

Kobakhidze says the ruling party is ready to pass 'Ukrainian law' if opposition accepts

BY LIZA MCHEDLIDZE

Chairman of Georgian Dream Irakli Kobakhidze stated that if there is a consensus reached around the de-oligarchization bill, it will be made into a law.

"We adopted the Ukrainian law, which was approved by everyone, and we are proposing it to the opposition. If they want to participate in this, we are ready to pass the law, if not, then we will not pass it," said Kobakhidze.

"The Ukrainian law, which was not adapted to anyone, was not adapted to any Georgian politician, was sent to the Venice Commission. He also approved it and we offered it to the opposition as a basic version. There was an immediate objection for one simple reason. They saw that this law cannot affect Bidzina Ivanishvili, but it will affect many of their representatives, many of their leaders, including, first of all, Kezerashvili... They do not agree to pass this law. Yesterday they were talking about developing a law that would be tailored to Ivanishvili. They said this openly and publicly. Basically, they do not understand the essence of the principle of the legal state. One of the main principles during the adoption of the law is that it cannot be tailored to any individual," Kobakhidze said.

On October 3, the chairman of the "United National Movement" faction, Khatia Dekanoidze, told the media that the faction is working on a leg-



islative initiative related to de-oligarchization, which will affect Bidzina Ivanishvili. According to her, the demand of the opposition was never to translate the Ukrainian model, the main thing for them is to ban the influence of Bidzina Ivanishvili as an oligarch in political, social or public life of Georgia.

Another member of the "United National Movement", Levan Bezhashvili, called on the majority to work together on this bill.

"If the majority presents the bill, we will also present our version to the parliament and I hope that these two versions will be reconciled," he said.

The main part of the parliamentary opposition believes that if Georgia adopts a law that does not affect Bidzina Ivanishvili, the recommendation of the European Commission will not be considered fulfilled.

According to their position, without the reform of the court and prosecutor's office, the law

of de-oligarchization will not be effective and will only prevent the financing of a few parties and the media.

The legal committee supported the initiation of the de-oligarchization bill on October 3. The document will be sent to the Venice Commission for evaluation.

Five MPs leave 'Georgian Dream' and join 'People's Power'

BY LIZA MCHEDLIDZE

Five more MPs have announced leaving the "Georgian Dream" and joining the "People's Power" party which was founded by four of the deputies who left the ruling party.

In result, "People's Power" will be represented by 9 deputies in the Parliament of Georgia.

Despite leaving the "Georgian Dream", Mikeladze, Sepashvili, Kacharava, Japaridze and Beraia will remain in the parliamentary majority, similarly to the four of the founders of the party.

In addition to the deputies, several experts and several presenters of "Pos TV" television company joined the movement.

"The public movement "People's power" was founded by several parliamentarians, however, the composition of the movement soon expanded and at the first stage members of the



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Exchange Rates: US Dollar - 2.8150; Euro - 2.7860; GBP - 3.1956; 100 Russian Ruble - 4.7455; Swiss Franc - 2.8506

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Parliament from different districts joined it. Today we would like to present to society an even more expanded composition of the movement. The parliamentary composition of the movement is expanding.

In particular, 5 parliamentarians will be added to our parliamentary team - Eka Sepashvili, Viktor Japaridze, Davit Kacharava, Dachi Beraia and Zaal Mikeladze. In total, our movement will be represented in the Parliament of Georgia by 9 members, which means that we will have the third largest political group in the legislative body. In addition, experts joined the movement - Tamta Megrelishvili, Zurab Kadagidze, Davit Kartvelishvili, Tamar Chiburdanidze, Nukri

Shoshiashvili, Otar Chulukhadze, Nika Kobuladze and Ioane Shaishmelashvili," said Subar.

Prime Minister of Georgia, Irakli Gharibashvili, was asked by a journalist regarding these deputies who left the party.

"We are separated, they themselves separated themselves, that says it all, we have differences regarding their positions and that is why we are separated," he said.

According to the Prime Minister, every person has full right to make any decision that he thinks is right.

"This is how we understand democracy. We are a democratic

society, we should promote pluralism as much as possible, the development of different ideas, ideologies, and in the end, people should decide which ideology is acceptable. I've said it before and I'll say it again - we've had internal discussions about these issues and we've told them that we don't agree with their positions. We have made it clear. We told them that it was unacceptable for them to express these positions in such a way," Gharibashvili noted.

