

# NO TO PHOBIA!

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF MEDIA DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION AND GEORGIAN DEMOCRACY INITIATIVE

## OBSERVATION OF THE WEEK

The following topics have been emphasized in the media landscape of May 12-18:

- Inciting violence against the ruling political team was exercised by the former convict, released under the status of political prisoner (Levan Chichua); whereas the dancer (Omar Mkheidze) incited violence towards LGBT people;
- Hate speech addressed to the Parliament and the LGBT groups concerning adoption of anti-discrimination law was used by several respondents, including church representative (Father Zosime). Prime minister used hate speech towards the National Movement;

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## # 13, 12-18 MAY



## STATEMENT

12 May

### Joint Statement of Non-Governmental Organizations Regarding Homophobic Assessments Made By Minister Davit Darakhvelidze

We, the undersigned non-governmental organizations, express our concern about homophobic assessments which David Darakhvelidze, the Minister of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Accommodation and Refugees of Georgia, made in his interview to *Versia* newspaper on 9 May.



The Minister's reference to LGBT persons as "diseased people" and people with "sexual deviations" incites hatred towards LGBT community; moreover it conflicts with approaches towards such persons which are universally recognized in medicine and law and which rest on the acknowledgement of a human being as the highest value and the universal principle of the protection of human rights. Rhetoric of this kind from a high public official is unacceptable as it

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## OBSERVATION OF THE WEEK

Beginning from p. 1

- Open call for participation in the protest action against adoption of anti-discrimination law was placed on the cover page of newspaper *Rezonansi* (dated May 17);
- Anti-discrimination law remained dominant in the media landscape, accordingly several judgmental positions were expressed about LGBT rights by non-parliamentary opposition (*Kartuli Dasi, Alliance of Patriots*); representatives of leading political party (Gogi Topadze, *Georgian Dream*) and other respondents.
- Homophobic statements were made by the representatives of *Georgian Dream* (Omar Nishnianidze), as well as, by non-parliamentary opposition (*Nino Burjanadze-United Opposition; Alliance of Patriots, Labour party, Free Georgia*); church servants and other respondents. Similar discourse was used by media outlets (*Sakinformi, Asaval-dasavali, Pirveli*);
- Anti-Western sentiments were mainly attributed to the adoption of anti-discrimination law, also named as “Imposed values”;
- Xenophobic narrative dominated in the media outlets (*TV Kavsakia, Spectri, and Newspaper Kviris Kronika*) Turkophobic announcements were made by representative of Alliance of Patriots (Davit Tarkhan-mouravi). Remarks of the representative of *Georgian Dream* (Gogi Topadze) conveyed xenophobia.

## CALL FOR PARTICIPATION IN PROTEST ACTION BY NEWSPAPER REZONANSI

Proclamation about protesting movement against anti-discrimination law on cover page of Newspaper *Rezonansi* (May 17) was identified as an instigation of social disagreement by Organization *Identoba*.

<http://identoba.com/2014/05/16/rezonansi-2/>



## INCITEMENT TO VIOLENCE

ASAVAL-DASAVALI, May 12-18

**LEVAN CHICHUA, discharged under the status of political prisoner:** “Government is pre-occupied by protecting the rights of gays and lesbians and does not care much about the rights of political prisoners, victims of repressions or about those who lost their property. In this case, I can assure you that, people who are furries with injustice, that they may tearing into bits those liar ministers of *Georgian Dream*, with the same “enthusiasm” as it happened to the *National Movement* killer representatives !”

<http://www.asavali.ge/archive/asdas/2014/1020.html>

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## INCITEMENT TO VIOLENCE

PIRVELI, MAY 17

**OMAR MKHEIDZE, dancer:** "I will show no mercy, whenever they dear to hold parade in front of me, or when they chant praising the gay life!... There have always been plenty of horrid people around, but they were disguised in their own circles and nobody ever disturbed them either. But they showed up with posters last year, they tried to make the convincing case how great they are. At least, some of them got beaten up that day! And it was good!"

[http://pia.ge/show\\_press\\_daijest\\_news.php?id=2065&lang=geo](http://pia.ge/show_press_daijest_news.php?id=2065&lang=geo)



## HATE SPEECH

REPORTIORI, May 17

**FATHER ZOSIME:** "Today people become like animals in all over the world, those vicious people are trying to legalize the vicious laws. Georgia needs no animals. It needs a Christian government. Propaganda of immorality has enacted in the world today, but Georgian nation will oppose to this trend with their religious family."

