

## Georgian Government Sues President Regarding Ambassadorial Appointments



According to the government of Georgia, it is the prerogative of only the executive authority to engage in the domestic and foreign policies.

BY KHATIA BZHALAVA

The Government of Georgia announced yesterday that it had filed a lawsuit in the Constitutional Court regarding the separation of powers with President Salome Zourabichvili over the ambassadorial appointments. According to the Government, the Government of Georgia

is the only supreme body of the executive authority, which "carries out domestic and foreign policies of the country."

According to a statement published by the Government of Georgia, the Constitution does not grant the President any authority to engage in domestic and foreign policies, as it is the prerogative of the executive au-

thority. The Government notes that according to the Constitution of Georgia, it is the exclusive competence of the Government of Georgia to judge whether the performance of any ambassador or diplomatic mission chief in any given circumstance is the most justified in any given state or institution for pursuing the effective foreign policy.

"The Government of Georgia believes that appointment of ambassadors or rejection of a proposal for their dismissal is not a constitutional authority of the President of Georgia," the statement reads.

The statement notes that considering the above-mentioned, the Government of Georgia seeks clarification on the delineation of authority between the President and Government of Georgia with a constitutional case of litigation in relation to the appointment and dismissal of ambassadors and diplomatic mission chiefs.

The GD Government noted in mid-March that it was going to file the lawsuit, claiming the President pursued foreign policy by side-stepping the executive branch. The governing party claimed the President had violated the Constitution on several occasions, including by unauthorized visits to Paris and Brussels, amid Russia's invasion of Ukraine. They also noted that the President "repeatedly rejected" the appointment of Government-nominated ambassadors and heads of diplomatic missions over the past year.

Zourabichvili has denied rejecting the nominations, saying that every appointment request had been satisfied by Presidential decrees. However, she added that "it would be very good" if the Constitutional Court separated some competencies of the President and the Government and made clarifications.



Salome Zourabishvili has denied rejecting the nominations, saying that all diplomatic candidates proposed by the Government had been approved by Presidential decrees.

### The News in Brief

## President Zourabishvili Says Violent Groups Damage Georgia's EU Path

BY MESSENGER STAFF

According to President Salome Zourabishvili, it's probable that the intensification of pro-Russian, violent, homophobic, and anti-European groups during the most important moments for the country is not spontaneous, but controlled.

"In a country with more than 80% of the population in favor of EU membership and European path, it is not logical to think that the intensification of pro-Russian, violent, homophobic, and anti-European groups during the most important moments for the country are spontaneous and not controlled.

These are deliberate actions to damage the country's European path, which do not express the opinion of the Georgian people and are not consistent with their European choice.

This is a plan to prevent Georgia from being an anti-Western and anti-European state through similar provocations. What else can be the aim of such planned and successive violence on the street, violence against politicians, violence against female politicians, attacks on ambassadors and European principles, or calls to insult the European symbol?

Such actions are completely unacceptable and should be condemned, as they harm the European future of the country," Salome Zourabishvili says in her statement.

Exchange Rates: US Dollar - 2.9624; Euro - 3.1772; GBP - 3.7175; 100 Russian Ruble - 4.8061; Swiss Franc - 3.0801

# Based on Audit Appeal, Alt-Info Fined ₾ 220,000



BY NATALIA KOCHIASHVILI

Based on the appeal of the Audit Service, the court fined the pro-Russian and violent party 'Alt-Info' fined up to ₾ 220,000. Audit Service accused the party of incorrectly submitting the 2021 declaration and hiding non-monetary donations.

According to the Audit Office, in the 2021 declaration, the party stated that they had no financial turnover in December. As for hiding non-monetary donations, the declaration did not reflect office or other inventory services.

The State Audit argued party had not declared funds in the amount of ₾ 72 thousand. Per Georgian legislation and the Court's ruling delivered on June 3, the party must now pay 3 times that amount.

The Audit took issue with the

party on 2 points, including for non-reporting financial turnover for December in a 2021 declaration, despite opening offices throughout Georgia that month.

Secondly, the party had hidden non-cash donations they had received in the form of 'branded materials and the renovation of regional offices'.

As one of the leaders of the party, Koka Morgoshia, told TV Pirveli, they are going to appeal the court decision.

"This fine was written on Friday. Approximately ₾ 220 thousand. They brought us out as if we were spending wrongfully... We have donors and it will not be difficult for us, nor will we have a problem with this fine, however we will appeal anyway and if they still get a verdict, we will obey the law. If there is a final verdict, I am going to pay," he commented

# Investigation into Attack on Republican Party Leaders Launched under Article 126

BY NATALIA KOCHIASHVILI

The Ministry of Internal Affairs has launched an investigation into the fact of attacking the leaders of the "Republican Party" under Article 126,

which entails violence. Khatuna Samnidze and Davit Berdzenishvili, the chairmen of the Republican Party, were attacked by 2 people on Rustaveli Avenue on June 6.

According to the MP



Samnidze, during the incident, she herself called the police crew, which has been standing near the Georgian Parliament building in recent months. Police identified and arrested both persons.

According to their interview with 'Formula', the attackers cursed them for their political activities and then physically attacked.

"I was trying to have a calm

conversation, but it was not in their interest. Then we were told, that my brother was swearing to their saint. I told him that King Erekle was not a saint, then he started swearing, saying we could not pass the road here, he verbally insulted Khatuna directly." Berdzenishvili said, adding that as he had remembered this Mr. Khomasuridze from that homophobic circle, who opposed the screening of movie 'And then we danced'.

"He is a representative of the orcs and we will see how the government will behave."

According to Berdzenishvili, he and Samnidze have not been interviewed yet.

BY NATALIA KOCHIASHVILI

Georgia's Weightlifting World Champion, Olympic Champion and record-breaking athlete Lasha Talakhadze has become a 6-time winner of the European Championship on Sunday.

Talakhadze claimed 3 gold medals in the +109 kg weight category after lifting 217 kg in snatch, 245 kg in clean and jerk and 462 kg in total.

The achievement comes after he was named the European Weightlifting Federation's Weightlifter of the year in May after receiving 4,750 votes in an online poll run by the EWF.

Talakhadze earned his latest Olympic Champion's title last year in Tokyo. There he was one of the co-flag bearers of the Georgian flag at the opening ceremony. 2 years ago he claimed his third straight Best Male Lifter title in an International Weightlifting Federation ranking.

Georgian Athlete is also the recipient of the Presidential Order of the Excellence of Georgia for his achievements at the 2016 Olympic Games, and earned Georgia's Sportsman of the Year titles in 2017, 2018 and 2021.

# Lasha Talakhadze Becomes 6 Time European Champion



## Weather

Tuesday, June 7

Day T-storm High: 29°C

Night T-storm Low: 19°C

Wednesday, June 8

Day T-storm High: 29°C

Night T-storm Low: 19°C

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