

NO TOPHOBIA!

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF MEDIA DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION AND GEORGIAN DEMOCRACY INITIATIVE

MAIN OBSERVATIONS OF THE WEEK

The following tendencies have been observed over the period from June 2-8:

- Incitement of violence against the *National Movement* by (Irma Inashvili, *Alliance of Patriots*, Elizbar Javelidze, *People's Assembly*; Guguli Mgeladze, stage director) and LGBT groups (Elizbar Diakonidze, deacon) were revealed. Media reporting contained incitement to violence towards the organizers of the demonstrations in front of the Patriarchs' office (newspaper *Kviris Qronika*)
- Hate speech was exercised by newspaper *Asaval-Dasavali* towards the Georgian writers;
- Anti-Chinese sentiments were encouraged mainly by the leader of *Labor party*, whereas, anti-Turkish sentiments were expressed by the *Alliance of Patriots* and by other respondents;

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16, 2-8 JUNE



INCITEMENT TO VIOLENCE

ASAVAL-DASAVALI, 2-8 May

IRMA INASHVILI, *Alliance of Patriots* :

"If they don't start arresting the criminals after the elections, splashing the tea in the face will seem just like a piece of cake !

Exactly, Georgian *Dream* and the "Nats" (supporters of *National Movement*) should stop sending hearts and flowers to each other, otherwise the final verdict of Georgian people will be taught and none of the parties will continue their existence!"

ELIZBAR JAVELIDZE, *People's Assembly* : "I have never killed a chicken in my

life, but now, I am so fed up with those parasites, that I am ready to pluck out the eyes of all the *Nats* with this pen!... It was too late to bit up Zurab Chiaberashvili, it should have happened twenty years ago, when he insulted the *Mother of Georgia* [statue]!"

GUGULI MGELADZE, stage director:

"When they come and dishonor your motherland, one can hardly refrain from beating their brains out! You may resent this later, but everything is possible when emotions are uncontrollable."

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MAIN OBSERVATIONS OF THE WEEK

Beginning from p. 1

- Apart from anti-Turkish sentiments, intensive occurrence of religious discrimination was obvious in the media, which was partly related to the *International Hope Festival*, organized by the Christian-Evangelistic Unions. On the other hand, the discrimination was sparked by the protests against building the temple for Jehovah witnesses in Terjola region. The statement: “decision will be made based on the opinion of the majority” - made by the head of municipality district (Gamagebeli) incurred discrimination towards the religious minorities;
- Anti-Western sentiments were fostered by *Alliance of Patriots, People’s Council* and other respondents. Their focus was the Association Agreement. They have also emphasized that the West is the power against Orthodoxy and also underlined negative role of the West in current Ukrainian affairs;
- The topic of Antidiscrimination Law, remained predominant in this week’s media landscape.

INCITEMENT TO VIOLENCE

KVIRIS QRONIKA, 2-8 June

ELIZBAR DIAKONIDZE, deacon: “Saint John Chrysostom says: wherever you hear loud abuse of your god (Here we should consider LGBTs and others alike) you can beat them in the face to safeguard your religion.
...People should come out in the streets and not give up on their nation and their kind! This is going to be their sword!”



TAMAR OQRUASHVILI, journalist: “What is all about those strange people who decided to do disinfection of the Patriarchs office walls? Maybe they are waiting for someone to have nervous brake down and to get bitten up in their faces, and later, Europe will not forgive us? Who is instructing to all those people?”

HATE SPEECH

ASAVAL-DASAVALI, 2-8 June

GIORGI GIGAURI, journalist: “Dear readers, I have said it many times that I will not write about these godless, Sorossian, evil creatures (pseudo writers and poets) anymore!... but, time after time they spread such immorality, they viciously fight against those values, that we worship and light candles to. I am even obliged to bring them out on the trial and tongue-lash them through the papers of the press.”

XENOPHOBIA

GEORGIAN PUBLIC BROADCASTER, STUDIO ONE, 4 June

SHALVA NATELASHVILI, Labor party: “It is important that there is a request and an assignment to the MPs of Samgori region – not to allow representatives of any other race to take a rule on the China town, we cannot afford Chinese expansion.

...We are a small nation; we cannot endure expansion of Chinese, Brazilians or of any other nation.”

http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2353029



KAVKASIA TV, TODAY, 6 June

SHALVA NATELASHVILI, Labor party: “I will do everything, not to allow immigration of 130 000 Chinese in Tbilisi. This lodging funds should be given to those in need.”

http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2352758

ALIA, 3 June

TENGIZ KITOVANI, former defense minister: “What happens right here in Kemo-Kartli is that Azeri people are practically taking away our territories, Turkish militaries have entered the Khelvachauri, Adjara region and they are taking away the Georgian land.”

