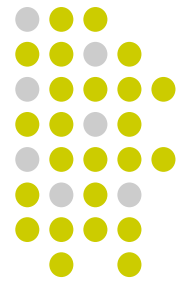




Newsletter №15



Main Findings of Monitoring

15. 07 –28.07.2013

The present newsletter covers two weeks monitoring results for the period of July 15-28. Following tendencies have been revealed during this time-frame:

MONITORING

- The main topics of the reported period were a court trial concerning the violent thwart of the May 17 rally, the anti-discriminative bill initiated by the Ministry of Justice and the moratorium on sale of lands to foreigners adopted by the Parliament;
- Media coverage of the trial of clerics involved in the break up of the May 17 rally was one-sided in presenting the position just of the defense side and clergymen's supporters, while comments of the prosecutor have not been represented at all. To some extent this position was balanced by several media outlets (Public Broadcasting Television, Moambe; Rustavi 2, Kurieri) by presenting background of the events of May 17 and by publishing the comment of the Chief Prosecutor (newspaper "24 Hours");
- The negative evaluation concerning the anti-discriminative bill was presented mainly by the newspaper "Asaval-Dasavali";
- The most qualified coverage of the moratorium on sale of lands announced by the Parliament was presented by TV company "Maestro" and Public Broadcaster; while newspaper "Rezonansi" published the article ignoring professional standards and containing xenophobic expressions;
- Hate speech was again directed towards National Movement Party (Rezo Amashukeli, poet; newspaper "Asaval-dasavali");

Continued on p. 2

The court trial of religious servants

P. 2



The newsletter was made possible by the generous support of the American people rendered through the USA Agency for International Development (USAID). The contents of the newsletter are the responsibility of Media Development Foundation (MDF) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the USAID or the USA.

Inside this issue

The court trial of religious servants	2
Anti-discriminative legislation	5
The moratorium on sale of lands to foreigners	6
Hate Speech	7
Ethnic Minorities	7
Religion	7
Sexual Minorities	8
Gender Stereotypes	13



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



OPEN SOCIETY GEORGIA FOUNDATION
ფონდი ღია საზოგადოება საქართველო

Main Findings of Monitoring

Continued from p.1

- The story prepared by Maestro about Muslim's religious holiday – Ramadan was positive;
- The article published by the newspaper “Kviris Palitra” concerning the disputed religious buildings between Armenia and Georgia was biased;
- Jehovah Witnesses were presented as a sectarians (Shalva Natelashvili, Labor Party), and a criminal organization (Davit Tarkhan-Mouravi, Alliance of Patriots);
- Newspaper “Asaval-dasavali” continued practice of circulating prejudices;
- The topic of sexual minorities had been actual in connection with the cleric's trial and the statements of NATO Secretary General; in this context criticism of the Republic Party increased;
- Gender stereotypes were identified in the context of Presidential Elections.

The court trial of religious servants

Georgian Public Broadcaster -GPB, Moambe, July 15

TV story of the news program “Moambe” describes postponement of the trial assigned on violent break up of the rally against homophobia on May 17 and two parallel rallies protesting prosecution of clerics.

One of the clerics – Antimioz Bichinashvili states that the video materials attached to the case, identifying him threatening (“I’ll kill you, f***ck you mother”), swearing and running towards the demonstrators, does not reflect reality. It’s important, that right after the respondent’s comment journalist uses the shots reflecting his actions. Although the position of the victims is not presented in the story, but the review of the prehistory may be considered as a certain attempt to balance the news.

The story also reflects the positions of rally participants:

Jondi Bagaturia, Georgian Troupe: *“The investigation was under very active pressure of the political spectrum: Speaker of the Parliament – Davit Usupashvili and his wife – Tina Khidasheli, as well as of the Secretary of National Security Council – Giga Bokeria and Tamar Chergoleishvili.”*

Evgeni Mikeladze, National Front: *“The government is going to satisfy orders of foreign forces... These clerics didn’t do anything to be convicted.”*

http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2094673

Imedi, Qronika, July 15

News program *Qronika* unlike GPB’s news program omitted background of incident and didn’t use shots reflecting Antimioz Bichinashvili threatening rally participants. This episode is considered by cleric himself to be non-realistic. The position of victims is not reflected in the TV story of “Qronika” either.