<http://www.reportiori.ge/?menuid=3&id=26970>

OBIEKTIVI, Nights Studio, May 18

**TV VIEWER, [Live phone call in the studio]:** "I don't think homosexuals are ill, they are Satanists, they worship evil. They have to be fully eliminated from the public, they are no human, and they have no personality."

[http://www.myvideo.ge/?video\\_id=2337285](http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2337285)

RUSTAVI 2, POST SCRIPTUM, MAY 18

**Respondent:** "This is a disaster, they are

just objects, everyone who legalized this law should be deported from Georgia and they should be accursed and fulminated an anathema."

[http://www.myvideo.ge/?video\\_id=2338120](http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2338120)

**Respondent:** "Well if it is really an illness, let them be, but they cannot boast about it in public. In early times, Georgian men used to safeguard their land from various enemies, such as: Turks, Persians, let say... Lezghians, but today Georgian man has to protect their families from pederast."

[http://www.myvideo.ge/?video\\_id=2338120](http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2338120)

NETGAZETI, May 18

**IRAKLI GHARIBASHVILI, Prime minister:** "All of you happened to see how they tortured and raped the boys and the men. This is National *Movement* who brought about the sexual harassment of men!" this was an insult of the nation."

<http://netgazeti.ge/GE/105/News/31567/>

**OMAR MKHEIDZE,**

**dancer:** *"I will show no mercy, whenever they dear to hold parade in front of me, or when they chant praising the gay life!... At least, some of them got beaten up that day and it is good!"*

## ANTI – DISCTIMNATION LAW

NETGAZETI, May 15



**GOGI TOPADZE, Georgian Dream:** "Would you be pleased to see two men on the wedding, coming out of the registry office and hugging each other?..."

It [the law] states: do not raid them. Yet, if you want democracy and freedom, you will have to endure them. Nevertheless loud publicity of this lifestyle is unacceptable".

<http://www.netgazeti.ge/GE/105/News/31453/.htm>

## ANTI – DISCRIMINATION LAW

ASAVAL-DASAVALI, May 12-18

**JONDI BAGHATURIA, Burjanadze –**

**United Opposition:** “According to the first article of anti-discrimination law, the way our parliamentarians adopted it, sexual orientation is legal, it is a norm and it is not abnormal or pathology. The parliamentarians do state, that those people are not ill and they are normal! What happens next is, that homosexual or lesbian will request gay marriage. If they are rightful by the law, they will request to be married”.

<http://www.asavali.ge/archive/asdas/2014/1020.html>

IMEDI, KRONIKA, May 17

**JONDI BAGHATURIA:** “Parliament has adopted a shameful law, according to which it is normal for a natural man to think that he is a women, sexual orientation has been stated as normal.”

[http://www.myvideo.ge/?video\\_id=2335690](http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2335690)

KVIRIS KRONIKA, May 12-18

**JONDI BAGHATURIA:** “They [*Georgian Dream*] demonstrated their unscrupulousness. They have adopted a law and have legalized sexual orientation and gender identity, which was named as sexual pathology by the World Health Organization. This is a crime committed by the parliament and they will definitely be punished for that “.

IMEDI, REAKCIA, May 16

**VAJA OTARASHVILI, Alliance of Patriots:** “It is not right to legalize the sin of Sodom and Gomorrah”.

[http://www.myvideo.ge/?video\\_id=2338245](http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2338245)

GEORGIAN PUBLIC BROADCASTER, MOAMBE, May 17

**LEVAN VASADZE, businessmen:** “I came here as a citizen to express my position about this disgusting law. I condemn it and I request to abolish it, because this law will allow spiritual degradation of the nation and debauchery of in country”.

<http://1tv.ge/news-view/69356>

IMEDI, KRONIKA, May 17

**TENGIZ KITOVANI, former minister of defense:** “This is the parliament that has adopted the law for homosexuals, this kind of parliament should be abolished immediately, it should not exist in Georgia.”

[http://www.myvideo.ge/?video\\_id=2335689](http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2335689)

[http://www.myvideo.ge/?video\\_id=2335690](http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2335690)

ASAVAL-DASAVALI, May 12-18

**THEODOR GIGNADZE, deacon:** “This law violates the fundamentals of human identity, therefore it is demonic.”

<http://www.asavali.ge/archive/asdas/2014/1020.html>

MAESTRO, 9PM NEWS, May17

**DAVID ISAKADZE, deacon:** “Today we are celebrating the day of a solid family and we protest against adoption of antidiscrimination law, we protest the discrimination of the majority.”

