

BY LIZA MCHEDLIDZE

MEP Viola von Cramon Highlights President Zourabichvili's 'Punishment' Over European Integration Efforts

Viola von Cramon, a Member of the European Parliament, discussed the impeachment procedure against President of Georgia Salome Zourabichvili, emphasizing that the President faces impeachment due to her active steps toward Georgia's European integration.

In her address, Von Cramon expressed deep concern over the direction Georgia appears to be heading, suggesting a shift toward authoritarianism with pro-Russian inclinations.

She emphasized in her speech that the European Union is committed to not abandoning the 80% of the Georgian population that supports European integration and seeks closer ties with the EU.

"President. Colleagues, the president of Georgia, Salome Zourabichvili, stood here five months ago making a strong case for her country's European future. The President Zourabichvili does what the Georgian government refuses to do to bring her country closer to the EU. The president, who has, just like her people, is European through and through. Strictly follows the article 78 of the Georgian constitution.

"Take all measures to ensure the full integration of Georgia into the European Union". For these efforts, she is now being punished by an oligarch and his officials. Dear colleagues, I must



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alarm you that Georgia, once a beacon of European hope, is fast driving towards an authoritarian, pro Russian rule. The judi-

ciary and the rule of law are broken and are now being weaponized in a farce called impeachment. We cannot and we

will not give up on Georgia.

We will not leave over 80% of pro European Georgians alone. Against this captured regime,

Georgia will once become the European union. Thank you." Viola von Cramer stated.

Georgia's Defense Minister Emphasizes Air Defense and Aviation System Growth in Parliament Address

BY LIZA MCHEDLIDZE



Georgia's Defense Minister, Juansher Burchuladze, during his speech in the Parliament of Georgia, emphasized the importance of enhancement and growth of Georgia's air defense and aviation systems.

Burchuladze stated that the Defense Ministry's goal is to make Georgian skies as safe and secure as possible.

"As the past experience and the specifics of modern warfare have shown us, during military confrontations, the development of anti-aircraft means is of particular importance for the performance of defensive tasks and the protection of our critical infrastructure. Accordingly, the strengthening of this component is one of the main priorities of our efforts," said Burchuladze.

According to the Defense Minister, significant progress has been made in terms of restoring and modernizing our aviation assets.

"In just four years, we've

CONTINUED ON Page 2

Exchange Rates: US Dollar - 2.6925; Euro - 2.8403; GBP - 3.2725; 100 Russian Ruble - 2.7659; Swiss Franc - 2.9870

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CONTINUED FROM Page 1

achieved a level where our aviation now includes SU-25s, UH-1H helicopters, as well as MI-8, MTV, and MI-24 helicopters in excellent condition. We've also commenced the restoration of

training-combat L39 aircraft and AN-2 aircraft, along with training aircraft, which will be completed in the near future," stated Burchuladze.

In his speech, Burchuladze mentioned that one of the government's ambitious projects

is the establishment of local drone production.

"By the end of the year, we anticipate the introduction of domestically manufactured drones, produced by Delta, utilizing the Delta-Web framework. Furthermore, it's important to

note that while we develop our domestic drone production capabilities, we also continue to acquire cutting-edge equipment from reputable manufacturers in leading countries," the minister explained.

Furthermore, the minister

stated that Georgia has entered into agreements with both NATO member states and partner countries for the acquisition of advanced short- and long-range anti-drone systems, along with handheld drone detection and suppression systems.

The News in Brief

PREPARED BY MESSENGER STAFF

President of Georgia Salome Zourabichvili Revokes Citizenship of Otar Partskhaladze and Vetoes 'Anti-European' Law

President of Georgia Salome

Zourabichvili revoked the citizenship of the U.S.-sanctioned former chief prosecutor of Georgia, Otar Partskhaladze.

"The President of Georgia, prior to the commencement of the impeachment procedure in Parliament, issued a decree to terminate Otar Partskhaladze's Georgian citizenship," as stated in the President's administration's announcement.