Evgeni Mikeladze, National Front: *“Sexual minority representatives and their supporters, feminists themselves, painted the cartoon of St. Nino on the walls of Qashueti Church yard last year, as well as they’ve exhibited the cartoons of the Patriarch and clerics during rallies of May 17 and 24, and the government has no reaction at all. We demand that all offenders of religious feelings to be punished according to the relevant legislation.”*

Jondi Bagaturia, Georgian Troupe: *“The innocent clerics had been prosecuted twice in Georgian history, once – during the reign of Rostom Khan, and the second time – during the period of Bolsheviks, and in present, nowadays, in the period Georgian Dream rule.”*

http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2094655

The court trial of religious servants

Rustavi 2, Kurieri, July 15

TV story of the news program Kurieri covers the pre-history of the case. Background also includes TV shots reflecting Antimioz Bichinashvili, threatening and swearing and the Father Iotam Basilaia - another cleric under investigation who directed the stool towards the yellow bus, where LGBT rights defenders were placed.

http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2119379



24 Hours, July 16 – 24

The newspaper published report about court hearings on July 15 and 23. Unlike TV media that presented just position of the defense side, the article published on July 15 included the comment of the Chief Prosecutor – Archil Kbilashvili regarding the sensitivity of the issue caused by involvement of clerics, at the same time noting that everyone is equal before the law.

<http://24saati.ge/index.php/category/news/justice/2013-07-16/39368>

And the second article depicted just viewpoints of clerics, their lawyers and supporter politician's regarding the trial.

<http://24saati.ge/index.php/category/news/2013-07-24/39507.html>

GPB, Rustavi 2, Kavkasia, July 23

The court hearing on the events of May 17 was covered identically to a large extent in the prime time news programs of TV channels - Public Broadcaster ("Moambe"), Rustavi 2 ("Kurieri") and Kavkasia ("Dges"). In all three cases balance was not preserved and only positions of the clerics and their supporters were depicted. Moreover, just the comment of the defense side was aired and the prosecution's was absolutely ignored. If the prosecutor refused to make comment, journalists should noted that. Taking into account that new legislation allows video recording of a court hearing, media outlets could use the shots of the prosecutor's speech for balancing the story. It should be also noted that none of the reports present the background of the case and those video evidences also are excluded from reports in which clergymen are accused of.

Almost identical comments were aired by the all three channels:

Antimioz Bichinashvili: *"There is a monument – St. George and the Beast. They'll [International and local human rights defenders] soon appeal that St. George is aggressive and the abuser and demand to defend the Beast's rights."*

Nino Burjanadze, Public Assembly's presidential candidate: *"I'm really surprised that after October 1, ten months later, we are still here – in Kublashvili's Court and are witnesses of priest's judgment according to the staged scripts and provocation by Giga Bokeria and National Movement."*

Continued on p.4

The court trial of religious servants

As for the differences in coverage, Public Broadcaster's journalist in his editorial text made interpretation of Antimioz Bichinashvili's quote on St. George. Namely, he stated, that the cleric "indicated that on May 17 he was fighting against evil". Such interpretation tends to establish stereotype associating sexual minorities and their rights defender with an evil. Preferably, journalist should refrain from interpretation while covering such sensitive topics, especially when a respondent does not make direct statements of this type.

News program of the TV Company *Kavkasia* accentuated the position of respondents considering the court hearing to be result of the Western pressure.

Davit Isakadze, Orthodox Parents' Union:

"The serious pressure of Euro-American missions on the government of Georgia is clear. This court hearing is the evidence for this."

http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2099255
http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2119486
http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2101165

Asaval-dasavali, July 15-21

Jondi Bagaturia, Georgian Troupe:

"For the sake of Ivanishvili we have already got Usupashvili as the Parliament Speaker, who together with Khidasheli, Bokeria and Chergoleishvili used to be initiators of the gay rally of May 17 and they are demanding prosecution of clergymen?.. Would you vote for a devil, if Ivanishvili offers it to you?"

<http://www.asavali.ge/archive/asdas/2013/978/978.pdf>

Asaval-dasavali, July 22 – 28

Jondi Bagaturia, Georgian Troupe:

"Of course we should not throw stones at them, but I don't under-

stand, why they are trying to impose their perverted sexual relations to others, why propaganda of the lifestyle of a sinful man is needed? It's really disgraceful to bring the innocent cleric to the court to prosecute them for hooliganism... Bidzina Ivanishvili made the choice himself – he should be the hero of Georgians or an LGBT rights defender like Khidasheli-Usupashvili?"

<http://www.asavali.ge/archive/asdas/2013/979/979.pdf>

Obieqtivi, Night Studio, July 15

Gia Tabliashvili, lawyer of clergyman [Iotam Basilaia]: *"A clergyman can't be equal to the law as an ordinary offender."*

Nino Ratishvili, anchor: *"This is international and Western directives... I have a reasonable doubt that international orders and finger shaking for some reason stand above our interests."*

<http://obieqtivi.net/tv1.php?id=12869>

Obieqtivi, Night Studio, July 23

Jondi Bagaturia, Georgian Troupe:

"Do you know that the investigation could not present a single victim... Not a single sexual pervert - gay or lesbian was presented beaten and then where is the violence?.."