TURKOPHOBIA/ ENCITEMENT TO CONFLICT

OBIEKTIVI, NIGHT STUDIO, 3 June

DAVIT TARKHAN-MOURAVI, Alliance of Patriots:

“33% of our territories are taken

away by Turks, this is what we have to concentrate on... We all know that, throughout the history Turks have brought no good to any nation in the world, right? Turkey is not our friend; it has never been and will never be. You cannot call this country a friend that has colored the black sea with the blood of Georgians.”

http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2352017

http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2352080



OBIEKTIVI, NIGHT STUDIO, 8 June

DAVIT TARKHAN-MOURAVI, Alliance of Patriots: “They have a simple plan: as many Turks as possible should be born there, they are intending to change the demographic picture, they will try to have enough Turks there to create a party, they may even have a Turk Mayor in Batumi. It is important to note that Turks are constantly thinking about the year 2021 – hundred year’s anniversary to the *Kars Agreement*, this is when they hold the referendum.”

http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2355573

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TURKOPHOBIA/ ENCITEMENT TO CONFLICT

Beginning from p. 3

ALIA, 6-9 June

ELIZBAR JAVELIDZE, *People's Assembly*: “Intensive “Turkification” is in process around Georgia and specifically in Batumi. They tend to attack within different spheres: economy, religion and also culture. This is their *Chaglar* education system, with this system Turks manage to create their network and establishes themselves in whole world. But nobody says a word when every week, one Georgian girl is being raped, this is tragic, they have gone too far!”

GEWORLD.GE, 4 June

UNIDENTIFIED RESPONDENT: “Kutaisi street has turned into a brothel, they are selling women there, on that street Turks call allow themselves everything they want, Turks are everywhere in Batumi. Do you know what Batumi looks like now? - It looks like a Turkish brothel...”

We need help, caution, Adjara is falling!”

<http://geworld.ge/View.php?ArtId=5938&lang=ge>

GEWORLD.GE, 4 June

MAIA GELASHVILI, Journalist: “Increased number of Turks in Batumi creates discomfort for the population of Batumi...”

TAMAR TABUKASHVILI, former activist of *Georgian Dream*: “Ancient Batumian Kutaisi Street is now in the hand of Turks, you cannot hear a single Georgian word there. This is the street where their Mosque is situated; this is why they have occupied this territory...”

<http://geworld.ge/View.php?ArtId=5944>

KVIRIS QRONIKA, 1-8 June

GELA ZEDELASHVILI, journalist:

“...then I get drunk and start uncontrollable cursing of Turks and their mothers!”

GEWORLD.GE, 4 June

ENVER PARTENADZE, Citizen of Batumi: “Today when we nurture those people, haven't we forgotten that Turkey was our biggest enemy? We were under Turkish rule for 300 years. Saakashvili managed to turn Turks into our in-laws and Russia, that has saved Georgia many times, is announced as our enemy. Can someone explain which one is the occupant Russia or Turkey? ...This beautiful part of Georgia is again endangered to be lost, but Adjarians will never surrender. Massive immigration of Turks is not going to result any good. Their establishment is facilitated by current government.”

<http://geworld.ge/View.php?ArtId=5938&lang=ge>

INTERPRESS NEWS, 2 June

DAVID GABITADZE, Karnati village resident: “This village is flooded by Turks, the lands were sold for three GEL, I don't know to what hell we were sold to”.

<http://www.interpressnews.ge/ge/regioni/284598-kirnathis-mosakhleobasakhelmtsifos-umoqmedobashi-adanashaulebs.html?ar=A>

INTERPRESS NEWS, 2 June

TENGIZ KITOVANI, former defense minister: “Batumi is saturated, with Turks and our citizens are feeling segregated. I am a patriot of my country; all the other patriots who love their country will come out here to stand for it. They can't just come and cut off the lands like this”.

<http://www.interpressnews.ge/ge/politika/284406-thengiz-kitovani-sheadzloa-thurqebma-mtheli-atcara-tsaighon.html?ar=A>

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RELIGIOUS DISCRIMINATION

NETGAZETI, 2 June

GIORGI GABEDAVA, former independent candidate for local elections [released as a political prisoner]: “This is not a festival; this is an Evangelistic preaching, organized by some kind of crook-Graham. We are not going to be hostile to anyone, or touch the citizens, but whoever goes there, he will betray the Orthodoxy.”

<http://www.interpressnews.ge/ge/sazogadoeba/285135-sakharebis-rtsmenis-eklesiasthan-aqcia-dasrulda.html?ar=A>

INTERPRESNEWS, 6 June

GIORGI GABEDAVA, former independent candidate for local elections: „People were deceived, they thought a concert was planned to take place here (*Imedi Festival*) in reality, this is the gathering of Sectarrians. I will not let anyone to deceive my people.”