According to the administration of the President of Georgia, President Zourabichvili vetoed the amendments to the Law on "Assemblies and Manifestations" for being "another anti-European law".

Overriding the President's veto requires the support of a majority in the full composition of Parliament.

Tbilisi Mayor Kakha Kaladze Praises Viktor Orbán's Support for Georgia's EU Membership

Mayor of Tbilisi, Kakha Kaladze commented on the visit of Hungary's Prime Minister, Viktor Orbán, to Georgia, and emphasized that Georgia, like Hungary, should have strong relationships with numerous allies who openly affirm the country's qualifications for European Union membership.

"I don't know who can be our supporter like Viktor Orbán and his government for our country to attain this status. If we look at it realistically, our country truly deserved this status. Many people, especially agents, are not

pleased when individuals speak the truth, utilize the appropriate platform of the European Parliament, and assert that Georgia deserved this status and

that they've treated Georgia unfairly. Visits of this nature are crucial, and we should strive to cultivate many more friendships," said Kakha Kaladze.



EU and UNDP help provide over 130,000 Nikopol residents with access to clean water

Weather

Wednesday, October 18

Day Mostly Cloudy
High: 13°C

Night Light Rain
Low: 10°C

Thursday, October 19

Day Light Rain
High: 14°C

Night Partly Cloudy
Low: 7°C



The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Ukraine, with financial support from the European Union, has delivered two powerful water pump stations to Nikopol City Council, in Dnipropetrovsk Oblast of Ukraine.

These vital pumps are aimed at facilitating the rehabilitation of the water supply system, severely damaged by consequences of the destruction of the nearby Kakhovka

Dam and continuous Russian attacks for over a year. These pumps boast a combined capacity of 800 m³/h, thereby facilitating the daily provision of water to 130,000 individuals.

"We understand how important it is for people to know that water is available in their taps – it's an absolute necessity in a modern, developed country – and we're proud to help ensure it's there for the people of Nikopol," said the Head of the European Commission's Service for Foreign Policy Instruments Peter M. Wagner. "As everyone knows, even a small break in the supply of water represents a huge inconvenience to the public."

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Concerts of famous Japanese singer Tokiko Kato in Georgia

Tokiko Kato, a singer who has been performing diverse music of the Eurasian continent for many years, visited Georgia with three concerts. At the concerts planned in Mtskheta, Tbilisi and Signaghi, Tokiko Kato performed songs based on the theme of Japanese nature and animated films, accompanied by a chamber orchestra, through creative collaboration with performers of Georgian traditional polyphonic songs and Niko Pirosmiani's pictorial world. At the mu-

sical evening, the original songs of the author were performed, which contributed to the creation of a unique artistic evening.

Singer Tokiko Kato, who has become a symbol of Japan, performs songs about the nature of various regions of Japan, such as: "Cruise on Lake Biwa", "Journey to Shiretoko", as well as songs from the Studio Ghibli animated film "Porco Rosso", which she took part in voicing.

Tokiko Kato performed the song "A

Million Roses", which became a world hit, "Suliko" was performed for the first time, and during the concert there was a stage collaboration with the Japanese-speaking vocal choir of Tbilisi. The participants of the concert were: Japanese pianist Miyuki Onitake, violinist Tsuyoshi Watanabe, the musicians in Tbilisi were joined by Elene Jimshitashvili, cellist of the Tbilisi State Chamber Orchestra.

This project aims at the real implementation of cultural cooperation between

Japan and Georgia and promotion of mutual understanding between the two countries.

Main organizer: Tokiko Planning; Co-organizers: City Hall of Mtskheta, State Drama Theater named after A.I. Griboyedov, City Hall of Signaghi; Supporters: Embassy of Japan in Georgia; Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Georgia

See photo coverage from the press conference and Tbilisi concert