[http://www.myvideo.ge/?video\\_id=2335610](http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2335610)

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## ANTI – DISCTIMINATION LAW

Beginning from p. 4.

ALIA, May 16-19

**ELIZBAR DIAKONIDZE,**

**deacon:** “Upon the request of the society and the church servants, this law should either be abolished, or the anti-discrimination law should not include the lines that come in conflict with the world wide biblical approach and the ecclesiastical law.”

REPORTIORI, May 17

**ARCHIL KITUASHVILI,**

**deacon:** "This law is unacceptable indeed, as envisages to standardize the immorality.”

<http://www.reportiori.ge/?menuid=3&id=26942>

KAVKASIA, TODAY, May 16

**MIKHEIL ANDGHU-LADZE, board of family**

**name headmen:** “The law that encourages immoral relationships, conveys propaganda and contain such underlying motives that are unacceptable for the society.”

[http://www.myvideo.ge/?video\\_id=2338031](http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2338031)

ASAVAL-DASAVALI, May 12-18

**BATU SAGHINADZE, cri-**

**minalist:** “Anqvabi has notified me recently, that they are in trouble, they need our help, and they count on us,

but Georgian government is so preoccupied by the law of the pederasts, that it has no time for Abkhazia!“

<http://www.asavali.ge/archive/asdas/2014/1020.html>

ASAVAL-DASAVALI, May 12-18

**BEQA TSKHADADZE, organization *No to Depravity:***

“It is unfortunate that our country does not have a legislative act prohibiting the propaganda of depravity. On the contrary, we now have a law to protect them. Hence, owners of the movie theatres should bear moral responsibility while showing the movies of this nature.”

<http://www.asavali.ge/archive/asdas/2014/1020.html>

ASAVAL-DASAVALI, May 12-18

**VAJA ABAKELIA, professor of law:** “Let us assume that zoophiles have created an NGO, they created a strong lobby and requested a right to merry on a cow, should the parliament adopt this law?... Zviad believed that, those people are ill and not normal, I fully agree with him!”

ASAVAL –DASAVALI, May 12-18

**DITO CHUBINIDZE, Journalist:** “Speaking of Giorgi Margvelashvili, he was given a chance to put a veto on so called “Pederasts law”, this way he could remain to be a real Georgian...” Our crucifixion is not going to cease, unless we return to our roots, and unless “gay dictatorship” is destroyed into pieces!”

<http://www.asavali.ge/archive/asdas/2014/1020.html>

RUSTAVI 2, KURIERI, May 15

**VAKHO KAJAVA, IDP youth organization:** “We request amendments to the law and prohibition of LGBT propaganda.”

[http://www.myvideo.ge/?video\\_id=2340156](http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2340156)

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## ANTI – DISCRIMINATION LAW

Beginning from p. 5

SAKINFORMI, May 12

**ARNO KHADIRBEGASHVILI, Sakinformi chief editor:** “The head of the parliament Usupashvili, made a fatal mistake on May 2, 2014, before the voting for discrimination law. He divided Georgia into two parts: the pederasts, who enter Europe with their bottoms (defenders of LGBT rights) and those who prefer to stay in Russia (all the rest).

Georgia will fall forever, unless Gharibashvili together with the Patriarch adopt the similar laws as Putin did in Russia!”

[http://sakinform.ge/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=18819:2014-05-12-07-19-21&catid=115:redakciisagan&Itemid=530#ixzz31rMWbbx](http://sakinform.ge/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=18819:2014-05-12-07-19-21&catid=115:redakciisagan&Itemid=530#ixzz31rMWbbx)

OBIKTIVI, NIGHT STUDIO, May 12

**NINO RATISHVILI, TV host:** “...Today, each of us is a victim of discrimination in Georgia... We all know by whom, this is the most irritating minority for the society. For whatever reason, we have to accept them as a normal. “

[http://www.myvideo.ge/?video\\_id=2334795](http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2334795)

OBIKTIVI, NIGHT STUDIO, May 18

**VALERI KVARATSKHELIA, TV host:** “Two men or two women will come up and request to allow their marriage, if you refuse to them, this is going to be discriminatory ... You will refuse because, it is unnatural, nontraditional, unacceptable, religiously unjustified, it cannot happen!”

[http://www.myvideo.ge/?video\\_id=2337077](http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2337077)

RUSTAVI 2, KURIERI, May 16

**BEQA TSKHADADZE, No to Depravity:**

“Unisex relationships will be condemned, extreme propaganda of feminism, compromising of family values and encouragement of atheism will also be eliminated. We will condemn the anti-discrimination law.”

