autonomous republic's growing tourism potential, business opportunities, and its key transit

importance.

Both parties welcomed the beginning of a new stage of cooperation between Georgia and China, marking a strategic part-

nership. They acknowledged that this development opens a new window of opportunities between the two countries, which should be utilized in all directions.

## The News in Brief

PREPARED BY MESSENGER STAFF

### Mikheil Saakashvili and Sopo Tchkonია to Launch International Initiative to Rescue Abducted Children in Occupied Ukraine



**Mikheil Saakashvili**

1.3M followers • 0 following

In a Facebook post, the third president, Mikheil Saakashvili, announced the establishment of an international program/initiative in collaboration with Sopo Chkhonia to provide medical and humanitarian aid to missing and remaining children in the occupied territories of Ukraine.

Saakashvili called upon his supporters in Russia, Ukraine, and Georgia to actively participate in this cause by assisting in information gathering and contributing to the rescue efforts for these children.

"At least 15,000 Ukrainian children have been abducted from the occupied territories of Ukraine, forcibly adopted into families of the occupying country, and placed in orphanages.

This war has already claimed the lives of 535 children, leaving many others orphaned and in search of their relatives and the Ukrainian state's assistance.

Even in the conditions of my poor health, I am deeply affected by the tragedy of these children, both as a parent and as a Georgian citizen of Ukraine.

promptly provide you with the latest information. The initiative will be launched on August 2. Please provide me with complete information at the address: Forhelp114@gmail.com," Saakashvili wrote on the social network.

cupation forces in the Gori municipality near the village of Koshka, are now free and currently in the territory controlled by the central government.

The State Security Service stated, "Regarding the illegal

International Discussions."

According to the State Security Service, the authorities, in collaboration with international partners, continue their efforts to secure the release of all persons in illegal detention, particu-



### Two Georgian Citizens Illegally Detained by Russian Occupation Forces Finally Released After Six Months Imprisonment

According to the information from the State Security Service, Sergo Gugutishvili and Tamaz Kakhbrishvili, who had been illegally detained by Russian oc-

cupation forces in the Gori municipality near the village of Koshka, are now free and currently in the territory controlled by the central government. The State Security Service stated, "Regarding the illegal detention of the mentioned individuals, constant communication was maintained through the hotline. The EU Monitoring Mission in Georgia (EUMM) and the co-chairs of the international discussions in Geneva were directly involved in the process. Additionally, the central government regularly raised the issue of their illegal detention and immediate release during meetings held in the formats of the Incident Prevention and Response Mechanism (IPRM) and the Geneva

larly those in the occupied Tskhinvali region and occupied Abkhazia.

Sergo Gugutishvili and Tamaz Kakhbrishvili were arrested by representatives of the occupation forces on January 2, 2023. Local media reports indicate that the Tskhinvali de facto court sentenced them to six months of imprisonment in a case related to "illegal crossing of the border." Their sentence expired on July 28, leading to their release.

### (SEU) conferred an honorary doctorate degree to the German Ambassador

On July 28, the Georgian National University (SEU) conferred an honorary doctorate degree to the German Ambassador Peter Fischer for his commitment to Georgia's integration into the European Union.



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Numerous guests attended the ceremony, where the German Ambassador Peter Fischer held an inaugural lecture and sent the following key message: "For freedom and peace, we need to strengthen the European Union – and Georgia should be part of it. That idea is bigger than any current differences and therefore it will prevail."

In addition to the honorary doctorate ceremony, on the same day, the graduation ceremony of the German-Georgian summer school took place. The summer school was carried out with the help of the financial support of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD).

## Weather

Monday, July 31

Day Cloudy  
High: 30°C

Night Partly Cloudy  
Low: 21°C

Tuesday, August 1

Day Clear  
High: 34°C

Night Clear  
Low: 22°C

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