As the Prime Minister said Georgia is a small country with many challenges, some of the territories are occupied, "we need

more strong partners and allies".

"We need very good, strong connections with everyone, especially with our main partners - the United States of America and representatives of the European Union", Gharibashvili said.

Opposition party "Lelo" MP Davit Usupashvili was also asked regarding this matter by journalists:

"There is no apostate 9, there is an ascended 9, to whom the Supreme has granted the supreme privilege to voice their and other leaders' opinions about the world, directly and without change."

"Some of the MPs who formally

remained in the "Dream" are terribly dissatisfied, because they themselves are tired of speaking in a milder manner in order not to offend foreign countries something and should speak differently, but I know many people in the majority of "Dreams" who are no less worried about all this than others. Why did Ivanishvili decide to celebrate these 9 and follow these games? Rezo Gabriadze would give us a better answer. Those who are interested in the nuances of Georgian politics should listen to these 9, these are the people who voice the true thoughts of the "Georgian Dream" leaders.

The News in Brief

PREPARED BY MESSENGER STAFF

Georgian government does not want war, they understand that if it starts, they will change, Avidzba says

Akhra Avidzba, the commander of the Pyatnashka battalion fighting on the Russian side in Ukraine, says that "Western curators" are influenc-

ing the official Tbilisi in order to drag Georgia into the war, although according to Avidzba, the country's authorities do not want war.

"Georgian authorities honestly do not want war. They understand: if war starts, they will change. The opposition wants to release Mikheil Saakashvili from prison so that they can attack us," he said during a press conference in occupied Sokhumi.

Avidzba says that in 2008 Georgia was "loaded with a gun

nothing came out of there. Today, forces are being mobilized with them...Georgia is preparing for war. Whatever they think, we must prepare for it [war]. I have a second child with a Georgian woman. I have no complaint against the nation. I grew up with them in Sochi. At my gym, 90% are Georgians. But there is a difference between

Georgia will fulfill all 12 recommendations, PM Gharibashvili says

According to the Prime Minister of Georgia, Irakli Gharibashvili, they intend to

ment. All doors are open to all opposition parties and now the main thing is to ensure their involvement," said Irakli Gharibashvili.

On June 23, the European Council granted Ukraine and



their thinking and the thinking of their state. The most nationalist nations in the post-Soviet

space are Ukraine and Georgia," said Avidzba.

Avidzba is a former foreign relations aide to de facto president of Georgia's Russian-occupied Abkhazia region.

that then fired". According to him, "Georgia is preparing for war".

"Today, weapons are sent to them by ships from Turkey. Twice an exercise was conducted, for this reason they brought weapons to them and

fulfill the 12 recommendations created by the EU. According to him, the management team is motivated to implement the recommendations in a short period of time.

"Georgia will fulfill all these 12 recommendations, our government is involved, motivated as much as possible to fulfill all 12 recommendations as soon as possible. Here I would like to once again call on the opposition to participate in the working groups created in the Parlia-

Moldova the status of EU membership candidates, leaving Georgia without candidacy. The European Council, consisting of the leaders of the 27 member states of the European Union, took into account the recommendation published by the European Commission on June 17, which set preliminary conditions for Georgia to receive the candidate status. The European Commission included delogarchization among the conditions for granting status to Georgia.

Weather

Wednesday, October 5

Day Partly Cloudy
High: 30°C

Night Mostly Cloudy
Low: 17°C

Thursday, October 6

Day Partly Cloudy
High: 27°C

Night Mostly Cloudy
Low: 17°C

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43, Chovelidze st., Tbilisi, 0108, Georgia
Founded by Prof.

Zaza Gachechiladze

Tamar Gachechiladze
Publisher

Mob.: +995 599 565621; +995 577 760000
E-mail: messenger@messenger.com.ge
http://www.messenger.com.ge/

Nino Metreveli

Commercial Director

Mariam Mchedlidze

Editor-in-Chief

Khatuna Gogichaishvili

Layout Designer, Photographer

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On the occasion of the Day of German Unity, the Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany H.E. Ernst Peter Fischer and Mrs. Maria del Carmen Fischer held a reception on October 3.









