

Kelly Degnan speaks about 12 recommendations of EU and sanctioned list demanded from Ukrainian side

BY LIZA MCHEDLIDZE

"Georgian leaders and all Georgians should focus on the 12 recommendations of the European Union. There is considerable opportunity for a country to conduct a very normal process of having differing opinions on how to address these 12 recommendations. This will send a very strong signal to the European Union," US Ambassador to Georgia Kelly Degnan said.

According to her, it is important to combine different views related to the 12 recommendations.

"Good work is underway on how to implement the 12 recommendations, now the task is to gather these views into a single document, where the diverse views of Georgia will be represented. Ambassador also noted that "The EU wants to see the unity of these voices, a strong response to the 12 recommendations, in which many voices will be united,".

When asked how she evaluates the comments of the representatives of the Georgian government regarding the fact that the participants of the "Glory to Ukraine" international conference in Tbilisi are enemies of Georgia, the ambassador replied that the mentioned conference is a very good way to exchange thoughts and ideas on important topics.



"The United States is a supporter of inclusive dialogue, and we believe that this is a very necessary thing. This conference is an opportunity to exchange ideas. This year's conference focuses on the topic of Ukraine, Russia's aggression against Ukraine, and what this war means for the region. This con-

ference is also an opportunity to exchange ideas on how to achieve peace, how to improve the stability of the region and the prosperity of Georgia and its democratic development" the Ambassador noted.

US Ambassador to Georgia Kelly Degnan was also asked about the list of 15 People whom

the Ukrainian side is demanding to be sanctioned, out of which 12 are Georgians, including Bidzina Ivanishvili. Kelly Degnan said that she has no information about this, however, sanctions are generally an important tool.

I can say that sanctions are a very important tool and can be

very effective, as we see with Russia and what we will continue to see because the sanctions that the world has imposed on Russia will have an effect in the future. The United States does not announce sanctions in advance until they are imposed," said Kelly Degnan.

Bidzina Ivanishvili's dispute with Credit Suisse continues in the Singapore court



BY LIZA MCHEDLIDZE

The former Prime Minister of Georgia, Bidzina Ivanishvili, blames Credit Suisse's trust group in Singapore for the loss of 1.27 billion dollars. The trial is ongoing in a Singapore court.

As Reuters writes, Bidzina Ivanishvili joined the trial online from Georgia and stated at the trial that Credit Suisse's trust unit in Singapore (trustee) failed to act to prevent her from losing 1.27 billion dollars.

"I thought I went to experts who would work to protect my capital and my family," Ivanishvili said about the Swiss bank.

Ivanishvili accused Credit Suisse, a trust company operating in Singapore, of failing to take care of Ivanishvili's investments and "taking appropriate steps" to protect him from fraud by Geneva-based banker Patrice

Lescaudron.

Representatives of Credit Suisse's trust unit said at the Singapore trial that the amount the plaintiffs are demanding from the bank is extremely high and they are asking the court to dismiss the suit.

According to Ivanishvili's lawyers, the bank's representative estimated Ivanishvili's loss at 818.2 million dollars, although they believe that the loss is 1.27 billion dollars.

The publication writes that at the same time, the new CEO of Credit Suisse, Ulrich Kerner, is trying to stabilize the bank after the scandals related to the bank.

Bidzina Ivanishvili's lawyers stated in the Singapore court that in 2005, Bidzina Ivanishvili invested \$1.1 billion in the Credit Suisse trust, and Ivanishvili's banker, Patrice Lescaudron,

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The News in Brief

PREPARED BY MESSENGER STAFF

President Zelenskyy thanks President Zourabichvili and Georgia in his letter

The President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelenskyy wrote a letter to Salome Zourabichvili



and thanked Georgia for its support and personally thanked Zourabichvili for participating in the second summit of the Crimean Platform. The letter was read by the temporary representative of Ukrainian affairs in Georgia, Andrei Kasyanov, at the international conference "Glory to Ukraine" in Tbilisi.

