

NO TOPHOBIA!

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF MEDIA DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION AND GEORGIAN DEMOCRACY INITIATIVE

MAIN OBSERVATIONS

17, 9-15 JUNE

The following tendencies have been observed over the period from May 9 to 15:

- Hate speech was used in particular contexts of xenophobia (Gia Maisashvili, *Party of Future*) and regarding certain party representatives (*Asaval-Dasavali*);
- An article covering the protest of local population against the limestone mine company is entitled by xenophobic headline in newspaper *Resonansi* [“Chinese Tentacles have already reached Tskaltubo”]. Xenophobic statements were made by the journalists and respondents of newspaper *Alia* [Rezo Amashukeli, poet; Paata Chikhladze, *Leiborist Party*];
- Christan-Evangelist Union - the organizers of an international festival *Imedi* were named as “sectarians”. Media (newspaper *Resonansi*), church servant (Giorgi Razmadze) as well as other respondents (Giorgi Gabedava and Zakaria

Tsikhelashvili) embraced religious discrimination of the Union members.

- *Rustavi 2*, *Netgazeti* and *Resonansi* covered the story of an intolerable conduct of the Orthodox Church representative in relation to an underage an Armenian church parishioner;
- Speculative statements from the member of Adjara Supreme Council regarding the sexual orientation of journalists were manipulative and showed pressure against the journalist.
- Sexually discriminative statements were expressed by church servants (Iobi Akiashvili, Archbishop, Gabriel Chaduneli-priest) by the politicians (Irina Sarishvili –*Imedi* party) and also by the media (*Asaval-Dasavali*).



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HATE SPEECH

KAVKASIA, SPEKTRI,
9 JUNE

**GIA MAISASHVILI, party
of future:**

“...leading competitive companies will arrive and invest in this field, and not those ragged malodorous Iranians, who don't ever take shower, as it is not in their culture. I want to learn from the best of the best, I don't want to give the treasures of my country to



**GIA MAISASHVILI,
party of future:**

“...leading competitive companies will arrive and invest in this field, and not those ragged malodorous Iranians, who don't ever take shower, as it is not in their culture. I want to learn from the best of the best, I don't want to give the treasures of my country to the most unprivileged...”

the most unprivileged...”
[http://www.myvideo.ge/?
video_id=2353812](http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2353812)

ASAVAL-DASAVALI,
9-15 JUNE

JABA KHUBUA, Journal-

ist: “Exactly, *National Movement* is a tribe of killers, their hands are in blood up to their elbows, those assassins should not be called as the “leading opposition power”, but they should be sitting at

a defendant's table in a modern “Nuremberg Trials” and they should be awaiting their deadly verdict in despair!

Absolutely, *National Movement* – the tribe of bloody hyenas should be terminated and rooted out completely from the political and social life of Georgia!”

XENOPHOBIA

REZONANSI, 10 JUNE

Title: “Chinese Tentacles have already reached Tskaltubo”

The title “Chinese Tentacles have reached Tskaltubo” contains xenophobic context. The article is about Chinese limestone mine company - *Georgia Mining CoLimitids*, which is currently working in the village *Khomuli*.

MURAD KIKVIDZE, Resident of village Khomuli: “The territory is occupied by some strangers [Chinese company], and they will be the owners of the place for the next 20 years.”

ALIA, 12 JUNE

TAMAR OKRUASHVILI, Journalist: “... Why do the potatoes with cancer cells, imported from Armenia and Turkey costs one GEL, when potatoes cultivated here costs two GEL. How can we bear it? When I was in Turkey, one man showed me a potato and

said, my neighbor is sending this potatoes to your country, but if his wife dears to put it on their dinner table, he will cut her dead off. he does not want to be intoxicated.”

ASAVAL-DASAVALI, 9-14 JUNE

REZO AMASHUKELI, Poet: “Persians and Turks used to import tobacco in Georgia, to stupefy the generations in Georgia; the term “gatriakebulia” means stunned, when person is out of mind and there is no hope for that person ... this is part of the *National Movement* plan. The politics of degradation and debauchery of youth, and this is supported by the West!”

