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| **NEWS DIGEST ON GEORGIA**  **September 14-16** | | | |
| *Compiled by:* | ***Aleksandre Davitashvili*** | *Date*: | September 17, 2020 |

* **Occupied Regions**
* **Abkhazia Region**

1. **Record Daily 52 Cases, 6 More Recoveries in Abkhazia**

Moscow-backed authorities in Abkhazia have reported record high daily 52 cases of COVID-19, taking the tally of total confirmed cases in the region to 726. In the meantime, 6 more persons have recovered, increasing the number of recoveries to 192. With 7 recorded fatalities since the outbreak of the pandemic, the number of active cases in the region to date stands at 527 *(Apsnypress.info, September 15, 2020)*.

1. **Abkhazia Records 7th Fatality**

Moscow-backed authorities in occupied Abkhazia reported the 7th COVID-19-related fatality today. According to media reports, the emergency medical service found an 84-year-old woman, who had been undergoing home treatment, with acute shortness of breath and critically low oxygen levels. On the way to the hospital, the patient suffered cardiac arrest and the doctors could not resuscitate her. A test taken following her death confirmed she was COVID-positive *(Apsnypress.info, September 15, 2020)*.

1. **Abkhazia’s sole laboratory doesn’t have capacity to test all cases**

The chief sanitary doctor of Georgia’s Russia-occupied Abkhazia Lyudmila Skorik says that the region’s only laboratory does not have the capacity to detect all new cases of COVID-19 in the region, reports RFE/RL.

“I told the president and the government to increase the capacity of the laboratory in order to handle 500 samples a day. A large number of samples has been collected which cannot be processed due to the insufficient number of employees in the laboratory. There are only three full-time employees'', said Skorik.

Skoris also noted that due to the increased cases of COVID-19, mass indoor entertainment events should be banned. She also said that older teachers at schools should be temporarily replaced with younger staff *(Agenda.ge, September 17, 2020)*.

* **Tskhinvali Region (*so called South Ossetia*)**

1. **Georgia Denounces Resumed ‘Borderization’ Near Atotsi, Nikozi**

The Georgian State Security Service reported on September 14 that Russian occupation forces have resumed “borderization” process at the two locations of the South Ossetian occupation line near the village Atotsi of Kareli Municipality and the village of Nikozi of Gori Municipality, south to the occupied town of Tskhinvali.

The SSG slammed the “border” marking activities as yet another “dangerous and extremely destructive action” by the occupation forces.

The State Security Service said it activated the EUMM-managed hotline and informed the European Union Monitoring Mission, as well as the Co-Chairs of Geneva International Discussions. The SSG said Georgian authorities will raise the issues at Engneti IPRM and the next round of GID *(Civil.ge, September 14, 2020)*.

1. **Geneva Talks Co-Chairs Hold Meetings in Tbilisi, Tskhinvali**

The Co-Chairs of the Geneva International Discussions (GID), Toivo Klaar, Cihan Sultanoğlu and Rudolf Michalka from the EU, the UN and OSCE, respectively, held meetings in Tbilisi, Tskhinvali ahead of the 51st round of the GID scheduled to take place between October 6-7.

During the Tbilisi visit on September 15, the diplomats met with Georgian officials, including Foreign Minister Davit Zalkaliani. representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Head of the State Security Service Grigol Liluashvili.

According to the Georgian Foreign Ministry, at the meeting, they also focused on humanitarian situations in occupied Gali and Akhalgori districts in Abkhazia and Tskhinvali region, respectively, including restrictions on freedom of movement and discrimination against Georgians on ethnic grounds. The need for an unconditional resumption of the Incident Prevention and Response Mechanism (IPRM) meetings in Gali was stressed as well, Foreign Ministry said *(Civil.ge, September 16, 2020)*.

1. **Russia Lifts Travel Restrictions for Tskhinvali region/South Ossetia**

Russian Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin has signed a decree to lift the travel restrictions with occupied Tskhinvali region/South Ossetia.

“Russia is opening the border with South Ossetia, as well as lifting restrictions for certain specialists on entry into and departure from the country imposed due to the spread of the novel coronavirus infection,” the press service of the cabinet said *(Civil.ge, September 15, 2020)*.

* **Foreign Affairs**

1. **Georgia Signs Deal with Israeli Company on Air Defense System Modernization**

Ministry of Defense of Georgia and Israeli state defense technology company Rafael signed an agreement on complete rehabilitation and modernisation of Georgian air-defense systems, MoD reported, adding that the parties also discussed perspectives of future cooperation, including re-training of the personnel.