The nation had been fighting against Saakavshvili and that LGBT... These liberasts [compilation of liberal and pederast] and Saakashvili and this regime represented were on a one side and they were in power. The nation was fighting against this regime and these liberasts under the commandment of Ivanishvili. Now it came out that we've won under Ivanishvili and our commander is on their side and accuses us."

http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2101034
http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2101030

Newsletter №15



Jondi Bagaturia, Georgian Troupe:

"Of course we should not throw stones at them, but I don't understand, why they are trying to impose their perverted sexual relations to others, why the propaganda of the lifestyle of a sinful man is needed?"

Anti-discriminative legislation

Maestro and Channel 9, July 17 – 18

In the program “Subieqturi azri”, Maestro and “Mtavari kitxva”, Channel 9 Minister of Justice Tea Tsulukiani explains the essence of the anti-discriminative draft law prepared by the ministry that introduces institution of an equality inspector and implies sanctioning and recommendations in case of discrimination on various grounds.



http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2095771
http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2096802

Asaval-dasavali

The newspaper dedicated two articles to the anti-discriminative draft law representing the equality inspector as a defender of just sexual minorities (“Gay-Ombudsman”) and an initiative of the West imposed on us.

July 15 – 21

George Gigauri, journalist: “Liberal government of Moldova had been directly opposed by the Orthodox church of the country, considering the anti-discriminative law as “a perverted western order and the attempt of establishment of sexual minority’s dictate on majority!.. Moldova is being tested like Georgia: If you wish closer integration with the west, take special care of sexual minorities!”

<http://www.asavali.ge/archive/asdas/2013/978/978.pdf>

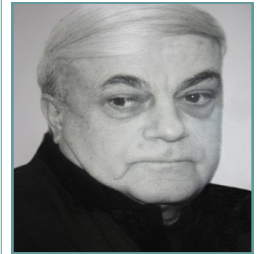
July 22 – 28

Giorgi Gigauri, journalist: “Does it mean, that besides the Ombudsman protecting sexual minorities, we will have a specialized “Gay-Ombudsman” [meaning equality inspector] as well?”

Elizbar Javelidze, Public Assembly: “... Yes, this “gay-ombudsman” will fine our citizens for “violation of pederast’s rights” to please America and Europe and prove them how devotedly they protect sexual minorities in Georgia! I’ll say openly - hell with Georgia where just pederast’s and lesbian’s dreams come true!

If the way to NATO passes through the asses of our pederasts, I’ll curse such NATO, as well as such way and such country! I don’t want our children to be brought up from childhood with respect and love of pederasts, and to be bathing in a massive phallus shape bathtub as it’s in America! If the Georgian Parliament legitimates institution of a “Gay-Ombudsman”, this parliament definitely should be dismissed!”

<http://www.asavali.ge/archive/asdas/2013/979/979.pdf>



Elizbar Javelidze, Public Assembly:

“If the way to NATO passes through the asses of our pederasts, I’ll curse such NATO, as well as such way and such country! I don’t want our children to be brought up from childhood with respect and love of pederasts, and to be bathing in a massive phallus shape bathtub as it’s in America! If the Georgian Parliament legitimates institution of a “Gay-Ombudsman”, this parliament definitely should be dismissed!”

The moratorium on sale of lands to foreigners

The most qualified coverage of the moratorium on sale of lands to foreigners and citizens of foreign countries announced by the Parliament till December 31, 2014 had been covered by *Maestro* and Public Broadcaster in a most professional way.

Maestro news program, July 19

The story presents variety points of view regarding adopted legislative norms:

Head of Transparency International Georgia Eka Gigauri emphasizes unconstitutionality of the law based on the corresponding decision of the Constitutional Court of Georgia; while expert – Paata Sheshelidze alongside of economic setback effect underlines xenophobic nature of the law; Chairman of the Comity of Sectoral Economy and Economical Policy of the Parliament, Zurab Tke-maladze refers to public request backing this decision.

It should be noted that journalist mentions citizen's discontent revealed in some regions of Georgia regarding sale of lands to foreigners just in the editorial text of the background. Unlike other media outlets *Maestro* does not dramatize the situation by the xenophobic evaluations of some respondents.

http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2097801

GPB, Moambe, July 22

Like *Maestro*, Public Broadcaster emphasizes anti-constitutionality of the law and restriction of rights. Moambe presented detailed review of the lawsuit of Danish citizen in the Constitutional Court concerning the restriction of lands sale to foreigners, and noted that the similar complaint is being prepared by the Transparency International Georgia.

http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2099443

Imedi, Oronika, July 19

The story on this topic prepared by TV Company Imedi mostly was focused on economical part of the decision rather than restriction of rights, and respondents were selected accordingly.