TABULA, FOCUS, 10 JUNE

PAATA CHIKHLADZE, Labor Party: “... We mentioned the factories that were sold out. Today Chinese and Indians are the owners and Georgians have become their hired workers”...
http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2354193

RELIGIOUS DISCRIMINATION

REZONANSI, 9 JUNE

TATIA CHAPICHADZE, journalist: “It was an intention to turn Georgians into sectarians. Instead of Sports Palace three-day international Evangelistic festival - *Imedi Festival* was held in the church, named after the faith in Bible, located in Didube.”

ALIA, 10 JUNE

JANA ASANIDZE, journalist: “father (addressing to Giorgi Razmadze), strange sectarian gatherings, festivals with obscure names have become quite frequent. It must not be a coincidence, right?”

ALIA, 10 JUNE

GIORGI RAZMADZE, priest: “They are not longing for salvation [organizers of *Imedi festival*], because they do not believe in God. Their attitude to humanity is very different. One day they run to Armenians for Christmas greetings, later they run to Catholics, finally they run to the Patriarch and stand there with candles in their hands. I would like to ask one question to those people through your newspaper: When are they honest? At the Patriarchs office, at Armeni-

ans’ or at the Catholic Church? Tolerance does not necessarily mean to tolerate heretics.”

REZONANSI, 9 JUNE

GIORGI GABEDAVA, former convict, released under the status of political prisoner: “... They are doing the same as Jehovah followers did with Georgian Orthodox people. Because they were poor, they were ready to trade their belief in bread. They are doing the same now... they are deceiving people as if it is a festival [*Imedi festival*] Franklin Graham is a rich man, he said he will invest in Georgians, but he needs critical mass of people for that. They are intending to turn Georgians into sectarians, just like Jehovah supporters did, but they were angels compared to those.”

RUSTAVI 2, KURIERI, 12 JUNE

DAVID LASURASHVILI, deacon: „...This is the place of Orthodox people, only Orthodox should be praying here [the case of a priest who made an Armenian child to leave the church, because he crossed himself there]”.

http://www.mvvideo.ge/?video_id=2355069



TATIA CHAPICHADZE, journalist: “It was an intention to turn Georgians into sectarians. Instead of Sports Palace three-day international Evangelistic festival - *Imedi Festival* was held in the church, named after the faith in Bible, located in Didube.”

SEXUAL ORIENTATION DISCRIMINATION



RESONANSI, 10 JUNE

MEDEA VASADZE, member of Adjara Supreme Council: “Jaba, do you have a wife? did you know that there are rumors in the city about you?... they say: Jaba’s movements are a bit suspicions, they question your sexual orientation.”

MAESTRO, MAESTRO 9 O’CLOCK NEWS, 9 JUNE

MEDEA VASADZE, GEORGIAN DREAM: “Jaba is a journalist, who is always eager to discuss with us the issue of unisex marriage. (Journalists: “what’s the problem with this?”) well, it might not be a problem for him, but it definitely is for me... and what happened today is a continuation of this process.”

http://maestro.ge/menu_id/12/id/2287/lang/1

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SEXUAL ORIENTATION DISCRIMINATION

Continued from p. 3

OBIKTIVI, 9 JUNE
IRINA SARISHVILI, Imedi

Party: “If somebody was named homosexual 30 years ago, he would either have gotten killed, or would have committed a suicide, or he would have done something worse. Especially if it were no truth.”

“... Speaking of those degraded people, you cannot even call them ill people, so we call them abnormal [LGBT] should they be more protected than I am? Anti-discrimination law is also lewdness.”

http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2354039
http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2354010
http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2354034



IRINA SARISHVILI,

Party Hope:

“Cannibalism is the same type of mental anomaly [as homosexuality]. According to your logic, I am addressing so called “advanced” people, if a cannibal is invited at a dinner, is it going to be a violation of their rights if their favorite dishes are missing on the table?”

logic, I am addressing so called “advanced” people, if a cannibal is invited at a dinner, is it going to be a violation of their rights if their favorite dishes are missing on the table? It is not an exaggeration; this is where we are heading to!”