Rafael Advanced Defense Systems is an Israeli state company working on improvement and production of the arm and military technologies of the Israeli defense forces.

According to the same report of September 11, Georgian Defense Ministry mulls over cooperating with another Israeli-based international defense electronics company Elbit Systems, to upgrade Georgian aircraft to NATO standards by equipping it with modern radio-electric systems *(Civil.ge, September 14, 2020)*.

1. **MEPs on Recent Developments in Georgia, ahead of AA Implementation Vote**

**Kati Piri (NL, S&D)** addressed the Parliament on behalf of Sven Mikser, the rapporteur: “As we are discussing the report focusing on the implementation of the Association Agreement between the EU and Georgia, I would like to recall that the Association Agreement is a comprehensive framework that covers a wide range of policy areas from political dialogue, rule of law, human rights and fundamental freedoms all the way to economic and trade relations. The report points out that enhanced cooperation and EU assistance to Georgia are based on the more for more principle and are conditional on continued reform presses across all policy areas. Georgia has undertaken ambitious reforms and achieved a lot. It deserves to be underscored that Georgia’s European aspirations enjoy broad support among almost all political parties, as well as, among Georgian people.”

**Josep Borrell Fontelles (High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy):** “As you know very well, Georgia is a very close partner in our neighborhood and subscribes to ambitious Association Agreement with the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area underpinned by common values, shared ownership and responsibility. Our relations have been maturing from the human rights agenda to connectivity, security cooperation, academic exchanges under Erasmus Plus. Our norms, our standards are gradually aligning, making real improvements in the lives of their citizens. We’re looking forward to continuing to cooperate with Georgia, to agree on joint priorities in the association agenda post-2020… Let me have look on the domestic challenges and opportunities of this country. I mean to make reference to three important issues: the electoral context, the justice reform, and the conflicts.”

**Andrea Bocksor (Hungary, EPP):** “Georgia is on the right road towards confirming and implementing the Association Agreement and DCTFA, it made efforts for democracy, good governance and assuring human rights in order to tackle the internal strife. This agreement made and Constitution and Election Law have been amended according to international recommendations, so the new elections will be held according to this new constitution. This is a milestone in normalizing political life in the country and I hope [they] will have fair and clean elections.”

**Marina Kaljurand (Estonia, S&D):** “I welcome the recent electoral reform in line with the ODIHR recommendations and hope that it will contribute to easing the polarization in Georgia’s political and media landscape. I also would like to recognize the promotion of women’s representation. I urge all political parties, especially and including opposition to do their utmost to guarantee peaceful, fair and free elections on October 31. These elections will be crucial in determining Georgia’s future for years to come. Georgia has an impressive reform record; of course, further approximation is still needed in some areas like environmental protection and fight against discrimination of vulnerable groups.”

**Anna Fotyga (Poland, European Conservatives and Reformists):** “…In the run-up to the Parliamentary Election, I urge Georgian authorities to ensure its free, fair and transparent character. I also appeal to free Giorgi Rurua, thus fulfilling the March 8 agreement reached with all opposition leaders.”

**Josep Borrell Fontelles (Top EU Diplomat):** “You are right these are crucial times for Georgia to demonstrate the maturity of its democracy. Me too, I’ve been in Georgia in difficult times, much more difficult than now. The country is demonstrating strength, democratic strength, economic development and I see that we have to welcome that this Parliament is stepping up its cooperation with the Georgian Parliament after the next elections. We will also not shy away from reminding Georgia of the need to deliver on the full reform agenda. The problems at their borders should not be an excuse for solving the problems that only the Georgian people can solve. European Union through our Association Agreement will continue to support Georgia on this day and ever.“ *(Civil.ge, September 15, 2020)*

1. **GD React to MEPs’ Plenary Session Remarks**

**Gia Volski, First Deputy Speaker of the Georgian Parliament** reacted to Polish MEP Anna Fotyga’s appeal to free Giorgi Rurua, one of the shareholders of pro-opposition Mtavari Arkhi TV. Volski decried Fotyaga’s remark as “subjective” and “reflective of her political taste.”

Responding to MEP Viola von Cramon-Taubadel’s remark about “shadow rule of billionaire Ivanishvili,” MP Volski asserted that “since Ivanishvili’s arrival [to the government], nobody has been torturing and killing people in the country.”