[http://www.myvideo.ge/?video\\_id=2339438](http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2339438)

GGEOWORLD.GE, May 13

**GIORGI GACHECHILADZE:** “When *Georgian Dream* came into power, we all felt a relief – but now one would have expected the encouragement of Sodom sin from them, they have unanimously legalized immorality (with 104 votes)”

<http://www.geworld.ge/View.php?ArtId=5881>

GEORGIAN PUBLIC BROADCASTER, May 15

**GIORGI KHORGHANASHVILI, Labors’ party:**

“I will not allow those LGBTs to hang out here, I will manage somehow, and I think I will succeed, to completely disallow them in Tbilisi, together with their “Kots” (*Georgian Dream* supporters), not necessarily the “Nats” though (*National Movement* supporters).”

<http://1tv.ge/news-view/69248>

ASAVAL-DASAVALI, May 12-18

**PAATA JIBLADZE, Burjanadze – United Opposition:**

“I am a father of three children, I will not bear, if my sons have a teacher in unisex marriage, delivering lessons about brave Georgian Kings, and about our saints!”

<http://www.asavali.ge/archive/asdas/2014/1020.html>

## HOMOPHOBIA

NETGAZETU, May 16



**OMAR NISHNIANIDZE, *Georgian Dream*:** “This can definitely be named as intrusion, that’s what it is. When you dear to come and hold demonstration on the central street, right in front of the majority and general society, I call it violence against the majority.”

**GIVI AVALIANI, journalist:** “If you consider it as an oppression of the majority, how would you characterize the initiative of Ilia II, when he announced that May 17 is a day of solid family and respect of parents? According to your logic, is this violence over the minority? Can celebration of May 17 be translated as oppression too?”

**OMAR NISHNIANIDZE:** “Why?.. don’t you see the difference between faggots and respect of parents? I am sorry, but this is something different, but that is horridness...”

<http://www.netgazeti.ge/GE/105/News/31473/.htm>

RESONANSI, May 12

**NINO BURJANADZE, Nino Burjanadze – United opposition:** “...It is quite possible, that we have people working at schools and kindergartens, who openly state their sexual orientation. They may start assuring children that there is nothing wrong in being a sexual minority. This is something that I will oppose.”

KAVKASIA, BARIERI, May14

**IRAKLI BATIASHVILI, Nino Burjanadze – United Opposition:** “This is a fundamentally wrong philosophy. It is wrong to put sexual orientation in the same category as people who are different based on their skin-color, belief, race or the way of thinking...”

Government should protect everyone, including murderers, prisoners; they should be punished in the name of law. It doesn’t matter if he is a pederast or anybody else, he is a human... if we follow the same logic and group of Satanists start requesting the same, I am curious to know, will they also be called as a discriminated group?”

[http://www.myvideo.ge/?video\\_id=2339077](http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2339077)

IMEDI, REAKCIA, 16 May

**IRMA INASHVILI, Alliance of Patriots, Tbilisi mayoral candidate:** “Those groups try to impose the mentality that is intolerable for Georgians... Every day we see propaganda over something that is inexistent in reality, for example, abuse of LGBT rights. Will anyone object if they abuse the rights of the Orthodox.”

[http://www.myvideo.ge/?video\\_id=2338131](http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2338131)

OBIEQTIVI, NIGHT STUDIO, 12 May

**GIORGI LOMAIA, Alliance of Patriots:** “Existence of a third gender is intolerable. I know about transsexuals, transvestites, bisexuals...this is a psychological abnormality.”

[http://www.myvideo.ge/?video\\_id=2335045](http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2335045)

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## HOMOPHOBIA

Beginning from p. 7

RUSTAVI 2, THEME OF THE WEEK, May 18



**DIMITRY LORTKIPANIDZE, Nino Burjanadze –**

**United Opposition:** “I totally disapprove the definition of homophobia- the way it is cultivated in some of the EU member states... the imposition of wrong sexual lifestyle in the name of freedom of speech and freedom of expression... has to be definitely condemned. We

have to ban propaganda with gay parades and performances . I will safeguard the rights of Georgian citizen!”

[http://www.myvideo.ge/?video\\_id=2338159](http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2338159)

OBIKTIVI, NIGHTS STUDIO, May 13

**DAVIT TARKHAN-MOURAVI, Alliance of patriots:** “I do approve one thing though, in France there is a special place for this type of people in the woods of Boulogne. We can also place them [LGBT] somewhere in the Khudadov woods, they can walk around there and express their protest.”

