

Mikheil Saakashvili enjoys all the rights granted to him by the law, Minister of Justice Rati Bregadze says

By Liza Mchedlidze

According to the Minister of Justice Rati Bregadze, former President of Georgia Mikheil Saakashvili enjoys all the rights granted to him by the law.

Rati Bregadze said that the number of visitors to Saakashvili can be cited as an example to demonstrate this, which is 1500 visitors in total.

"For the last few days, we have been actively monitoring the attempts to create tension around the health condition of the convicted Mikheil Saakashvili and the slanderous campaign against the state. We should remind the public that since the day of the prisoner Mikheil Saakashvili's stay in the twelfth facility, which was October 1, 2021, he has been enjoying all the rights granted to him by the law.

While serving the sentence, all medical needs that Mikheil Saakashvili had were met by the state in a timely and adequate manner in the twelfth penitentiary institution, the eighteenth medical institution in Gldani, and later in the military hospital," said Rati Bregadze.

According to his explanation, while in the twelfth penitentiary institution, Saakashvili was prescribed medical treatment, which he did not take by his own decision.

"Due to his behavior, in order to minimize the possible risks of health deterioration, he was transferred to the multi-disciplinary clinic of the civil registry for relevant medical measures, where he is still under the



supervision of highly qualified medical personnel. Throughout this period, we have seen numerous attempts to discredit doctors and declare completely undeserved distrust towards them, which we have strongly condemned and we have repeatedly called on everyone to refrain from spreading inaccurate information.

Here, I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to all the doctors who faithfully carry out their professional duties despite many insults. In addition, we also applied to the

Levan Samkharauli National Bureau of Expertise to assess the health condition and an expert opinion has been scheduled.

Recently, one of the lawyers also spread information about the possible poisoning of Mikheil Saakashvili, to which we also had an immediate response and asked the Levan Samkharauli National Bureau of Expertise to conduct a toxicological examination, in which Mikheil Saakashvili himself refused to participate," said the minister.

As for the topic of taking Mikheil Saakashvili out of the

country for treatment, according to Rati Bregadze, the prisoner is serving his sentence in the penitentiary institutions on the territory of Georgia, and the Ministry of Justice does not have the legal leverage to make such a request.

"Equality before the law is one of the main constitutional values, which applies equally to any person in this country, and exceptions not foreseen by the law will not be allowed for anyone.

It is also well known to the public that the Empathy Center conducts an independent exami-

nation, in which foreign experts are also involved, and as you know, the state gave each of them the appropriate permits after the complete presentation of the documentation.

Based on the high responsibility that the state attaches to the life and health of each person, we express our readiness and suggest to the convicted Saakashvili to bring any doctor from any foreign clinic whom the state will give the opportunity to be involved in his treatment," said Rati Bregadze.

NATO ministers discuss support of Georgia and Ukraine

By Liza Mchedlidze



A meeting of NATO foreign ministers was held in Bucharest. At the meeting, the ministers discussed the issue of support for the countries of the Balkans and the Black Sea region.

Before the meeting, NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg said that after the decision taken at the Bucharest summit, the alliance has strengthened its partnership with both Georgia and Ukraine.

"We made a decision regarding the membership of Ukraine and Georgia right here at the NATO summit in Bucharest. I was also there then, as the Prime Minister of Norway. I remember

this meeting very well. I am glad that since then we have strengthened our partnership with both Georgia and Ukraine. I expect the foreign ministers to repeat that NATO's door remains open. We have demonstrated that we fulfill the decision taken at the Bucharest summit not only in words, but also with actions," Stoltenberg said.

US Secretary of State Anthony Blinken also attended the ministerial meeting. As he noted, in addition to the alliance, the Black Sea region is also of strategic and vital importance to the United States.

According to Blinken the US will strengthen NATO's presence from the Black Sea to the Baltic Sea.

"The Black Sea region is of strategic and vital importance for us and for NATO. In this region we have three allies and

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Exchange Rates: US Dollar - 2.7153; Euro - 2.8196; GBP - 3.2638; 100 Russian Ruble - 4.4519; Swiss Franc - 2.8606

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also two close partners: Georgia and Ukraine. Russia has turned certain areas of the Black Sea into a war zone. We see missiles launched from ships in the direction of Ukrainian cities. Also the blocking of Ukrainian ports by Russia, which caused the most serious - a food crisis. We will strengthen NATO's presence from the Black Sea to the

Baltic Sea. The Black Sea region is a critically important component of NATO's defense and strategy," said the Secretary of State.

