

PM Gharibashvili accuses opposition of getting 'dividends' while addressing death of Georgian fighters in Ukraine

BY LIZA MCHEDLIDZE

The Prime Minister of Georgia, Irakli Gharibashvili, expressed condolences to the families and loved ones of Georgian fighters killed in the war in Ukraine at the government meeting and said that their death is a great loss for Georgia:

"I would like to express my condolences to the families of the Georgian fighters who died in Ukraine, their loved ones, relatives - this is a great pain for us," he said.

According to him, the government has always ensured the transfer of the deceased in previous cases to Georgia.

"I honestly want to say, it is a big loss. Already 33 of our compatriots have died in this war in Ukraine, which, of course, is a tragedy for us. So, once again, my condolences to their families.

Also, I would like to clarify once again that according to the decision of our government, in agreement with the families, the transfer of the deceased in all previous cases took place with the direct involvement of the government. These costs are fully covered by the government, and also, according to our decision, since most of them were ex-military, policemen, and officers, they took part in wars on our territory, all of them were buried with dignity, with military honors," said the PM.

Prime Minister Gharibashvili also accused the opposition of immorality for "trying to get some dividends from the issue of soldiers killed in the war."

"I also want to say, we are looking at the most sensitive issue of the last few days, a person died in the war, and some hypocritical, I must call it, fake, sold politicians are trying to get some dividends. Is there anything more immoral?"

I want to remind everyone, these people, these so-called 'the war party' and the party of sell-outs, since the beginning of the war in Ukraine, have tried and are



trying to arrange certain provocations. Unfortunately, they are organized even now - our fellow citizens are being taken to the war in Ukraine by the representatives of 'the war party'. Many of their provocations were prevented by our government, and we all remember well how their leader and their government behaved during the August war.

Prime Minister Gharibashvili's allegations were heavily criticized by the opposition. European Georgia leader Giga Bokeria called it 'Putinist propaganda' and said this is how the ruling party is

maintaining its power".

"They are so caught up in Putinist propaganda, which they use to maintain their own power, that they did not have the instinct to express their condolences, moreover, it seems that the whole team was forbidden to take a public position of sympathy on this issue."

According to MP Giga Bokeria, the government used Irakli Gharibashvili's condolences to the families of recently killed soldiers for "their poisonous propaganda full of lies."

"Until public pressure and political

statements of famous and influential people called for this, they did not consider it necessary to express their condolences. Then, apparently, they thought that they would be hurt a lot in terms of PR, but they used this condolence for their poisonous propaganda full of lies as if it was Georgia's fault that Russia attacked us.

They used this condolence for this traitorous idea as if their position will save us now, and not the strengthening of the country, which is what the government should be doing today," Bokeria said.



Minister of Justice says 'radical opposition' is using Saakashvili's health condition political benefits

BY LIZA MCHEDLIDZE

According to the Minister of Justice of Georgia, Rati Bregadze, the government is doing its best to fully protect the health of the former president, Mikheil Saakashvili.

According to Bregadze, Saakashvili is under the supervision of doctors at the Vivamed clinic. The Minister of Justice spoke about the steps taken by

the state regarding Mikheil Saakashvili's health and stated that he was receiving appropriate medical services.

"It is better for the doctors to speak. For my part, I can say that the government is doing its best to ensure that his right to health is fully protected, he has always received appropriate medical services from the government, be it in the penitentiary system or in the state hospital."

CONTINUED FROM Page 2

Exchange Rates: US Dollar - 2.6987; Euro - 2.8431; GBP - 3.3048; 100 Russian Ruble - 4.3353; Swiss Franc - 2.8835

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CONTINUED FROM Page 1

tiary institution, in the treatment penitentiary institution number 18, and also in Gori Military Hospital.

As you know, he was in the 12th penitentiary institution,

where he was prescribed medical treatment, however, by his own decision, he did not carry out treatment fully. In order to rule out the risk of further complications, he was transferred to the “Vivamed” clinic and is under the supervision of doctors.

The state is doing its best both for this particular convicted person and for all other persons who are in penitentiary institutions, this will continue in the future as well,” said Bregadze.

According to him, part of the ‘radical opposition’ is trying to use Saakashvili’s health condition for their own political benefits.