<http://www.reportiori.ge/?menuid=3&id=29932>

KVIRIS QRONIKA, 9-14 JUNE

GABRIEL CHADUNELI, priest:

“They are trying to compensate for what they failed to do on May 17th, this is just a modified version, more artistic of it [kaZantip] ...But gays and lesbians are among our public officials and they want to manifest their wickedness. Let them disclose it in their own homes, in their private rooms, but not in the streets, they should not spread their ill-blood around!”

REPORTIORI, 12 JUNE

IRINA SARISHVILI,

Party Hope: “Cannibalism is the same type of mental anomaly [as homosexuality]. According to your

ANTI-WESTERN SENTIMENTS

ASAVAL-DASAVALI, 9-15 JUNE

TEMUR KHACHISHVILI, former minister of Interior Affairs: “Zviad was the first who publicly proclaimed American Imperialism that has engorged our liberty in front of our eyes! ...USA wanted to arrange the same turmoil in Ukraine in 90-ies...I can openly say that it was a plan of Americans, they wanted to exile Russians from Caucasus and get control over the railway. This straggle sacrificed the lives of thousands of people and hundreds of people became refugees.

...Being a Russian colony, Georgia managed to create a culture and economy. We are a colony today, the colony of EU and USA, but we don’t see any result yet, except devastation and poverty.

ASAVAL-DASAVALI, 9-15 JUNE

IOBI AKIASHVILI,

archbishop: “I asked him (Vano Merabishvili) – how did he imagine liberalism? – was it a support of LGBT society, legalization of sinfulness and denial of traditions, is this what he calls liberalism?”

... if he proudly continues to spread and promote his sins, we will always stand up for this. This kind of people should be eliminated from church and from the public!”

GIORGI GIGAURI, journalist:

“Yes my dear readers, Facebook status of the leading LGBT – Irakli Vacharadze was spread in the social media, (I don’t even know what is the correct way to address him: Mr. or Mrs.?) he writes that “... ”

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ANTI-WESTERN SENTIMENTS

Continued from p. 4

ALIA, 13-14 JUNE
TEMUR SHASHIASHVILI, party The Whites:

“King David the Builder saved Europe with the - Didgori Battle-, but now USA and Europe are devastating for us. They don’t care about Georgia, they just want to defeat Russia and in this battle Georgia and Ukraine receive damage.”

ASAVAL-DASAVALI, 9-15 JUNE

IOBI AKIASHVILI, archbishop: “It is not surprising that ecclesiastics are not acceptable for them (EU)! this way, it is easier to combat the veracity”

...it is not a coincidence that “NATO” bombed Yugoslavia on the Easter day, plus the bombshells had an inscription: “Happy Easter”! They have intentionally set Orthodox countries against each-other...its true that Russia has never treated Georgia as a country of the same faith; it has brought lots of trouble and has never been a good example of an Orthodox country. Nevertheless, I choose my kneeled Orthodoxy, rather than faithless American and Godless Europeans! “

ALIA, 10 JUNE

GIORGI RAZMADZE, priest: “*Republican Party* is a

successor of *National Movement*. EU would never allow us to have our national government instead of *National Movement*. If we look through the Georgian history, we’ll see that we have always been knocking on the doors of Russia, Persia or Osman. Today we are running to EU and USA.”

ALIA, 11 JUNE

NANA DEVDARIANI, Global Research Center: “

“USA disgraced itself in front of Georgia. The group of torturers of their country (*National Movement*) was considered as a citadel of democracy. Only a full or agenda-driven person can think like that.”

ASAVAL-DASAVALI, 9-15 JUNE

TAMAZ DARAKHVELIDZE, esoteric, Iberian-Caucasus Club: “They

(Capitalists) have developed the program of genocide called -*Golden Billion*.”

“...Considering its demography, today’s Europe is degraded. Mortality rate has increased in whole world, due to the increased number of genetically and sexually transmitted diseases, among them are HIV aids, which was created to kill people...”

“...According to experts, sexual revolution was the largest special-forces raid

aimed at changing people’s mentality. As a result, the number of homosexuals, pedophiles and sex maniacs has doubled.