<http://www.obieqtivi.net/tv1.php?id=16935>

ALIA, May 13

**GIA KURASHVILI, Free Georgia:** “We are in the hands of foolish, they will not even think to protect my rights, they will be alarmed if I curse the pederasts and they will let put me in prison for that... The air is polluted with so many immorality. Female prostitutes is a rarity now, men are being so competitive in that regard...”

RUSTAVI 2, POST SCRIPTUM, May 18

**RESPONDENT:** “This is an illness, it is an anomaly, and we should not spread this propaganda.”

[http://www.myvideo.ge/?video\\_id=2338120](http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2338120)

GEOWORLD.GE, May 13

**GURAM PIRTSKHALAVA, actor:** "... they carry on propaganda over homosexuality, as if it is not an inclination, but a natural occurrence. Apparently we all have to be tolerant towards them. Are not you concerned about youth that listens to it? Do you think they will be normal?!”

<http://geworld.ge/view.php?ArtId=5887>

GEORGIAN PUBLIC BROADCASTER, First Studio, May16

**GURAM PALAVANDISHVILI, Independent majoritarian candidate of Mtatsminda region:** “We can do it, we will unite in the parliament and with assistance from Mr. Dima all the propaganda of homosexuals, gay parades, disgusting images, and photographs and so on will be forbidden.”

[http://www.myvideo.ge/?video\\_id=2336310](http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2336310)

REPORTER, May 18

**THEODORE GIGNADZE, deacon:**

“There may be a person who does nothing wrong, but he is still sinful, because his nature is distorted. Homosexuality is a sign of distorted nature.”

<http://www.reportori.ge/?menuid=3&id=27007>

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## HOMOPHOBIA

SAKINFORMI, MAY 12

**ARNO KHIDIRBEGASHVILI, Sakinformi chief editor:** "There are two species of gays in Georgia – physically gays who belong to LGBT groups and those who are spiritually gays, the later was rightfully named as "gay souls" by our colleague Irma Inashvili."

[http://saqinform.ge/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=18819:2014-05-12-07-19-21&catid=115:redakciisaqan&Itemid=530#ixzz31rwMWbbx](http://saqinform.ge/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=18819:2014-05-12-07-19-21&catid=115:redakciisaqan&Itemid=530#ixzz31rwMWbbx)

PIRVELI, May 14

**OTAR KOBERIDZE, actor:** "There are too many signs indicating, that we have degraded...they have always been around in my youth, but they have never spoiled my youth. Today they evidently demonstrate their flirting."

[http://pia.ge/show\\_press\\_dajiest\\_news.php?id=1834&lang=geo](http://pia.ge/show_press_dajiest_news.php?id=1834&lang=geo)

PIRVELI, May 16

"There was a video disseminated in the internet about gay couple living together... according to the scientific research, children who were brought up by gay couples are more inclined to venereal diseases and to the suicide.

[http://pia.ge/show\\_internet\\_dajiest\\_news.php?id=1968&lang=geo](http://pia.ge/show_internet_dajiest_news.php?id=1968&lang=geo)

ASAVAL-DASAVALI, May 12-18



**TAMRIKO MAKASHVILI, actress:**

"Homosexuality has always existed secretly, but today it is a fashionable trend.

At schools we encounter male teachers with make-up, this horrifies me, and they should not be in contact with youth in puberty period."

<http://www.asavali.ge/archive/asdas/2014/1020.html>

PIRVELI, May 17

News agency has disseminated the statement of 24 rugby players. They request government to disallow LGBT demonstrations. The statement also conveys that they are against LGBT propaganda.

[http://pia.ge/show\\_internet\\_dajiest\\_news.php?id=2049&lang=geo](http://pia.ge/show_internet_dajiest_news.php?id=2049&lang=geo)

OBIEQTIVI, NIGHTS STUDIO, May 18

**AMIRAN AMIRANASHVILI, Archbis-hop:**

"Those people, I mean the distorted ones, should do something with them and hold their horses!"

[http://www.myvideo.ge/?video\\_id=2337199](http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2337199)

ASAVAL-DASAVALI, May 12-18

**DITO CHUBINIDZE, journalist:** "So, those sick people and their defenders probably believe that we are using a hate speech now."

<http://www.asavali.ge/archive/asdas/2014/1020.html>

OBIEKTIVI, NIGHT STUDIO, May 18

**GIVI MERABISVILI, psychologist:**

"This is the problem of psychological disorder...I can say it is an illness."