If *Maestro* mentioned just in the background discontent existing in various regions of Georgia regarding ownership of lands by foreigners, news program of “Imedi” selected comments dramatizing the situation.

Otar Gogiladze: “Generally, land should not be a subject of sale either by law or illegally, because our predecessors obtained it with blood. They have fought with swords; working together, obtained the land and now they are destroying it for money, for nothing.”

<http://imedi.ge/index.php?pg=nws&id=9563>

Rezonansi, July 17

There are a number of professional standards violated in the article on the land alienation topic prepared by “Rezonansi”.

First of all, it concerns the results of the survey to which entire article is dedicated. The story omits such essential elements of a survey methodology, as criteria of selection of respondents, geographical area where the survey was conducted, what type of research is presented, etc. Without telling audience all these details of methodology, journalist's generalization in the headline “100% of interviewers are against of land sale to foreigners” might be misleading.

As it evident from the headline, the article presents just one side position that creates opportunity of manipulation with public opinion. The article also presents position of Catholicos-Patriarch Ilia II in this regard.

Continued on p. 14

Hate Speech

Asaval-dasavali, July 22-28

Rezo Amashukeli, poet: *“A poet should not say this, but I am forced to do, so I state directly – I regret that death penalty had been abolished in Georgia, otherwise they all should be hanged up, all of them, starting with Saakashvili and ended with Kublashvili!”*

<http://www.asavali.ge/archive/asdas/2013/979/979.pdf>



Ethnic Minorities

Obieqtivi, Night Studio, July 16

Mamuka Giorgadze, Peoples Party:

“When we ourselves are naming other ethnic groups as a minority, that means that tomorrow representation of France, European Union not having minorities themselves will call for your responsibility. Especially, when the only ethnic minority in Georgia is Abkhaz nation. All others - be it Azerbaijani, Armenian, Jew, or Russian - are diasporas. They have their own motherlands, and as Georgians in countries abroad are diasporas, these people also represent diasporas in Georgia.”

<http://obieqtivi.net/tv1.php?id=12883>

Kavkasia, Spektri, July 24

David Chichinadze: *“There won’t be reproduction of Georgians and who will work then, Chinese, Turkish people, or who?”*

Anchor of the program made a comment which has nothing in common with the statements of respondent.

Davit Aqubardia, anchor: *“I’m glad to hear it, my friend David. You are keeping a leftist position and it’s the European position today. Social justice should exist.”*

[http://www.myvideo.ge/?](http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2101186)

[video_id=2101186](http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2101186)

Obieqtivi, Night Studio, July 28

Political scientist Soso Tsintsadze speaks about anti-Georgian attitudes in Armenian and Azeri media; about ratification of the Charter of Regional Languages according to him, imposed via hypothetic Armenian lobby by the Council of Europe and representing a threat for the country. Anchor of the program – Valeri Kvartskhelia shares opinion of his respondent.

<http://obieqtivi.net/tv1.php?id=13058>

Rezo Amashukeli, poet: *“A poet should not say this, but I am forced to do, so I state directly – I regret that death penalty had been abolished in Georgia, otherwise they all should be hanged up, all of them, starting with Saakashvili and ended with Kublashvili!”*

Religion

Maestro news, July 21

It’s positive that the TV Company “Maestro” dedicated the special report to the Muslim’s religious holiday – Ramadan, the beginning of the fast. Theologist explains significance of this religious month, and journalist turns attention to the representation of Muslims in Georgia and geographical area of their settlement. It would be preferable along with the comments of theologist given to present positions of local Muslims that makes minorities not only objects but subjects of the news story.

http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2098247

GPB, Moambe, July 26

The story is about the confrontation between local Muslims and orthodox Christians in village Chela of Adigeni region concerning the construction of the Minaret alongside with the Mosque. Positions of both sides are presented in the story: One side states that the Minaret had been constructed illegally, without having legal permission, and the other side claims that the Minaret passed the customs at the border and hence it had been legal. Since the local municipality refused to give comments to journalist, it became difficult to find out if the local Muslims had permission for constructing the minaret, as in this case it presents the part of the already existing building construction.

Continued on p. 8

Religion

Since the refusal of a responsible official agency, it would be preferable to present comments of independent expert or the Ombudsman's Office to give more clarification regarding regulations in such cases.

The story is moderate and balanced itself, however the introductory text dramatizes the situation, stating that the escalation of the hypothetical conflict may take place in Adigeni after Adjara, Guria and Kakheti region. It would be preferable, if journalists cover such sensitive topics more carefully.

http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2101376

Kviris Palitra, July 22 – 28

The article under the headline “What do Armenian scientists accuse Georgians of” concerns the etymology of the religious building located on the territory of Armenia. The position of Armenian side is not presented in the article and even no source is identified where claims of Armenians are stated. There are just general claims as regards to Georgian temples.