**Vice Speaker Kakha Kuchava, Georgian Dream MP**, reckoned that the Association Agreement implementation report is “a rather great acknowledgment of the reforms, and of the right path the Georgian people and Georgia have embarked upon.”

MP Kuchava also highlighted that MEPs reaffirmed the EU’s commitment to acknowledging Georgia’s territorial integrity. “The illegal actions of Russia were explicitly condemned on numerous occasions and again, firm support was expressed for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Georgia within its internationally recognized boundaries,” the GD lawmaker added *(Civil.ge, September 15, 2020)*.

1. **European Parliament Adopts Report on Georgia’s AA Implementation**

On September 16, the European Parliament (EP) adopted the report on the implementation of the EU Association Agreement (AA) with Georgia with 552 in favor, 61 against and 78 abstentions. The document positively assesses Georgia’s progress in the adoption of reforms and legislation, as well as the March 8 agreement between key political parties, however, describes the situation of the judiciary as “worrisome due to shortcomings of the selection procedure of judges and a series of cases against the opposition, which raised concerns about the impartiality of the legal system.” The report also highlighted that “Georgia continues to face significant external challenges, notably a worsening situation in its occupied regions of Abkhazia and Tskhinvali / South Ossetia and cyber-attacks linked to Russian actors.” *(Civil.ge, September 16, 2020)*

1. **Georgian Interior Minister Meets Spanish Civil Guard Director**

On September 15, Georgian Interior Minister Vakhtang Gomelauri hosted Director General of Spanish Civil Guard María Gámez Gámez in Tbilisi, where the parties discussed bilateral cooperation, work done by police attachés of the two countries as well as the future plans.

In frames of the visit, Georgian Deputy Interior Minister Vladimer Bortsvadze and chief of the Spanish Civil Guard signed a memorandum of understanding to establish a Joint Analysis Team, in order to strengthen bilateral cooperation in combating organized crime *(Civil.ge, September 15, 2020)*.

* **Parliamentary Elections – 2020**

1. **Georgian Politicians React to NDI Public Opinion Survey**

**Parliament Chairman Archil Talakvadze,** number 2 on the GD party list, asserted that support for the ruling Georgian Dream party is far greater than illustrated in the NDI survey results. “We know from more convincing, public, and reputable surveys that the Georgian Dream has significant support,” said the Speaker.

**Opposition UNM MP Tinatin Bokuchava** found it “unsurprising” that, “36% of Georgians said a party’s economic policy is the most important when deciding which political force to vote for.” The opposition MP, concurring with this finding of the NDI survey, emphasized that “voters are expecting a specific economic outlook from political parties” to overcome existing economic hardships. Bokuchava said the opinion poll confirms that most people maintain a pro-opposition mindset, and that “the 59% (of undecided voters) will translate into votes for the opposition.”

**Teona Akubardia of the Strategy** Aghmashenebeli party shared Bokuchava’s position on the matter. “The NDI polls once again clearly showcase that the voters who are unwilling to name the party they are supporting during the elections, of course, are not supporters of the government”, Akubardia stated.

For MP Giga Bokeria, European Georgia’s majoritarian candidate in western Poti, Khobi and Senaki constituency, the public opinion poll results illustrate that the pre-election atmosphere in the country is geared towards “fundamental changes.” “The country is in need of change and change is demanded by the people. We plan to fulfill this expectation with our plans for change,” Bokeria said *(Civil.ge, September 14, 2020)*.

1. **Georgian Dream, Opposition Sign Code of Conduct for Elections**

On September 14, the ruling Georgian Dream and the opposition parties signed, albeit separately amid trading accusations, the Code of Conduct of Political Parties for October 31 parliamentary elections.

According to the Central Election Commission, the Code was drafted with the support of Switzerland, USAID and International Republican Institute and it represents a “set of norms of voluntary ethics aimed at protecting democratic values and fundamental freedoms; conduct of a substantive, program-oriented, inclusive election campaign that provides equal opportunities for electoral stakeholders.”

According to the Code of Conduct, political parties agree on various principles, including general principles, on fair and dignified competition, on respecting the voters’ rights and on its execution and monitoring *(Civil.ge, September 14, 2020)*.

1. **ISFED Reports on Facebook Political Ad Spending in Georgia**

Citing a recent Facebook report, covering the period from August 4 to September 6, ISFED stated that during the time period approximately USD 193,465 was spent on political ads in Georgia, on a total of 4,607 ads.