[http://www.myvideo.ge/?video\\_id=2337274](http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2337274)



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**17 MAY****ASAVAL-DASAVALI, May 12-18**

**JABA KHUBUA, journalist:** “Well then, my precious Georgians, Christians, Orthodox people, you can rejoice, as May 17 is no more the day of sexual minorities, the sinners of Sodom and Gomorrah, together with their grant-eater defenders will not hold demonstrations on Rustaveli Street... This is going to be the day of traditional and solid family and all the men and priesthood will be praying for this!”

<http://www.asavali.ge/archive/asdas/2014/1020.html>

**ASAVAL-DASAVALI, MAY 12-18**

**GIORGI GIGAURI, journalist:** "The movie screening [About LGBT people, planned on May 17] is shameful for Georgians and the citizens of this city, I can assert, it is candid repression by “National-liberasts” against the government and the church!”

<http://www.asavali.ge/archive/asdas/2014/1020.html>

**INTERPRESNEWS, May 17**

**BASIL MKALAVISHVILI:** “Our goal is to condemn the celebration of homosexuals”

<http://www.interpresnews.ge/ge/sazogadoeba/282231-antidiskriminaciuli-kanonis-motsinaaghmdegeebi-thbilisis-quchebshimsvlelobas-atsyoben.html?ar=A>

**ANTI-WESTERN SENTIMENTS****NETGAZETI, May 15**

**GOGI TOPADZE, *Georgian Dream*:** "They are set in their own ways... there are some topics that cannot be appreciated by everyone ... they impose the laws about: gay marriage, gender relations, sexual, I don't even know how to put it delicately; if two men get married, they adopt a child, it means that this child will also grow up in misunderstanding... This is what Europe demands from us. Of course it is not as categorical as the initially proposed law; we have made several amendments to make it more dissent, but in my opinion this is not going to be acceptable for Caucasians.”

<http://www.netgazeti.ge/GE/105/News/31453/htm>

**ASAVAL-DASAVALI, May 12-18**

**THEODOR GIGNADZE, deacon:** “Georgians can be as easily degenerated as it happened to French or English people, only god can save us from this!”

<http://www.asavali.ge/archive/asdas/2014/1020.html>

**KVIRIS KRONIKA, May 12-18**

**GELA ZEDELASHVILI, journalist:** “There is no point to speak about democracy or European values in the country, were the policies and public opinion is created by alien Luis Navarro...”

There is nothing we possess any more. From now on, it does not matter which ass you kiss – American or European!”

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## ANTI-WESTERN SENTIMENTS



INTERPRESNEWS, May 18

**LEVAN VASADZE, businessman:** “This law is the part of international propaganda, to degrade and deprave spiritual values. This is just a first step, we have to stop or reverse it now, otherwise it will be followed by second, third, and fourth steps, it will get worse and worse, and finally it will enter in our families.”

<http://www.interpressnews.ge/ge/politika/282263-levan-vasadze-parlamentis-dashlas-ithkhovs.html?ar=A>

ASAVAL-DASAVALI, May 12-18

**JABA KHUBUA, journalist:** “...It has to be mentioned that, no matter how wonderfully Georgians or any other participants had performed on *Eurovision*, the winner would have been transvestite anyway! This is the political choice of Europe!

Today, European priority is encouragement of the Sodom Gomorrah sin. Is there a place for us in Europe after all?”

**JABA KHUBUA, journalist:** “As it appears, political immunity of Sakashvili is more important for USA, than restoration of justice!... It means that Georgia is not independent government anymore, it is just a string puppet!”  
... Most likely Europe and USA will organize another “colorful revolution” in Georgia, with an intention to overthrow Russian rule, or even worse – they will replicate the scenario of *Evromaidan* in Tbilisi!”

<http://www.asavali.ge/archive/asdas/2014/1020.html>

OBIEKTIVI, NIGHT STUDIO, May 16

**TV viewer, [live phone call in the TV studio ]:** “This is not a Georgian dream or a dream of a Georgian man, this is the dream of Soros...he has contributed a lot in braking down the Soviet Union, he financed Eltsin, he did this, he did that... so this is done by the hands of Soros gang.

[http://www.myvideo.ge/?video\\_id=2338039](http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2338039)

SAKINFORMI, May 12

**ARNO KHIDIRBEGASHVILI, Sakinformi chief editor:** “High ranking officials fall into the second category (“gay souls”), they can be extremely dangerous – because they constantly deceive people, as if Georgia is an ancient European country and Georgians were the first Europeans. They lie that Russia is our life-long enemy and the only salvation of Georgia is the membership of NATO, European Union, only they can protect us from Russia...”