Journalist shows her biased approach by questioning representative of the National Heritage Agency – George Gagoshidze on the contentious temples located on the territory of Georgia.

Eka Lomidze, journalist: “Part of Armenian scientists considers not only Lore-tashiri as an Armenian monument located on the territory of Georgia, but also majority of Georgian monuments as well. What are protective mechanisms to avoid appropriation of these temples, as a historical and cultural heritage of Georgia, by others?”

The ownership of religious building is quite sensitive topic and taking into account claims on both sides, it would be preferable if journalists cover the situation neutrally and not as a side, present position of both sides equally and to be more precise in framing of questions in order to avoid groundless generalization and deepening of negative stereotypes towards ethnic and religious groups.

<http://www.kvirispalitra.ge/public/17975-ras-edavebian-somekhi-mecnierebi-qarthvelebs.html>

GPB, Dialogue, July 17

Shalva Natelashvili, Presidential candidate of Labor Party: “I’m not denying the fact that a number of clergymen interfere in politics and they better take care of parish and the church...”

If Georgian legislation does not recognize [sects], look at the neighboring Armenia, Jehovah’s Witnesses are officially prohibited there... because they don’t allow blood transfusion... If you are not a sect, do not fight against a human life...

Mitt Romney is a highly honorable politician... Why did not they elect him?.. He is a Mormon and that’s why he had not been elected.”

http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2097241

Obieqtivi, Night Studio, July 22

Davit Tarkhan-Mouravi Alliance of Patriots: “Sometimes one sect and sometimes another... let them read about Jehovah’s Witnesses, man... let them read what are an American writers writing about them... that they are declared as a criminal organization, but we’ve gave them all possible means... now they want to equal to the Orthodox Church and the government closes its eyes on everything... We’ll be soon told that it’s a crime to be Georgian and not vice versa. Such a tragedy is not taking place neither in Armenia, nor in Azerbaijan, neither in France and nor in Israel.”

<http://obieqtivi.net/tv1.php?id=12975>

Obieqtivi, Night Studio, July 18

Independent presidential candidate Gela Saluashvili speaks about necessity to declare the orthodoxy as the state religion. Phone call of TV viewer expressing a critical point of view towards some clergyman and the events of May 17, was quite unusual for this program. Usually, most of the phone calls of audience are similar, that makes impression of manipulation with public opinion and represents violation of the article 18.4 of the Code of Conduct. It should be also noted that the anchor tried to interrupt viewer to express his opinion.

Religion

Gela Saluashvili, presidential candidate: *“The Orthodoxy should be announced as the state religion with principle that is that the church should not interfere in a state activities and the state – in an affairs of the church.”*

TV viewer, phone call in Live: *“Today, when 85% of the population states that they are Orthodox Christians, not only an ordinary part of the population, but majority of religious servants don’t understand deeply and conceptually what Christianity is...I’m sorry, but bishops like Jacob and Iobi”...*

Bondo Mdzinarishvili, Anchor: (tries to interrupt) *“I have to apologize, now we address Mr. Gela...”*

TV viewer: *“People are beating others with crosses, rushing into TV stations, who organized May 17... How do you want to announce Orthodoxy as the state religion in these circumstances?”*

<http://obieqtivi.net/tv1.php?id=12918>

Prejudices

Asaval-dasavali, July 15 – 21

Following prejudices are contained in the article where journalist labels “Spiderman”, “Batman” as well as the advertisement clip of the company “Natakhtari” as Satanic:

Giorgi Gigauri, journalist: *“When the fuehrer of the National Movement and the real owner of “Rustavi 2” [President Saakashvili] joins baby finger and forefinger and configures the rest three fingers in the air, all should know that he depicts “666” - the Devil’s sign!”*

<http://www.asavali.ge/archive/asdas/2013/978/978.pdf>



Giorgi Gigauri, journalist: *“When the fuehrer of the National Movement and the real owner of “Rustavi 2” [President Saakashvili] joins baby finger and forefinger and configures the rest three fingers in the air, all should know that he depicts “666” - the Devil’s sign!”*

Sexual Minorities

Alia, July 18

Journalist Nino Samkharadze presents unconfirmed information, spread by lawyer Shalva Khachapuridze as a real fact, that the First Lady Sandra Roelofs is involved in withdrawal and adoption of children by homosexuals who were born by artificial insemination.