...It is not a secret that Bill Gates tries to decrease the birth rates by vaccination of children in the developed countries.”

ASAVAL-DASAVALI, 9-15 JUNE

HAMLET CHIPASHVILI, political scientist:

“Americans are degenerates, since they have decided to deal with Georgians, moreover with *National Movement*. But they are not stupid enough to stand in front of the Russian missiles.”

ASAVAL-DASAVALI, 9-15 JUNE

ZURAB JORBENADZE, lawyer: “Both, Kote Kublashvili and Davit Usupashvili have been trained at the *Liberty Institute* and the Soros school, they have the same roots... it was all financed by Soros, and aimed at creating an anti-Georgia group, who would lobby against everything that is traditional Georgian.”

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ANTI-WESTERN SENTIMENTS

Continued from p. 5

OBIKTIVI, NIGHT STUDIO, 9 JUNE

TV viewer: VIEWER: “Do you know what McCain did in Ukrain, everything horrible that happens in the world is his legacy. I am wondering what business Alasania and Republicans can have with McCain. ...”
http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2354007

ALIA, 12 JUNE

KHATUNA ELBAKIDZE, journalist: “Europe and America have lot in common; Bokeria will have more than enough nannies in Europe... But they will never care to protect Georgia. Our people have never benefited from them. They only bring sin and misery to our country.”

ASAVAL-DASAVALI, 9-15 JUNE

GIORGIO GIGAURI, journalist: “Yes, my dear readers, instead of gay Europeans, Georgian soldiers are fighting to death in the hot-spots of Afghanistan. Nevertheless, they even don't grant us a Membership Action Plan (MAP) no to heart the Russians!...”

If we don't take any measures (if we act like Europeans) we will end up in the same situation as the man did in Paris. Right in the heart of Europe, in the Luxemburg gardens he was detained by police for wearing a T-shirt with a picture of a normal family – Mother, Father and two children holding hands with each other. Police assumed that

this symbol was abusive for the sexual minorities and the man was detained. He has to pay several thousands of Euros as a penalty...”

ASAVAL-DASAVALI, 9-15 JUNE

GIORGIO GIGAURI, journalist: “We have lost one-fifth of the country while chanting “NATO-NATO!” We continue chanting “NATO-NATO!” and finally, by entering the North Atlantic Alliance we will pay final tribute to those lands that are now occupied.”

SAKINFORMI, 12 JUNE

“Georgia is a US colony! President of America announced June, 2014 as the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Pride Month. This is exactly why Georgian parliament adopted an anti-discrimination law!”
http://saqinform.ge/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=19190:-----2014-----&catid=98:politics&Itemid=457#axzz34WHP9CfP

SAKINFORMI, 12 JUNE

„REGNUM: Few days ago, a biological weapon was transported to Ukraine from Georgia. It was created under the supervision of American scientists... They are planning to send hazardous products to Lugansk and Donbas and sell it for a low price” [Headquarters of Lugansk people's Republic liberation army]
http://saqinform.ge/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=19205:regnum-----&catid=101:ucxoeti&Itemid=385#ixzz34WShSQcN

GEWORLD.GE, 11 JUNE

TAMAR DAVITULIANI, journalist: “Americans have assigned their trained human resources long time ago, in order to control the country... ..yes, they are the sons of American beaches and as usual they apply double standards to Presidential elections...”
<http://geworld.ge/View.php?ArtId=5953>

GENDER BASED STEREOTYPES

OBIKTIVI, 9 JUNE

IRINA SARISHVILI, Imedi Party: “The debauchery is when a young woman [Ninia Kakabadze] appears on TV and talks to the audience of millions of people about how husbands kill wives in Georgia, that we should create some kind of a society to protect poor wives. It is debauchery when 12-13 or 14 year old children are listening to this.”

“...Are we done with protecting the homosexuals? OK, the next step is to announce a war to the husbands. Do you realize what is going on?... now the feminist movement is becoming dominant. This is not Georgian at all, it is anti-Georgian.”
http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2354034
http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2354027