Below are the amounts of money political parties and their related pages spent on ads:

* Strategia Agmashenebeli and Giorgi Vashadze spent USD 47,800
* European Georgia – USD 30,782
* Lelo – USD 21,747
* Georgian Dream – USD 20,421
* United National Movement – 6,678
* Alliance of Patriots – USD 4,663 *(Civil.ge, September 14, 2020)*

1. **MP Beselia,’For Justice’ Name Top Ten MP Candidates on Party List**

Below is the list of top 10 MP candidates of For Justice party:

* Eka Beselia
* Iase Zautashvili – lawyer, economist
* Javara Ugrekhelidze – medical doctor, Doctor of Medicine
* Zaza Tsereteli – medical doctor, Doctor of Medicine (a member of the party’s political council)
* Temur Robakidze – lawyer, economist
* Dodo Shonava – journalist, former director of Channel 2 TV
* Seva Jugeli – diplomat, medical doctor, Doctor of Medicine, writer (member of the political council)
* Soso Darsavelidze, medical doctor
* Inga Makharadze, journalist
* Nugzar Lomishvili, lawyer

The party’s majoritarian MP candidates are:

* Eka Beselia for Mtskheta, Tianeti, Dusheti and Kazbegi single-mandate constituency
* Soso Darsavelidze for Tbilisi’s Samgori district
* Inga Makharadze for Ozurgeti, Chokhatauri, Lanchkhuti district
* Nugzar Lomishvili for Tbilisi’s Gldani district *(Civil.ge, September 14, 2020)*

1. **European Georgia will Support Labor Party Majoritarian Candidate in Mtskheta-Mtianeti**

Leader of European Georgia Davit Bakradze met with party supporters in Dusheti to announce that his party will be supporting Labor Party majoritarian candidate Beka Natelashvil in Mtskheta-Mtianeti for the upcoming Parliamentary Elections.

According to Davit Bakradze’s statement, the endorsement of Beka Natelashvili is a strategic decision aimed towards decreasing the chance of vote splitting to the benefit of the ruling Georgian Dream party *(Civil.ge, September 15, 2020)*.

1. **Free Democrats Elect New Leaders, Name Majoritarian Candidates**

The Free Democrats party has elected new leaders at the extraordinary congress on September 14, some six weeks ahead of October 31 parliamentary polls. The opposition party – once led by former Defense Minister Irakli Alasania – decided to join the elections race despite a major internal crisis last month.

Tamar Kekenadze, the Secretary-General of the party until now, will take up the position as a Chairperson, replacing Shalva Shavgulidze, a joint majoritarian candidate of opposition parties in the Mtatsminda constituency who announced quitting the party on August 20.

The new board will consist of Tamar Kekenadze, Vakhtang Mchedlidze, Devi Tabidze and Emzar Kakulia. Mchedlidze was also named as a top candidate in the party’s proportional list to run in the October general election *(Civil.ge, September 15, 2020)*.

1. **Republican Party Joins UNM Electoral Bloc**

Five opposition parties – United National Movement, Republican Party, Movement – State for People, European Democrats, and Progress and Freedom – have announced on September 15 about establishing an electoral bloc for the upcoming October 31 Parliamentary Elections. The bloc will run in the polls under the name of “United National Movement, Opposition Union – Strength is in Unity (Dzala Ertobashia).”

The United Opposition – Dzala Ertobashia itself was founded in 2018 before the Presidential Elections. The bloc led by UNM includes nine opposition parties.

“We promise that this union established in 2018 will gain the decisive victory in 2020 Parliamentary Elections,” said Grigol Vashadze, one of the leaders of UNM. “We will win to bring freedom and development back to Georgia,” he added *(Civil.ge, September 15, 2020)*.

1. **Five Opposition Parties Agree on Justice Reform Plan**

On September 16, five opposition parties, including European Georgia, United National Movement, Strategy Agmashenebeli, Democratic Movement – United Georgia and Girchi, signed an agreement on achieving “independence” of the justice system through reforms.