Nino Samkharadze, journalist: *“Well done, Sandra! You are not betraying traditions of your home country [Netherlands] and help homosexual couples, while thousands of families in Georgia are suffering from infertility and the adoption procedure is so complicated and expensive, that people are aging childless and you are taking care so hardly about homosexual and lesbian couples, about adoption of Georgian children abroad.”*

<http://alia.ge/com/news/view/1584>

24 Hours, July 19

Information concerns Russian journalist Masha Gessen who fled Russia. He was threatened after criticizing the draft law on propaganda of homosexuality calling it fascist.

<http://24saati.ge/index.php/category/news/world/2013-07-19/39446>

Obieqtivi, Night Studio, July 16

Chairman of People’s Party Mamuka Giorgadze spreads speculative opinion that the events of May 17 were to some extent provoked by statements of the government encouraging organizers of the rally against homophobia.

Continued on p. 10

Sexual Minorities

It should be noted that this program was an exception where anchor Nino Ratishvili corrected respondent's terminology and underlined that it was not a gay pride, but just the planned protest rally.

<http://obieqtivi.net/tv1.php?id=12883>

Obieqtivi, Night Studio, July 20, 21 and 26

Media-union "Obieqtivi" in its three programs consecutively tried to establish identical opinion, artificially linking political as well as social issues to the sexual orientation and used an insulting terminology.

TV viewer, phone call: "This is, my friend Ilia, [about violence during the National Movement Primaries and further actions] like the recent gay parades and current priests arrests... You might have seen how homosexuals are kissing each other... and now, this cohabitation reminds me the kisses of those pederasts."

Ilia Chachibaia, anchor: "We all remember Thomas Fletcher, homosexual teacher invited by them from Britain and he was teaching children in Zugdidi School #4... They [National Movement] wanted to bring up a new man by inviting Fletcher and people like him from different countries. "Teach and Learn with Georgia" - was such a program and namely in regions this phenomenon had been met negatively, because we - Georgians are traditional people. We can't stand if someone comes and teaches us that it's good to color your hair 5 times in a day... This is exactly what was doing male teacher Thomas Fletcher..."

Ani Kiknadze, anchor: "The problem of coloring hair is minor compare with others."

Ilia Chachibaia, anchor: "Sure, this had been told conventionally, the fact of hair coloring implies that he was homosexual."

<http://obieqtivi.net/tv1.php?id=12944>

TV viewer, phone call: "You've seen a kiss of two homosexuals, right? Is anything more disgusting than this? This cohabitation reminds me right a kiss of homosexuals."

Valeri Kvaratskhelia, anchor: "This is a good comparison, excellent one."

<http://obieqtivi.net/tv1.php?id=12960>

Soso Manjavidze, Alliance of Patriots:

"By the way, David Mkeidze made a very good comparison on cohabitation. He said, it looks very much like caress of two gays, which is disgusting for normal people"...

<http://obieqtivi.net/tv1.php?id=13032>

Asaval-dasavali, July 15-21

Gubaz Sanikidze, Georgian Dream:

"Let consider we've allowed LGBT propaganda, next step is same-sex marriages and right of children adoption... Let's refrain from injection of the disease that will never slam, because it may cause bad remission. If there is any difference between us and republicans, it is on this issue."

<http://www.asavali.ge/archive/asdas/2013/978/978.pdf>

GPB, Dialog, July 13

Shalva Natelashvili, Presidential Candidate of Labor Party:

"They [Davit Usupashvili, Speaker of the Parliament; Tina Khidasheli, MP] have done so much wrong, they have defended so many homosexuals, lesbians and sects. They've sold everything..."

They should not start to engage on Rustaveli avenue [about May 17th rally] knowing what reaction will be followed..."

http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2097236
http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2097241

Asaval-dasavali, July 22 – 28

Monk Iotham: "Those MPs who will vote for the legalization of same-sex marriage will be excommunicated from the church!"

<http://www.asavali.ge/archive/asdas/2013/979/979.pdf>

Newsletter №15



Gubaz Sanikidze, Georgian Dream:

"Let consider we've allowed LGBT propaganda, next step is same-sex marriages and right of children adoption... Let's refrain from injection of the disease that will never slam, because it may cause bad remission. If there is any difference between us and republicans, it is on this issue."

Sexual Minorities

Asavali-dasavali, July 15 – 21

Avtandil Ungiadze, Orthodox Parent's Union: *"In the 70th of the past century the special plan promoting homosexual perversion was adopted in America, that implied implementation of "Sexual Education" programs in schools; If you remember, Nationals had also tried to realize this plan in Georgian schools right after coming to power, but the strong public resistance made them to refuse temporarily this intention..."*

Unfortunately, in our country people of non-traditional sexual orientation are contrary attacking us... The church has the right and ought to prevent propaganda of immorality and in the extreme cases even practice anathema against persons being especially active in this regard!"

