

Georgian Patriarch Condemns Russia's War during Orthodox Easter Epistle

By NATALIA KOCHIASHVILI

Georgia celebrated Orthodox Easter on 24th of April. Prior to the Paschal Vigil, just before midnight, the Easter message of Georgian Orthodox Patriarch Ilia II, 89 was delivered by a senior Orthodox cleric in the Holy Trinity Cathedral in Tbilisi.

"The ongoing wars in the world today are the cause of grief, particularly the one in our neighborhood which Russia is waging in Ukraine, where horrible facts and the worst of atrocities are taking place. That is why we all owe a special prayer and effort for peace."

The epistle, among other issues, followed that the wars are tragedy, as they "take the lives of thousands of people, violate all laws, morals, values, bring destruction and material-cultural damage, sow cruelty and widespread hatred, which, of course, creates a very difficult spiritual situation."

"The current situation is such that no one can tell what tomorrow will bring and how events will unfold; processes may end soon, or turn into long-running confrontation, or we may all face a global catastrophe, which naturally raises universal fears," emphasizing that in this situation, it is important and necessary to show compassion and kindness to the victims of war (the wounded, the captives, the hungry, the children, the women, the elderly, the sick, and so on) to overcome evil.

The Easter epistle read that while human beings need to wage 'inevitable war' on themselves to overcome 'egoistic mindset', "most people are not waging wars on themselves, but against neighbors, trying to achieve their egoistic goals through greed and confrontation."



Photo: patriarchate.ge

"But let us not forget that out of the most difficult circumstances the Lord has repeatedly opened mankind; The most important thing is not to lose human dignity even in the most difficult situation, not to lose faith and love for the Creator," the epistle said.

Recall that Russia's military has shown no signs of stopping during the Orthodox Easter weekend in Ukraine. The Ukrainian government announced new curfews for Easter weekend as authorities cautioned residents about the potential for increased Russian military

activity during holiday celebrations. Russian missile strikes hit the southwestern port city of Odessa, according to a senior Ukrainian official 5 civilians, among them an infant died and 18 were wounded. A city council deputy called the strikes 'Easter gifts from Putin'.

Zelensky Says Ukraine Will Return Ambassador to Georgia as Soon as They Feel Government Support

By NATALIA KOCHIASHVILI AND KHATIA BZHALAVA



Zelensky stated that even though the distance, he perceives Georgia much closer to Ukraine than Russia.

On April 23, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky gave a press conference for Ukrainian and foreign journalists on the platform of a metro station in Kyiv. During a two-hour conference, the Ukrainian President also answered the questions of Georgian journalists and addressed the ongoing relation between the countries amid Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

The President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelensky, in response to a question from a Georgian journalist, stated that he did not understand the position of the Georgian authorities and perceived this issue as painful.

"I believe that the Georgian people are one of the closest to Ukraine and the Ukrainian people. After the first revolution we saw great support from them. I do not really understand the current position of the leaders of your government. I do not understand this and that is why I perceive this issue so

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Exchange Rates: US Dollar - 3.0358; Euro - 3.3105; GBP - 3.9693; 100 Russian Ruble - 3.7999; Swiss Franc - 3.2023

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painfully. I do not think it is really worth what they are going for," said the Ukrainian President regarding the Georgian government's position on imposition of sanctions.

Zelensky also answered a question related to the issue of Georgian authorities not imposing sanctions on Russia saying that "I heard messages that they [Georgian authorities] want to protect the country's economy, which economy? Part of the territory of Georgia has already been seized, they [the Russians] have almost reached Tbilisi. I

think it is not worth it."

"I heard messages that they should protect the country's economy. Which economy? Part of the territory of Georgia has already been taken away. They [the Russians] reached almost as far as Tbilisi. Which economy?" he said, adding that staying aside is not worth it.

Zelensky underlined the support, rallies and humanitarian aid of the Georgian people and added that Ukraine will definitely return the ambassador to friendly Georgia as soon as "we feel the support of Ukraine from the leaders of your government."



Press conference at Maidan Nezalezhnosti metro station, Kyiv, April 23.

Shame Movement: We Appeal to Georgia's Strategic Partners to Impose Sanctions on Ivanishvili

Now you can hear for yourself, how Yevtushenkov congratulates Ivanishvili on his birthday.

This call was recorded on 18.02.2022, six days before the Russian army invaded Ukraine.



V. Yevtushenkov - E



B. Ivanishvili - И

By THE MESSENGER STAFF

The Shame Movement appeals to Georgia's strategic partners to impose sanctions on Bidzina Ivanishvili.

According to them, "the new audio recording of a conversation

Weather

Tuesday, April 26

Day Partly Cloudy

High: 28°C

Night Partly Cloudy

Low: 14°C

Wednesday, April 27

Day Partly Cloudy

High: 28°C

Night Partly Cloudy

Low: 14°C

between Ivanishvili and sanctioned Russian oligarch Vladimir Evtushenkov once again confirms that Georgia's informal ruler, Bidzina Ivanishvili, is a Kremlin's advocate and helps Russian businessmen sanctioned by strategic partners avoid sanctions."

"The recording, dated March 10 and 12, 2022, is made at a time when Russian occupiers were killing innocent people in

Ukraine, raping women and children, burning their homes and bombing hospitals.

Bidzina Ivanishvili, on the instructions of Russia, overthrew Georgian democracy and returned the country to the Russian foreign vector for 9 years.

"We appeal to Georgia's strategic partners, the leadership of the European Union and the United States, to impose sanctions on Russian oligarch

Bidzina Ivanishvili, who has turned Georgia into a black hole for sanctioned Russian capital," the statement said.

Audio recordings are circulating on the Internet, where a conversation is allegedly between Bidzina Ivanishvili and the Russian sanctioned oligarch, Vladimir Evtushenkov.

In the recording, Evtushenkov allegedly asks Ivanishvili to circumvent the

sanctions if he so wishes. Names and surnames are heard - including the visit of Vice President Ali Uzdenov to Georgia in the company of a sanctioned Russian oligarch.

In the recording, Ivanishvili allegedly tells Yevtushenko that the situation is not favorable at all, "but we need to strengthen." In response, Yevtushenko allegedly says he has an idea and that "David will bring it."

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