“Of course, part of the radical opposition is trying to use this for a political agenda. We also saw the lawyer’s statement, where he said that the report would be confidential, which would be submitted to the court, and no one would have access to it. However, we see politicians who are “know-it-all” and talk

about the health condition of the convicted Mikheil Saakashvili, making their own assessments, which of course is not correct, nor completely moral and ethical, when these people try to use this specific information for their own political purposes.

It can be safely said that until now there has been little interest in health protection. A concrete example of this is when Mikheil Saakashvili announced a hunger strike, instead of calling for an end to the hunger strike, on certain TV channels they directly called that the end of the hunger strike would be the price of political suicide, and it should not be done under any circum-

stances, and they tried to equate it with a heroic act, which was totally unacceptable.

Anyone who doesn’t call on a starving person to stop their hunger strike is very weak in morals, and I really doubt that anyone who tells a starving person to go on a hunger strike is genuinely interested in their health and not trying to use it for political purposes. Of course, there is morality in politics, there are red lines and everyone must follow them, however, unfortunately, in very many cases, similar steps are taken and these red lines, human and moral, are violated,” said Bregadze.

The News in Brief

PREPARED BY MESSENGER STAFF

President Salome Zourabichvili says International community should not make same mistakes with Russia again



Salome Zourabichvili, at a briefing within the framework of the official visit to Poland, said that the international community should no longer repeat past mistakes and, when ending the war in Ukraine, take into account not “Russia’s feelings”, but

those of its neighboring countries, which want to respect their borders.

“It is very important that we do not allow the international community to make the mistakes they made with Georgia, or during the occupation of Crimea. Russia should stop and accept that, like all other civi-

tee of security that my border is mine and you have to get used to your border”, Zourabichvili said.

The President of Georgia spoke about Georgia’s position towards Ukraine. According to Zourabichvili, Georgia is well aware of the price Ukraine pays for freedom, and the Georgian people are in solidarity with Ukraine. According to her, support for Ukraine is not only her position, but the position of the whole country.

“It is the position of the entire country that Georgia should be in solidarity with Ukraine and that Georgia cannot but support within its capabilities.” said Salome Zourabichvili.

Polish President Andrzej Duda thanks President Zourabichvili for stating her positions openly against Russian aggression

President of Poland Andrzej Duda at a briefing after a meeting thanked President of Georgia Salome Zourabichvili for stating her position openly many times and expressed his respect towards her:

“I want to express my great awe and respect for Salome Zourabichvili, who is the president of the country that is located in our part of Europe and historically and geographically understands the great dangers of Russian aggression not only for Ukraine, but also for Poland

and Georgia,” Duda said.

According to him, European security is under threat during the difficult period of Russian war crimes in Ukraine.

“It is a great honor for me to host Mrs. President Salome Zourabichvili in this difficult period, in this difficult time, when Russian aggression is taking place against Ukraine. It is no secret that our security is at risk - our common, European security is at risk.

I thanked Mrs. President very much for her position, the position that Mrs. President reveals regarding the current events, regarding Russian aggression. This is especially important for countries that are also victims of Russian aggression. It is very important to take such a position.” Andrzej Duda said.



Weather

Tuesday, December 6

Day Light Snow
High: 2°C

Night Light Snow
Low: 0°C

Wednesday, December 7

Day Light Snow
High: 3°C

Night Mostly Cloudy
Low: -3°C

lized countries, it has its borders and has no right to deploy its forces on the territory of other countries or to return to expansion, imperialist intentions.

The outcome of this war will definitely change the world and in no way should the old mistakes be made, the old vision that someone cares about Russia’s feelings. No, everyone should take care of the feelings of the small and big countries that have been living as neighbors around Russia for so long and could not receive the elementary guaran-

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therefore, the opinions expressed in some articles do not necessarily coincide with those of the newspaper. We take no responsibility for any claims made in advertisements.

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The Inclusive Dance Performance "IN C -Tbilisi", InForm – Platform for Inclusive Minds, for the first time performed an inclusive group of dancers at Royal District Theatre on December 1, 2, and 3.

"IN C - Tbilisi" brings together Tbilisi-based disabled and non-disabled dancers from Georgia, who have learned the choreographic material and performed together with dancers of Sasha Waltz & Guests.

The Messenger offers a photo report from the premiere of the performance.