<http://www.asavali.ge/archive/asdas/2013/978/978.pdf>

Kviris Palitra, July 15 – 21

Janri Lolashvili, actor: *"They are fining a caress of a man and a woman and not a gay parade? These degenerated people are forcing to watch their behavior in the street. This is violation of human dignity and just such kind of behavior should be fined. Not any penalty would be enough – jail is just the thing for them!.. Is not it miserable when a man puts his tongue into another man's mouth?!.. All what is beyond of norms of human behavior should be punishable, should not it?! This should be prohibited and not if younger people kiss or caresses?!"*

Alia, July 24

Elizbar Diakonidze, Trinity Church deacon: *"The church says that existence of faith-degenerated and sexually perverted persons is unacceptable in Georgian Orthodox world. Imagine, the testament law prohibits sitting together with them at lunch, their communion is prohibited, because they desecrate same vessels, where Christ's flesh and blood is... The Patriarch performed one cleaning in church and had excommunicated diseased with this Sodom sin. Unfortunately, the increase of their number within the church is vivid..."*

<http://alia.ge/com/news/view/1625>

Alia, July 31

Gela Zedelashvili, journalist: *"The May 17th rally had been really planned in his [Giga Bokeria, Secretary of the Security Council] office. It's well known even in the Prime Minister's circle that he [Bidzina Ivanishvili] can't stand pederasts and it should be so, but the official status forces him to take a balanced position."*

<http://alia.ge/com/news/view/1679>

Asavali-dasavali, July 22 – 28

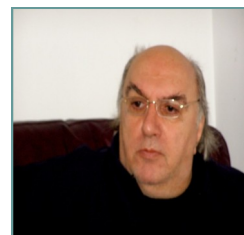
Rezo Amashukeli, poet: *"American marriage of Bakradze and Usupashvili will take place soon, but I don't know yet, which one will be a husband and which - a wife!"*

<http://www.asavali.ge/archive/asdas/2013/979/979.pdf>

Asval-dasavali, July 15 – 21

Giorgi Gigauri, journalist: *"... What a huge power is when among supporters of the National Movement are "leader of jail Chickens" known as "Anjela" Mazmaniani [Giorgi Mazmaniani, the leader of the movement "Patriots"] and the transvestite Kesaria!..."*

<http://www.asavali.ge/archive/asdas/2013/978/978.pdf>



Janri Lolashvili, actor: *"They are fining a caress of a man and a woman and not a gay parade? These degenerated people are forcing to watch their behavior in the street. This is violation of human dignity and just such kind of behavior should be fined. Not any penalty would be enough – jail is just the thing for them!..*

Sexual Minorities

Asavali-dasavali, July 22 – 28

Aleko Aslanishvili, editor of newspaper “Saqartvelos Respublica”: *“I don’t know how many pederasts are there in Georgia today, but it’s clear, there are much more than in the times when I was younger... but besides their numbers, there is at least one non-governmental organization assigned for protection and patronage of each of them. Ass of each pederast has given the national value, watching its pulse soberly and carefully.”*

<http://www.asavali.ge/archive/asdas/2013/979/979.pdf>

Obieqtivi, Night studio, July 24

Avtandil Ioseliani, presidential candidate: *“We will probably initiate legislative amendments prohibiting propaganda to ensure restriction of propaganda of any kind of immorality in the country.”*

<http://obieqtivi.net/tv1.php?id=13004>

Obieqtivi, Night studio, July 22

Davit Tarkhan-Mouravi, Alliance of Patriots: *“Let them dare to organize LGBT parade or anything else in Armenia, but we are allowing them everything... In Armenia there is the Armenian Church standing firmly and nobody dares to adopt such a law...”*

TV viewer, phone call to the studio: *“For example, I prefer my son to be a drug addict rather than gay... but, for instance, Americans are allowed to have a soldier, being a blue [gay].”*

Davit Tarkhan-Mouravi: *“Today, those having much money being themselves homosexuals and lesbians simply managed as much as creating this unprecedented movement which declared homosexuality being a normal phenomenon and not a disease. I still maintain that this is an illness and in no case a normal phenomenon... Now we have to put up with it and move to the idea that such marriages may become legal...”*

<http://obieqtivi.net/tv1.php?id=12975>

Antiwestern Attitudes

Asavali-dasavali, July 22 – 28

Elizbar Javelidze, Public Assembly: *“Here comes this Rasmussen – Head of the American Gendarmerie of so called NATO and shakes his fingers at us – you, non-democrats, you violated the rights of pederasts on May 17! On May 17 not a single pederast’s thin ass was even scratched, while on May 26, 2011 people were beaten to death and crippled on Rustaveli Avenue!”*