After the meeting held in Bucharest, NATO foreign ministers issued a joint statement.

The statement also mentions the support of Georgia and mentions that the foreign ministers are committed to the open door policy of the alliance.

"The Western Balkans and Black Sea regions are of strategic importance to the Alliance.

We welcome our meeting with the foreign ministers of NATO partners Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia and the Republic of Moldova as NATO steps up tailored support to build their integrity and resilience, build capacity and protect their

political independence. We are very committed to the Alliance's open door policy. We confirm our decisions we made at the 2008 Bucharest Summit and all subsequent decisions regarding Georgia and Ukraine," the statement reads.

The News in Brief

PREPARED BY MESSENGER STAFF

Saakashvili only receives food provided by his trusted persons, Minister of Justice says

According to him, Saakashvili is supplied with medicines by doctors and food by people who are trusted by him.

"Medicaments are naturally provided by medical personnel, and we have seen a number of slanderous campaigns about this, which can be considered as illegal interference in the work of a doctor.

about whom he is talking about," said Rati Bregadze.

Nino Tsilosani: lost lives of dozens of women do not allow us to be calm

changes about the roles of women in society, as well as breaking stereotyped attitudes through the education system and continuous reforms.

Every year, about 10,000 restraining orders are issued in Georgia, and the lives of dozens of lost women do not allow us to rest. However, we have taken a number



The Minister of Justice of Georgia, Rati Bregadze, was asked about the possible poisoning of former president Mikheil Saakashvili. The information was first spread by Saakashvili's lawyers. In response to a question regarding the possible poisoning of Mikheil Saakashvili, Bregadze called the statement 'immoral':

"If someone dares to make a similar statement that a doctor might poison someone, it is completely immoral," he said.

Therefore, if someone dares to make a similar statement about the doctor, that the doctor might poison someone, it is completely immoral.

As for the food - the convicted Saakashvili is provided only the food that is provided to him by his trusted persons, these are family members and also other persons to whom he has expressed his consent. Therefore, when someone dares to talk about food or medicine, he should be kind and draw appropriate conclusions



The member of the majority, Nino Tsilosani, spoke about violence against women at the plenary session of the Parliament.

According to her, the Gender Equality Council of the Parliament of Georgia joined the campaign against gender-based violence against women, which will be held for 16 days from November 25.

"There is a golden model for defeating this terrible form of violence - appropriate change in legislation and its subsequent effective enforcement, mental

of important steps, starting from legislative changes, to harmonization with the Istanbul Convention, and this has given us the fact that the number of restraining orders is increasing every year, which we and the sector appreciate as a positive trend. Because violence should not remain hidden, because the direct victims of violence are women, but at the same time the victims of violence are children," said Tsilosani.

She called on the society to join forces to fight both violence against women and violence in general.

EIB to help Kyiv to restore and modernise its transport infrastructure

On 28 November, the European Investment Bank (EIB) and the city of Kyiv signed



a memorandum of understanding on restoring and modernising the city's transport infrastructure.

The two sides will cooperate to enable much-needed work on the city's transport infrastructure, including to modernise the rolling stock of Kyiv Metro. The current estimated project value is •450 million, intended to help stop Kyiv's reliance on Russian metro rolling stock and related spare parts. Currently, 80% of the city's metro coaches are Russian-made, with more than half of those in need of modernisation, upgrading or replacement.

In addition, Kyiv and EIB Global, the EIB Group's development branch, will begin preparing a number of other

projects, such as the extension of the Kyiv Metro at an estimated cost of over •500 million, and the reconstruction of social housing affected by Russian bombings.

"Despite this horrific war, we are planning many interesting and promising projects that, firstly, will be profitable as investments. Secondly, they will help us overcome the consequences of the war and build Greater Kyiv, which is innovative, sustainable and successful," said Kyiv Mayor Vitali Klitschko.

(euneighbourseast.eu)

Weather

Wednesday, November 30

Day Light Rain High: 9°C

Night Light Rain Low: 5°C

Thursday, December 1

Day Light Rain High: 6°C

Night Light Rain Low: 4°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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