Gharibashvili is right when he says that the campaign against illegal monitoring - “*This impacts you, they are still listening to us*” is organized by people hired by West, and this campaign is intergovernmental and destructive.”

[http://saqinform.ge/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=18819:2014-05-12-07-19-21&catid=115:redakciisagan&Itemid=530#ixzz31rzCIC1x](http://saqinform.ge/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=18819:2014-05-12-07-19-21&catid=115:redakciisagan&Itemid=530#ixzz31rzCIC1x)

ALIA, May 16-19

**JANA ASANIZE, journalist:** “Why Government needs to discriminate the church?”

**GIORGI RAZMADZE, deacon:** “Why the detained Basil, why did they broke down his church, what do you thin was the end result?... they demonstrated their power over the church, they showed to Europe, USA and to the world that they rule the church. This kind of actions is Catholic style.”

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## ANTI-WESTERN SENTIMENTS

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**ASAVAL-DASAVALI, MAY 12-18**

**ZVIAD TOMARADZE, National-Religious Institute:** “I am expecting the next instruction from the West, I won’t be surprised if it is a request to change the name of the country *Georgia*. Many other nations reside in Georgia and it may be discriminative for them, to called just Georgia. But who cares about the name, it has been long time, since we don’t live in Georgia anymore.”

<http://www.asavali.ge/archive/asdas/2014/1020.html>

**KVIRIS KRONIKA, May 12-18**

**PETRE MAMRADZE, political scientists:** “We observed how political groups, TV companies and ministries actively recruited homosexuals. Inexperienced staff managed to build breath-taking careers, only by trading sexual favors to the leaders of different orientation. They could sell their souls for material wellbeing and good career. I remember one phrase of Saakashvili managed to leak in print media, saying: “What can we do, we need to have one or two ministers like that to be accepted in European Union...”

**OBIEKTIVI, NIGHT STUDIO, MAY 18**

**TAMAR KIKNADZE, political scientist:** “The major problem is the values that are being imposed today, I have to say that Europe practically rejected the Christianity and has inclined towards impiety...”

When the winner of *Eurovision* became Konchita, considering that this is the most politicized competition in the world, it was a direct declaration of the European priority. Their priority are people like that...”

“As a matter of fact, I overheard the conversation about the registration of pedophiles’ party in Holland.”

[http://www.myvideo.ge/?video\\_id=2337230](http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2337230)

[http://www.myvideo.ge/?video\\_id=2337339](http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2337339)

**VALERI KVARATSKHELIA, TV host:** “It is West and USA who instructs Georgian government to overcome any potential obstacle in order to enact this law at any price.”

If you believe that you are real Orthodox and you really don’t want to allow this in your country, you also have to admit that NATO and Europe is not what Georgia aspired to. We are Orthodox, therefore our countries choice is harmonious relationships with an Orthodox country.”

[http://www.myvideo.ge/?video\\_id=2337306&tracker=subscribe\\_log](http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2337306&tracker=subscribe_log)

[http://www.myvideo.ge/?video\\_id=2337352](http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2337352)

## XENOPHOBIA

**NETGAZETI, May 15**

**GOGI TOPADZE, Georgian Dream:** “It was unpleasant to see so many Arabs in Paris, France. Paris had lost its charm with so many foreigners there.”

<http://www.netgazeti.ge/GE/105/News/31453/htm>

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## XENOPHOBIA

### KAVKASIA, SPECTRI, May 14

**DAVIT AQUBARDIA, TV host:** "In 15-20 years this city [Rustavi] will become an Azeri city. If we don't stop it now, if we don't save it now... we have to save it right now, it has to remain as a Georgian city. This is not just my idea, but it was Stalin's idea..."

It is a quite awkward topic to talk about, step by step they are approaching, this city retains them, otherwise we would have had another border-line right in Ortachala... the number of population has decreased to half, everyone who has bought apartments on the first floor of the buildings, they all own apartments in Baku...

Economic discrimination of Georgians has started... two Azeri banks give out credits for apartments only to Azeri's, ...Georgians are oppressed and their number is reduced... Erosi, This is how territories get lost...the method of *actual population*. Remember Kakhi, Balaqani, Zakatala...if you look into the agreement with Russia dated May 1920, you will find, that those territories were recognized as Georgia by that time. Then they have instigated the *method of actual population* and that is how we lost them. If we don't come to our senses soon, we are going to lose Rustavi exactly the same way.