<http://www.asavali.ge/archive/asdas/2013/979/979.pdf>

Alia, July 23

Nino Samkharadze, journalist: *“It turned out that security of Georgian pederasts’ buttocks and pink sex of lesbians was as important for Rasmussen as antiterrorist missions for NATO. One part of Rasmussen visit in July was dedicated to the security of those engaged in immoral sex and he shook his fingers pointing out to be careful... If your NATO means protecting pederasts and lesbians, many will refuse such alliance.”*

Father Elizbar: *“When Rasmussen came, he expressed his concern saying – how could you let them violate the rights of LGBT society on May 17? Why can anybody interfere in affairs of the Orthodox Church?”*

<http://alia.ge/com/news/view/1625>

Sexual Minorities

GPB, Dialogue, July 24

Nino Burjanadze, presidential candidate of Public Assembly:

“He [NATO Secretary General] repeated nine times the same concern regarding the rally of May 17th. All kinds of violation should be condemned, but there is a simple gradation of condemnation, there are principles that should be protected by everybody, including by Rasmussen.”

http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2101538

Asaval-dasavali, July 15 – 21

Giorgi Gigauri, journalist: *“In America gays beaten up Christians who came to protest gay parades! In short, in very civilized and democratic America gays and their supporters represent majority and Christians – minority!”*

Thus we have to do with purposeful and well planned scheme as a result of which... Orthodox people may be announced to be mentally diseased and those come to protest gay parades are going to be well beaten up as minorities by our muscled pederasts!”

<http://www.asavali.ge/archive/asdas/2013/978/978.pdf>

Asaval-dasavali, July 22 -28

Elizbar Javelidze, Public Assembly:

“If even a single pederast is pinched on his ass the State Department of the US will alarm the whole world, but when the Prime Minister was killed in Georgia America did not shake its ears!”

<http://www.asavali.ge/archive/asdas/2013/978/978.pdf>



Nino Samkharadze, journalist:

“It turned out that security of Georgian pederasts’ buttocks and pink sex of lesbians was as important for Rasmussen as anti-terrorist missions for NATO. One part of Rasmussen visit in July was dedicated to the security of those engaged in immoral sex and he shook his fingers pointing out to be careful... If your NATO means protecting pederasts and lesbians, many will refuse such alliance.”

Gender Stereotypes, Discrimination

GPB, Dialogue, July 17

Shalva Natelashvili, Presidential candidate of Labor Party: *“I was surprised by his photo [Giorgi Margvelashvili, presidential candidate of Georgian Dream] in which he is knitting...”*

“How is a weak man better than a knitting lady” – even Rustaveli condemned such activities...”

A man should work forging and not knitting.”

http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2097235



Continued on p. 14



Al. Chavchavadze №54,
Entrance 5, Floor 4.
Tbilisi, Georgia 0179

Tel/Fax: (+99532) 2 22 00 16

E-mail: info@mdfgeorgia.ge
mdfgeo@gmail.com

WWW.MDFGEORGIA.GE



Find us on
Facebook

[www.facebook.com/pages/
მედიის-განვითარების-ფონდი-
MDF-Media-Development-
Foundation/275686875901735](http://www.facebook.com/pages/მედიის-განვითარების-ფონდი-MDF-Media-Development-Foundation/275686875901735)

The moratorium on sale of lands to foreigners

Continued from p. 6

Ilia II, Catholicos-Patriarch: *“Neither a king, nor a president or even a patriarch has any right to sell a land.”*

It's also problematic that journalist in the editorial text speaks about groundless risks concerning land sale to foreigners in the same manner as it's done by the respondents holding discriminative approach.

Mariam Aptsiauri, journalist: *“Georgia is a small country, where approximately 4 million people are living. Intensive migration of foreigners and sale of lands to them might create threat for Georgians to be divided as an ethnic group, to become an ethnic minority.”*

Elene Antidze, respondent: *“The arrival of strangers is not required where the demographic picture is not favorable... There is no need to mix with Chinese, Pakistanis or Indians.”*

Guja Gabedava, respondent: *“We are already facing the demographic problem and migration of Indians and Chinese people will bring the worse result.”*

Lika Purceladze, respondent: *“It's time for Georgian people to regain their dignity and not to be slaves of Chinese, Indians and people of other faith in our own country.”*

Gender Stereotypes, Discrimination

Continued from p. 13

GPB, Moambe, July 23

The story on women's participation into politics is positive itself, however scenes of make-up in the report dedicated to overcoming of stereotypes promotes deeper clichés.

http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2099258&rc=1

Imedi, Oronika, July 22

The story covers the discriminative action itself when future husbands and mothers-in-laws take young ladies to the experts to exercise their virginity. Such acts are assessed as negative and insulting by NGOs as well as by those questioned during street Vox-pop.

http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2099465