<http://www.netgazeti.ge/GE/105/News/32114/.htm>



NETGAZETI, 6 June

ZAQARIA TSIKHELASHVILI, parishioner of the Orthodox Church: “This is the event organized by the Protestants, mainly by the evangelists, according to the teachings of our church; none of the Orthodox Christians should be anyhow involved in that. I pledge all the Orthodox Christians not to participate in the sectarian event, this way they will secure themselves from this godless deed.”

<http://www.netgazeti.ge/GE/105/Life/32328/.htm>

KVIRIS QRONIKA, 2-8 June

ELIZBAR DIAKONIDZE, deacon: “I was informed that on June 5, an American, called Bill is planning to visit Georgia, he is the leader of denominations, someone even more important for Americans than Obama, is this someone coming here to preach for us? And he is staying in a palace for free! What’s going on here?... if I go to Baku or Erevan and start preaching there, will they allow me to do this? What are you talking about people! I cannot even make a step wearing my clerical clothing there! Let’s go and see if I can walk with my clerical clothing in the streets of Istanbul, in ten feet from the hotel there will be nothing left out of me!”

PIRVELI, 3 June

BORIA GOGISHVILI, participant of the demonstration: “Entire Terjola will stand up for it, we will burn down their temple. There is no place for them here. I was born here, I grew up here and my children will grow up here. I cannot allow my family to be looking at this.”

http://pia.ge/show_news.php?id=15631&lang=geo

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RELIGIOUS DISCRIMINATION

MAESTRO, MAESTRO 9 PM NEWS, 3 June

MALKHAZ GUR-GENIDZE, Terjola Municipality head (Gangebeli):



“Today I was told that there are several violations made during the construction, this will result into termination of the construction process, we will be considering the opinion of the majority of Terjola population in this process.”

Participant of the demonstration: “I strongly oppose to this, I will not allow building it [Construction of Jehovah’s temple] I will not move from here until the construction is terminated. I will stay here day aft-

ter day; whole village and the entire region will stand for it here.”

Participant of the demonstration: “They will be obliged to stop the construction.”

BADRI SUTIDZE, Terjola resident: “They are speaking about stopping the construction; they are asking to give them some time to allow the termination of the construction. My point is - that we should not be talking about stopping it now, they should not have built it initially.”

http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2347978

OBIEQTIVI, NIGHT STUDIO, 3 June

TEIMURAZ MIKELADZE, Alliance of Patriots: “In each municipality were the members of *Alliance of Patriots* wins, no land will be given for mosque construction.”

ANTI WESTER SENTIMENTS



OBIEQTIVI, NISGHT STUDIO, 3 June

DAVID TARKHAN-MOURAVI, Alliance of Patriots: “When Russia took away Sokhumi, we practically fought on the side of USA, this is why we lost it, all the other misfortunes happened for that reason too..”

http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2352052

KVIRIS QRONIKA, 2-8 June

LASHA AMIREJIBI, Peoples Assembly: “Even if you just pinch or just slap in the head one of the members of *National Movement*, they will run to the US ambassador. The ambassador’s office will start whining: don’t touch them... apparently Norland is ruling the Prosecutors office.”

SAKINFORMI, 2 June

ALEXANDRE CHACHIA, political scientist: “I think our American colleagues in cooperation with their Turkish friends and partners are trying to influence certain Abkhazian groups, they try to cause a destabilization in Abkhazia and this way they will “donate” another headache to Russia.”

http://saqinform.ge/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=19080:2014-06-02-07-45-35&catid=98:politics&Itemid=457#ixzz33qSxsEqt

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ANTI WESTER SENTIMENTS

ASAVAL-DASAVALI 2-8, May

ELIZBAR JAVELIDZE, *People's Assembly*: “Having an ambassador like Norland is a shame for Georgia and disgrace for the USA!..

They have been silent about oppressor-rapist Saakashvili, and suddenly they are so troubled by deterioration of Georgia’s international image due to a slap in the head of an earth warm Chiaberashvili?!”

GGEOWORLD.GE, 5 June

MAIA NIKOLEISHVILI, *Expert*: “Today whole Europe and USA tries to condemn eastern Orthodoxy. With adoption of this law, somebody reported to someone.”

<http://geworld.ge/View.php?ArtId=5949>

OBIEQTIVI, NIGHT STUDIO, 2 June

TAMAR KIKNADZE, *Political Scientist*:

“Europeans were running around in the woods when Georgia had developed culture like this, West was focused on slavery. Until up to sixties black people had no right to vote in America, now they want to teach you the tolerance...”

Instead of being an umbrella of safety, NATO has become an umbrella of danger, is not it?!