Key points of the agreement are:

***The Interior Ministry***

* Police decentralization and removal of police functions from the Interior Minister
* Introduction of the institution of elective sheriffs within self-governments, where the sheriff will be responsible for combating all types of crimes, except for those crimes, the scope of which is beyond his/her territorial competence
* Establishment of the bureau on combatting organized crime

***Prosecutor’s Office***

* Giving the victim of a less serious crime the right to choose a lawyer to defend his/her interests in court. The victim’s interests may be defended by a state prosecutor or a lawyer, who in such case will act as a prosecutor
* Removal of the investigation oversight function from the Prosecutor’s Office and leaving only the authority of representation in court
* Establishment of an anti-corruption prosecutor’s office

***The State Security Service***

* Dissolution of the State Security Service and abolition of its political police function
* Establishment of an independent anti-corruption bureau *(Civil.ge, September 15, 2020)*

1. **U.S. Top Diplomat Addresses Georgia FM on October Elections**

In a letter to Georgian Foreign Minister Davit Zalkaliani dated September 15, U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said he shares Zalkaliani’s “focus on ensuring that the elections are free, fair, and transparent, in line with international standards and best practices.”

Pompeo’s missive comes in response to FM Zalkaliani’s invitation letter to send a U.S. observation mission to Georgia’s October 31 parliamentary elections.

“A level playing field; rigorous implementation of electoral reforms; and respect for human rights and the fundamental freedoms of expression, association, and assembly are vital – both on election day and in the pre- and post-election periods,” top U.S. diplomat said *(Civil.ge, September 16, 2020)*.

1. **IRI publishes poll data**

A recent poll released by International Republican Institute (IRI) reveals that if parliamentary elections were held this coming Sunday, 36% would vote for the ruling Georgian Dream party, 15% for United National Movement – Strength in Unity, 4% – European Georgia, Strategy Aghmashenebeli and Alliance of Patriots – 4% for each, Labor Party – 3%, 2% would vote for Aleko Elisashvili’s Civic Movement/Citizens, Lelo for Georgia and 2% Girchi, per each. 3% said none, while 23% said do not know/gave no answer *(Civil.ge, September 17, 2020)*.

* **Internal Affairs**

1. **Record 196 Daily Cases, 31 More Recoveries Reported**

Georgia has reported record 196 cases of COVID-19, bringing the tally of total confirmed cases to 2,758. In the meantime, 31 more patients have recovered, taking the number of recoveries to 1,412.

As explained by Marina Ezugbaia, Medical Director of Tbilisi Hospital of Infectious Diseases, out of 196 infections diagnosed over the last 24 hours, 144 were confirmed in Batumi; 29 in Tbilisi; 7 in Kutasi; 1 in Sachkhere; 4 in Gori; 3 in Gardabani; 4 in Ozurgeti; 2 in Zugdidi; 1 in Poti, and 1 in Mtskheta *(TV Pirveli, Stopcov.ge, September 16, 2020)*.

1. **All Entering and Exiting Batumi will Undergo Thermal Screening**

Head of the Government Administration Natia Mezvrishvili announced that all entering and exiting Batumi will undergo thermal screening; in cases of high temperature, travelers will be tested for the coronavirus. In addition, mass thermal screening will be arranged in commercial establishments *(Civil.ge, September 16, 2020)*.

1. **Public Defender Slams Bill on Selection of Supreme Court Judges**

The Georgian Public Defender has slammed the bill sponsored by the Georgian Dream lawmakers envisaging a number of amendments to the rules of selecting Supreme Court judicial candidates.

In a statement released on September 14, the Public Defender noted that the bill “fails to address the systemic issues in the process of selection of Supreme Court judges and is merely a nominal attempt to solve the problems.”

The Public Defender said the proposed amendments “fragmentally” address certain aspects of the selection of Supreme Court judicial candidates, while the main recommendations of the Venice Commission and the OSCE/ODIHR regarding the shortcomings in the selection process remain unresolved *(Civil.ge, September 14, 2020)*.

* **Economy and Social Affairs**

1. **ADB Estimates Georgia’s Economic Growth at 4.5% in 2021**

According to the Asian Development Bank (ADB) report released on September 15, Georgia is forecast to return to the economic growth of 4.5% in 2021 from expected recoveries in tourism, private consumption, investment, and net exports, following an estimated 5% decline in 2020 caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

“The possibility of a prolonged disruption of tourism and external demand and supply chains continues to weigh on the growth forecast, as does the prospect of a slowdown in government processes following parliamentary elections in October,” highlights ADB’s flagship annual publication, Asian Development Outlook *(adb.org, September 14, 2020)*.

1. **Georgian Central Bank Keeps Key Rate at 8%**

On September 16, the National Bank of Georgia (NBG) kept the key refinancing rate at 8%.

The Monetary Policy Committee of NBG decided to keep the discount rate, since the price dynamics have remained within forecasts and the inflation rate has continued to decline, reaching 4.8% in August.

