

Georgian Dream Attributes Sanctions to 'Deep State' Influence, Expresses Hope for EU Membership by 2030

By MESSENGER STAFF

Georgian Dream has issued a statement attributing recent sanctions against them to the influence of the "deep state" and a so-called "global war party". The party accuses these forces of undermining Georgia's sovereignty and Western institutions while reiterating its hope that by 2030, the European Union will overcome these challenges, paving the way for Georgia's EU membership.

"As is known to the public, several states have imposed financial sanctions and visa restrictions on high-ranking officials and politicians elected by the Georgian people. These decisions must once again be assessed as anti-Georgian actions that undermine the trust of Georgian society in Western institutions.

It should be noted that the deeper the roots of the global war party in various countries and the stronger the metastases of the so-called "deep state" in these countries – which serves as the main informal instrument of the global war party's influence – the



more anti-Georgian the respective country's attitude towards the Georgian state and people becomes.

Every single politician and bureaucrat who stands out with anti-Georgian statements – be it a president, prime minister, parliamentarian, member of the European Parliament, diplomat, or official – is a member of the "deep state" network. This network operates not based on the interests of the American or European people but according to the dictates of the global war party," read the statement.

Georgian Dream claims they are avoiding "Ukrainian plot" for Georgia through hard work, adding Georgian "officials" have been sanctioned under the influence of the deep state who wants to create a second frontline in Georgia.

The statement concludes with Georgian Dream expressing its "hope" that by "2030, the European Union will have fully overcome the issues of informal oligarchic influence and the 'deep state', creating the necessary conditions for Georgia to join the EU."

US and EU Lawmakers and Former Policymakers Call for Sanctions Against 'Illegitimate Regime', Demand New Elections

By MESSENGER STAFF



US and EU legislators and former policymakers have issued a joint statement urging democratic nations to take a unified stance against the Georgian Dream led by Bidzina Ivanishvili. The statement calls Ivanishvili's Georgian Dream "illegitimate regime" and criticises it for ignoring opposition concerns, suppressing protests, and undermining Georgian democracy, as well as ignoring international monitors. The statement calls for sanctions and the suspension of high-level meetings until they agree to conducting new, monitored elections.

"We, transatlantic legislators and former senior policymakers from across the political spectrum, call on all free and democratic governments to demand free and fair elections in Georgia and reject the illegitimate Ivanishvili regime. We

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call for a unified policy that no senior meetings should take place between free and democratic governments and this illegitimate regime until it agrees to new, properly monitored and conducted elections. Additionally, we call for unified sanctions on Ivanishvili’s regime and

Georgian Dream officials and propagandists undermining Georgian democracy and sovereignty.

Ivanishvili’s Georgian Dream party has chosen to ignore the legitimate concerns of the opposition and international monitors about the recent elections, seated a one-party legislature, and unilaterally elected a new president. They

have responded with brutality to nightly protests of hundreds of thousands of protestors. The Georgian people demand free and fair elections and we must stand with them,” reads the statement, signed by 43 individuals: US Congress members, European and national legislators, and former senior policymakers, including Joe Wilson, Chairman of the US Helsinki

Commission; Michael Roth, Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee in the German Bundestag; Viola von Cramon, former Member of the German Bundestag; Gabrielius Landsbergis, former Foreign Minister of Lithuania; and Ben Hodges, retired Lieutenant General and former Commander of US Army Europe.

The News in Brief

PREPARED BY MESSENGER STAFF

Papuashvili Says New Elections Might Solve Political Crisis in France



Georgian Dream’s Speaker Shalva Papuashvili, has responded sharply to comments made by the French Ambassador to Georgia, Shereaz Gasri, regarding the political situation in Georgia. Papuashvili’s remarks, posted on social media, suggested that France itself might benefit from new elections, referencing public dissatisfaction with French President Emmanuel Macron.

“I’m not saying that I intend to interfere in France’s domestic politics, but considering that 61% of the French support President Macron’s resignation and 50% want the dissolution of the National Assembly, new elections might be a good

solution to the political crisis,” Papuashvili wrote.

The comments came after Gasri, in a post on platform X, relayed Macron’s view that new elections in Georgia could help resolve its political crisis. The exchange highlights tensions between Georgia and France amid ongoing debates about democratic processes in the region.

Pia Kauma: OSCE Visit to Georgia Postponed to Avoid Perception of Government Endorsement



Pia Kauma, President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly and a member of the Finnish Parliament, explained in an interview with Radio Liberty that her postponed visit to Georgia was never intended to signal recognition of the current government. She emphasized the OSCE’s neutrality, stating their primary objective is to observe elections, identify shortcomings, and recommend improvements without taking sides. The visit, originally planned for January 8-10, was indefinitely postponed after Kauma concluded that meeting only government representatives would create the wrong impression. “If I came to Tbilisi and met only with government representatives, it would create exactly the image that I did not want to portray – that we support the government,” Kauma said.

Kauma revealed that opposition parties had requested she postpone her visit or meet certain conditions, including setting a date for new elections and releasing detained protesters, which she found unfeasible at the time. She added that the ruling Georgian Dream party had shown willingness to meet and discuss recommendations from the ODIHR report on elections, but the lack of broader consensus led to the delay. “We realized that in this very difficult and tense situation, our visit would only be fruitful if we met with all the important parties,” she explained, reiterating that the OSCE does not determine the legitimacy of governments and would not undermine Georgia’s sovereignty by doing so.

Georgia: EU expresses condolences on tragic incident in occupied Gali



The EU Delegation in Georgia said on 6 January it was deeply saddened by the tragic loss of five young lives in the Gali District in the occupied breakaway region of Abkhazia.

On 5 January, a private house in Saberio village caught fire. The fire killed five children, the youngest of whom was 4 years old.

In a statement, the Delegation expressed its condolences to the affected families, communities and the people of Georgia.

The Head of the European Union

Monitoring Mission (EUMM) in Georgia, Bettina Patricia Boughani, also made a statement on the tragic incident in Saberio.

“We are deeply saddened by the tragic loss of five young lives in the fire in Saberio,” Boughani said. “On behalf of the entire Mission, I extend our heartfelt condolences to the families and the community affected by this devastating event. Our thoughts are with them during this difficult time.”

(euneighbourseast.eu)

Weather

Thursday, January 9

Day ☀ Clear
High: 12°C

Night 🌙 Clear
Low: 1°C

Friday, January 10

Day ☀ Clear
High: 12°C

Night 🌙 Clear
Low: 1°C

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