...One of the feminist Portuguese MPs filed an inquiry to European Union, requesting a sexual education of children starting from Kindergarten. This is practi-

cally legalization of pedophilia... we are dealing with real anomaly now, and then comes Konchita...”

http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2348578

http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2348567

http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2348504

REZONANSI, 2 JUNE

IURI MECHITOV, *photographer*:

“West should bear all the responsibility for what was happening during those days... The West is responsible for what happened in Ukraine.”

GGEOWORLD.GE, 5 June

TAMAR DAVITULIANI, *journalist*:

„Nonsense said by her (Jen Psaki – United States Department official representative) was way over the usual stupidity and self-confidence of Americans and especially of the representatives of their government... How did so many irrational people managed to get gather? May be someone is selecting them with “stupidity index”?”

<http://geworld.ge/View.php?ArtId=5948>

KVIRIS QRONIKA, 2-8 June

VALERY KHABURDZANIA, *former*

minister of internal affairs: “Western Orthodoxy is just nonsense, it is like Konchita – a woman with beard...”

ANTI WESTER SENTIMENTS

OBIKTIVI, NIGHT STUDIO, 2 June

VIWER, [Phone call in the TV studio]: “If we enter the European Union, if we enter that, we will automatically lose Abkhaiza forever, we will lose Ossetia and we will have troubles in south Georgia too, Georgia is going to come apart and we will all be gone.”

http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2348560

SAKINFORMI, 2 June

“Considering the regional specifics and pro-Russian slogans, this demonstration [Demonstration in Sokhumi] may have been directed by Turkish and American special services, they are still developing their strategy of chaos.”

http://saqinform.ge/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=19080:2014-06-02-07-45-35&catid=98:politics&Itemid=457#ixzz33qSchbhm

OBIKTIVI, NIGHT STUDIO, 2 June

IRAKLI UBILAVA, Political scientists club: “We all know that Adjara is practically in the hands of Turkey, the rest of Georgia is owned by Americans, two pieces of the country is under the Russian rule, considering all the above, how can we have such pointless foreign affairs policy... well, all is clear... we all know who is behind all this – they are trying to adjust to the priorities of other country – to American priorities.”

http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2348544

ANTI-DISCRIMINATION LAW



GE-OWORLD.GE
4 June

OMAR NISHNIANIDZE,
Georgian Dream:

“This was our parties main concern, we even swore an oath to oppose to any request about voting for such law in future; honestly saying my hand was trembling when we were adopting the law. But we also have to compromise sometimes in order to save the country, to save it from “Ukrainization.”

<http://geworld.ge/View.php?ArtId=5943>

ASAVAL-DASAVALI, 2-8 June

IRMA INASHVILI, Alliance of Patriots: “To be specific – they are sleeping with the West!... There are so many ethnic minorities living in

Georgia – Armenians, Azerbaijanis, Kurds, Russians, Greeks... I met lots of Armenians lately and they feel themselves insulted, due to the fact that in the Anti-discrimination law, they are listed as “ethnic minorities” next to the “sexual minorities”. I am wondering, did anybody take into consideration the interests of ethnic minorities, while working on this law?”

ASAVAL-DASAVALI, 2-8 June

ELIZBAR DIAKONIDZE, deacon: “I am very much surprised about Soso [Jachviani]! When he was heating and booting Gia Baramidze, for god’s sake, why did you beat him up if you were planning to sing together with him the law, that is fatal for the country and evil for the church?”

ANTI-DISCRIMINATION LAW

OBIEQTIVI, NIGHT STUDIO, 4 June

MAMUKA GOBECHIA, *Alliance of Patriots*: “The first thing we are going to do is - to send this law far away... If nothing changes during the next ten or fifteen years, trust me, the legendary piece of literature “Knight in the panthers skin” will be banned...they have heterosexual relationships... they may even ban “The elder of the ravine- Gocha”, or even “Dry beech-wood” and this is when our spirituality will be lost.”

<http://obieqtivi.net/tv1.php?id=17227>

ASAVAL-DASAVALI, 2-8 June

DITO CHUBINIDZE, journalist: “Adoption of the Anti-discrimination law was a slap in the face for Georgia; it is a real misfortune, what was the real reason for adopting it?”

ALIA, 3 June

BASIL MKALAVISHVILI, priest: “They keep on announcing that there is nothing harmful in it [Anti-discrimination law] they fail to realize, that we are asked to become homosexuals in exchange to entering the European Union.”

MEETING at *DIVERSITY SCHOOL*

On 7 June students of *Diversity School* met cinema critics Gogi Gvakharia. Theme of the meeting was reconsideration of Soviet past.

Project is carried out by the assistance of the Embassy of Switzerland in Georgia.