The National Bank of Georgia stated that inflation, pressured downward by weak aggregate demand, is expected to fall below the target level in the first half of 2021 *(Civil.ge, September 15, 2020)*.

1. **Georgian Central Bank Sells USD 40 Mln**

The National Bank of Georgia sold USD 40 million in the foreign exchange auction on September 16. According to the National Bank, the average weighted rate amounted to 3.1546.

Georgia’s national currency is trading at GEL 3.1775 per USD on Bloomberg’s platform. The exchange rate stood at GEL 3.0955 per USD on September 8 *(nbg.gov.ge, September 16, 2020)*.

1. **Georgian central bank to sell over $200 mln this year to stop lari depreciation**

The lari (GEL) has depreciated against the US dollar by about two per cent, following an increased number of new coronavirus cases in Georgia and the upcoming parliamentary elections, said National Bank of Georgia (NBG) Head Koba Gvenetadze.

In order to control the lari's depreciation against the US dollar, the NBG will sell $40 million at foreign exchange auction later today and more than $200 million by the end of this year, he added. As of today, 1 USD costs 3.1546 GEL, while 1 EUR costs 3.7521 GEL.

Gvenetadze explained the recent depreciation of the lari was caused by the 'tensions of the election campaign period', which is temporary and will not affect inflation, which according to the current forecast will continue to decline over the rest of the year and fall below the target level in the first half of 2021.

Georgian Economy Minister Natia Turnava said that the fluctuation of the lari is 'moderate' and there are no signs the ‘negative trend will deepen' *(Agenda.ge, September 16, 2020)*.

1. **Georgia becomes 1st country after Spain to host World Tourism Organisation’s session**

Georgia has become the first country to host the session of the World Tourism Organisation’s (WTO) Executive Council outside the borders of Spain.

Delivering a speech during the 112th session of WTO in Tbilisi earlier today, Georgian Prime Minister Giorgi Gakharia stated that Georgia and WTO ‘have been linked with long, successful cooperation which is becoming more and more fruitful.’

“It is of high importance for us that Georgia has become the first country to host the session outside the borders of Spain,” Gakharia said, expressing gratitude to the organisation members and the Georgian Secretary General of WTO Zurab Pololikashvili.

Gakharia said that the tourism sector worldwide and in Georgia has been ‘seriously affected’ by the global pandemic.

|If we look at the figures of previous years, Georgia was one of the leading states worldwide for tourism development. The tourism sector amounts to 8.1 per cent of the state economy,” Gakharia said *(Agenda.ge, September 16, 2020)*.

1. **World Bank report: Georgia needs more investment in human capital to assure well-being of future generations**

The overall human capital index score of Georgia is 0.57, which means that a child born in Georgia is expected to grow up to be only 57 percent as productive as they could be if they enjoyed a complete education and full health, says the latest update of the World Bank’s Human Capital Index (HCI), which measures pre-pandemic human capital outcomes around the world.

The human capital index score of Georgia for 2020 is higher than the average for upper middle-income countries worldwide and above its 2010 value of 0.54, but it is lower than the average for the Europe and Central Asia region. Increasing the quality of education reflected in international test scores will help Georgia to catch up with the regional average, says the World Bank *(Agenda.ge, September 17, 2020)*.

* + **Additional Information**

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| **September 17, 2020**  **OFFICIAL EXCHANGE RATES**  1 USD – 3.1547 GEL 1 GBP - 4.0872 GEL 100 RUB -4.2189 GEL  1 EUR - 3.7440 GEL 1 TRY - 0.4215 GEL 100 JPY – 3.0030 GEL     * **Movie Events - English Sessions -** [**Tickets**](https://www.kinoafisha.ge/engsessions) * **Friends of Museum (Membership to access Georgian National Museums For free of charge after one payment) -** [**Membership**](https://biletebi.ge/friends-of-museum) * **Marjanishvili Theatre –** [**Events and Tickets**](https://biletebi.ge/marjanishvili-theatre/Repertoire) * **Rustaveli Theatre -** [**Events and Tickets**](https://biletebi.ge/rustaveli-theatre/Repertoire) * **Opera and Ballet –** [**Events and Tickets**](https://tkt.ge/en/opera) * **Concerts –** [**Events and Tickets**](https://tkt.ge/en/concerts) * **Sports –** [**Events and Tickets**](https://tkt.ge/en/sport) |