"I would like to express my sincere gratitude to your country and personally thank you, Mrs. President, for participating

in the second summit of the Crimean Platform. This summit was a demonstration of the unity, strength, and determination of world democracies in protecting Ukraine and the international order from Russian aggression. It is very important that the participants of the summit declared that they will not accept the temporary occupation

of Crimea by Russia and will never recognize the annexation of the sovereign territory of Ukraine. The summit also affirmed the legal right of the Ukrainian people to defend themselves from Russian aggression (which began with the annexation of Crimea in 2014) to liberate the entire territory of Ukraine within internationally recognized borders, including the Crimean peninsula.

I am grateful for your

country's unwavering support for Ukraine, which is invaluable to us as Chen's support brings us closer to victory. We must do everything to free our country from the occupiers as soon as possible and bring to justice those who are responsible for the aggressive and criminal war. I look forward to continuing cooperation within the framework of the Crimean Platform - your country's participation in the first Parliamentary Summit of the Crimean Platform and the Black Sea Security Conference. I firmly believe that we will defeat the aggressor with a united force", Volodymyr Zelenskyy's letter reads.

This year's theme of the conference organized by McCain Institute, George W. Bush Institute and EPRC is Ukraine. The international conference started in Tbilisi on September 5.

Georgian Parliament Begins Discussions on President's veto



At the plenary session of the Parliament, the so-called Discussion of the President's motivated remarks regarding the wiretapping law began.

The Parliamentary Secretary of the President of Georgia, Giorgi Mskhiladze, will present the motivated remarks of the President on the law "On Amendments to the Criminal Procedure Code of Georgia" at the plenary session.

As he said at the meeting, while the Prime Minister is in Brussels at the meeting of the Georgia-EU Association Council, it is unfortunate that the Parliament plans to veto the law that was established on human rights in Georgia.

The President offers legislators to leave the current law unchanged. According to the president's assessment, the legislative changes adopted by the management team's initiative worsen the standard of human rights protection. Salome Zourabichvili emphasizes that the process of adopting the law

took place without broad public involvement.

In the remarks submitted to the Parliament, the President also notes that today, when Georgia is waiting for the most important decision in the process of European integration, the law adopted by the Parliament regarding secret hearings is not a step forward and hinders the process.

On June 7, the Parliament approved the draft of amendments to the "Criminal Procedural Code". With the adopted draft law, the list of criminal offenses in relation to which it will be possible to conduct undercover investigative actions is increased. The deadlines for conducting undercover investigative actions are also increased.

On September 5, the Committee of Legal Affairs discussed the President's motivated remarks on the "Procedural Code of Criminal Law", and the Committee did not support the President's veto.

Bidzina Ivanishvili's dispute with Credit Suisse continues in the Singapore court

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started fraudulently managing and acquiring the trust's investments in 2007.

Reuters writes that in 2018, a Swiss court found Patrice Lescaudron guilty of forging the signatures of former clients, including Ivanishvili, over an eight-year period. According to court documents, Lescaudron later committed suicide.

In July, Bidzina Ivanishvili's human rights legal company released a statement, in which it was said that Ivanishvili received a letter from Credit Suisse, a Swiss bank. According to them, the letter explained that the resolution adopted by the European Parliament on the imposition of sanctions on Ivanishvili gave rise to obliga-

tions on the part of the bank, which is why the trust (trustee) will no longer take actions regarding Bidzina Ivanishvili's money without the court's consent.

Credit Suisse is selling its global trust business to The Bank of NT Butterfield & Son Limited, based in Guernsey, Singapore and the Bahamas, according to

international media reports today.

Bidzina Ivanishvili has several lawsuits with Credit Suisse, one of which he won. According to the recent decision of the Supreme Court of Bermuda, CS Life, a subsidiary of Credit Suisse, was ordered to pay Bidzina Ivanishvili \$607.35 million.

Weather

Wednesday, September 7

Day Light Rain High: 22°C

Night Cloudy Low: 14°C

Thursday, September 8

Day Partly Cloudy High: 22°C

Night Cloudy Low: 12°C

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