[http://www.myvideo.ge/?video\\_id=2335796](http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2335796)  
[http://www.myvideo.ge/?video\\_id=2335798](http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2335798)

### IMEDI, REAKCIA, May 16

**DAVID TARKHAN MOURAVI, Alliance of Patriots:** "Lots of Turks have arrived in Adjara, their government financed them to rent real estate property, they pay three times more than actual price, Georgians become their servants. They create an illusion of creating jobs, but the reality is different. As a result 37 000 Turks are residing in Batumi today.

I suppose it is an occupation of a country and when government encourages this kind of actions, it is already a disgrace of your country."

[http://www.myvideo.ge/?video\\_id=2338245](http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2338245)

### PIRVELI, May 17

"During the high season, when streets are crammed with tourists, we see lots of gypsies among them, they know how to rip off the last dollar from a tourist, and they can do it much better than poor retired people."

[http://pia.ge/show\\_internet\\_dajjest\\_news.php?id=2054&lang=geo](http://pia.ge/show_internet_dajjest_news.php?id=2054&lang=geo)

### OBIEKTIVI, NIGHT STUDIO, May 13

**DAVID TARKHAN MOURAVI, Alliance of Patriots:** "There is a battle over building the Azizia mosque, therefore; there is a battle against Turkey ...

Since Turkey has become economically strong, they have invaded Adjara. We hear that they want to revive the Osman empery and Batumi is going to be integral part of it, later Guria and western Georgia may join...

Turkish soap-operas have become very popular lately; they are trying to looking more amicable to Georgians... TV companies are happily cooperating to fulfill this plan, especially those ones that do not care much about Georgia. This is an expansion."

[http://www.myvideo.ge/?video\\_id=2332520](http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2332520)  
[http://www.myvideo.ge/?video\\_id=2332494](http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2332494)  
<http://www.obiektivi.net/tv1.php?id=16935>

### KVIRIS KRONIKA, May 12-18

**KHATUNA ELBAKIDZE, journalist:**

"They don't care much, which party representative wins in the elections, unless he is Azeri. They hope, that their candidate will support independence of Borchalo County. By the way, Azer Suleimanov openly states that in each region, there should be Azeri heads (Gamagebeli)..."

Law on local government was adopted in a matter of seconds, they even ignored the appeal of the Patriarch. God forbid to let the separatists fulfill their plans, in this case, it is going to be the biggest misfortune of the country.

...I would never imagine that this law would have become so dangerous for the country in just two months. But this is the truth; Anti-discrimination law is a weapon in the hands of the power who knows how to use it against Georgia. Azeri will be the first to do it... they have directly stated to the majoritarian candidates of *Georgian Dream* that no matter who the employee is a person or a tree, now one can ever dismiss him from work if he is an Azeri!"

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strengthens and legalizes the intolerance among society, something which manifested in such a large-scale violence as seen on 17 May 2013. By diminishing the efforts of civil society to protect LGBT rights, the Minister reveals his misunderstanding of the importance of civil society and ignorance of the grave situation in the protection of the rights of LGBT people.

One should also take into account that this is not the first instance of Davit Darakhvelidze publicly discriminating people on various grounds. Because of racists statements he made during the election campaign in the run up to 2012 parliamentary elections, the civil sector addressed the candidate for the position of Prime minister to revise his decision about appointing Darakhvelidze as the Minister of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Accommodation and Refugees of Georgia.

We address the current Prime Minister of Georgia to adequately react to the Minister's above mentioned statement as it conflicts with the anti-discrimination policy declared by the

government and the concept of protection of fundamental human rights and freedoms. Given this incident, it is also very important for the government to draw up a long term vision and to undertake corresponding measures to prevent its members from making statements which are motivated by hate.

Media Development Fund, MDF

Georgian Democracy Initiative, GDI

Tolerance and Diversity Institute, TDI

Human Rights Education and Monitoring Center, EMC

Georgia's Reforms Associates, GRASS

Identity

Sapari

Article 42 of the Constitution

European Centre for Minority Issues, ECMI

Georgian Young Lawyers' Association, GYLA

Transparency International Georgia, TI

Women's Initiative Support Group, WISG

Association LGBT Georgia

Georgian Institute for Strategic Studies, GISS

**Round Table Discussion**

On 14 May Media Development Foundation organized round table discussion for journalists and presented the "Guidelines for Reporting on Homosexuality and LGBT Persons". Kety Mskhiladze, MDF expert presented recommendations developed based on the monitoring findings of coverage the day against homophobia and transphobia of the last year.

Representative of Identoba shared information with journalists about May 17 and possible ways of communication.

