



TEXTS ADOPTED

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Media freedom in Georgia, particularly the case of Mzia Amaglobeli

European Parliament resolution of 19 June 2025 on media freedom in Georgia, particularly the case of Mzia Amaglobeli (2025/2752(RSP))

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its previous resolutions on Georgia,
 - having regard to Rules 150(5) and 136(4) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas Mzia Amaglobeli, a journalist and co-founder of *Batumelebi* and *Netgazeti* outlets, was arrested during pro-European protests on 12 January 2025 and faces four to seven years in prison for a provoked incident involving a police officer;
- B. whereas the adoption of draconian legislation – such as the Foreign Agents Registration Act (FARA) and amendments to the Law on Broadcasting, Code of Administrative Offences and Law on Grants – constitutes a dangerous acceleration of democratic backsliding and deliberate authoritarian strategy by Georgian Dream to silence critical voices in civil society and independent media and persecute the political opposition;
- C. whereas the authorities have virtually annihilated remaining independent media outlets in the country; whereas the public information space is fully dominated by pro-government media, spreading Russian-style propaganda and anti-European disinformation;
- D. whereas in Mzia Amaglobeli's case, the authorities ignored procedural safeguards, imposed pre-trial detention without a clear legal basis, contested by the Public Defender, and assigned a presiding judge lacking qualifications in criminal law; whereas she is being punished for exposing corruption and reporting on election fraud during the 2024 elections;

- E. whereas she reportedly suffered inhumane treatment and undertook a 38-day hunger strike;
- F. whereas Estonia and Lithuania have imposed personal sanctions on Georgian judges and police officers linked to Mzia Amaglobeli's case;
- 1. Demands Mzia Amaglobeli's immediate and unconditional release and the withdrawal of all charges against her, and denounces her politically motivated arrest and prosecution;
- 2. Strongly condemns the Georgian Dream regime's systemic assault on democratic institutions, political opposition, independent media, civil society and judicial independence;
- 3. Expresses deep concern over arbitrary detentions and the harassment of, and violence against, journalists in Georgia, including smear campaigns, legal persecution, abuse and gender-based violence in detention; calls for independent investigations and urges the authorities to immediately end intimidation and ensure journalists' safety and freedom;
- 4. Urges the Georgian authorities to release all political prisoners and other illegally detained persons without delay, including activist Mate Devidze, opposition leaders Zurab Japaridze, Nika Melia and Nika Gvaramia, and former President Mikheil Saakashvili, and denounces the violent abduction of UNM Chair Tina Bokuchava's husband and the reported threats to her children's safety;
- 5. Calls for the immediate repeal of all repressive legislation, the restoration of democracy, and full protection of media freedom and civil liberties;
- 6. Calls for the EU to step up support for Georgia's independent media and civil society following the entry into force of the FARA, and monitor ongoing trials;
- 7. Regrets the persistent inaction of the Council, Member States and Commission and reiterates its repeated call on Member States to impose bilateral sanctions against Georgian Dream leaders and officials responsible for democratic backsliding;
- 8. Expresses concern about the latest wave of assaults on NGOs, through the demand by some state institutions, such as the Anti-Corruption Bureau, to provide detailed financial, legal and operational information for the last one and a half years within three working days; underscores that this demand is unfeasible by design and as such risks paralysing the work of targeted organisations and suspending their activities;
- 9. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the governments and parliaments of the Member

States, the Council of Europe, the OSCE, President Zourabichvili, and the self-appointed authorities of Georgia.