

Ministry of Foreign Affairs Summons Norwegian Ambassador to Georgia Regarding Mikheil Saakashvili's Human Rights Award and Her Comments

BY LIZA MCHEDLIDZE

The Ambassador of Norway to Georgia, Helene Sand Andresen, was asked a question about Mikheil Saakashvili being awarded the Human Rights Prize and responded to Prime Minister Irakli Gharibashvili's Anders Breivik comparison and called it 'extremely inappropriate'.

The written response of the Norwegian Ambassador was released by Mtavari Channel.

According to Helene Sand Andresen's response, the award which the third president of Georgia received is given annually by the conservative party of Norway and it does not express the positions of the Norwegian government.

"The Embassy of Norway in Tbilisi was not informed about the awarding of the former president, Saakashvili until we learned about it in the media. I will add that I am surprised by the comparison with the terrorist Behring Breivik, which I consider extremely inappropriate," said the Norwegian ambassador.

After Helene Sand Andresen's response was published, Andresen was summoned to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia regarding the award by the Norwegian conservative party to Mikheil Saakashvili for the promotion of human rights and Andresen's



comment on this matter.

"The Ambassador in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia explained the negative attitude of the Georgian side due to the mentioned fact, which is related to the violations of human rights and abuse of power by the government during the rule of Mikheil Saakashvili, for which Mikheil Saakashvili and many

representatives of his government have been convicted or have already served their sentences.

As it was mentioned in the agency, the mentioned step of the conservative party of Norway does not contribute to depolarization in Georgian society and is insulting to the citizens and their family members who

were victims of the criminal acts committed during the rule of Saakashvili. As the Ambassador of the Kingdom of Norway noted at the meeting, the awarding of the prize to Mikheil Saakashvili does not represent the position of the Norwegian government and is an initiative of a specific political party," the statement of the Ministry of

Foreign Affairs reads.

According to the Ministry's report, the parties at the meeting once again confirmed the friendly relations between Georgia and the Kingdom of Norway and expressed their readiness to promote the development of cooperation between the countries in the future.



Public Defender Levan Ioseliani Says Doctors of Council Not Waiting for His Permission to Visit Mikheil Saakashvili

BY LIZA MCHEDLIDZE

Public Defender Levan Ioseliani called the information 'false' that the doctor members of the council, created to monitor Mikheil Saakashvili's medical services, are waiting for Ioseliani's decision regarding visiting the convict.

"I would like to respond to the false information spread in the media, according to which doctors who are members of the council created to monitor the medical services of Mikheil Saakashvili are waiting for my decision regarding the visit of Mikheil Saakashvili.

First of all, I would like to mention that the Consilium, if necessary, makes the decision to visit the convicted person, and the public defender does not interfere in this process, except for the formal part, which is related to the issuing and signing of the credentials necessary to visit the convicted person. The above has been done on my part and credentials will be provided at any time upon request.

Even last week, during the meeting with the Consilium, I informed them about Mikheil Saakashvili's wish to be visited by the Consilium. In addition, I unambiguously explained that the Consilium would have all kinds of assistance from my side.

Also, I would like to emphasize once again that all the monitoring mechanisms of the Public Defender regarding Mikheil Saakashvili's health are maintained, and there is no threat of any interruption to this process from me," said Levan Ioseliani.

The News in Brief

PREPARED BY MESSENGER STAFF

Mikheil Saakashvili appeals to Public Defender Levan Ioseliani to be Visited by Ombudsman Council



Mikheil Saakashvili
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The third president of Georgia, Mikheil Saakashvili, appealed to the public defender, Levan Ioseliani, and asked him to be visited by the Ombudsman council.

According to Saakashvili, his health has worsened in recent days.

“In recent days, my health condition has worsened again. When I met with Public Defender Levan Ioseliani, we agreed that the council staffed by highly qualified specialists at his office would continue to work. I have been asking for the council’s visit for several days now, as

far as I know, they are ready.

I ask the public defender to facilitate this process, especially considering the fact that the government stubbornly does not allow EU doctors into the country, this council is particularly important,” said Saakashvili.

Irakli Gharibashvili Meets with President of Eurochambres and Czech Chamber of Commerce

The Prime Minister of Georgia Irakli Gharibashvili met with the President of the Czech Chamber of Commerce and Eurochambres Vladimír Dlouhý.

According to the press service of the Prime Minister, the head of the government congratulated Vladimír Dlouhý on

his election as the president of the Eurochambres and wished him success in his future work.

The discussion at the meeting touched on the expansion of trade relations, trade liberalization and issues of export markets. They discussed the investment potential of Georgia and the favorable business environment in the country for foreign investors. The importance of

logistics hub is being strengthened.

The meeting held in the government administration was attended by the Vice President of the Eurochambres, Rifat Hisarciklioglu and the Chief Executive Officer of Eurochambres Ben Butters.

From the Georgian side, the meeting was attended by the Vice Prime Minister, the Minister of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia Levan



Georgia’s unique location was emphasized and it was noted that the role of Georgia as a regional trade, digital, transport and

Davitashvili and the President of the Georgian Chamber of Commerce and Industry Giorgi Pertaia.

Georgia: Young European Ambassadors visit EU4Youth projects in Gori

On 28 March, a group of Young European Ambassadors (YEAs), together with representatives of the European Commission (DG NEAR) and the EU Delegation to Georgia, visited the EU-funded ‘EU4Youth: Social Entrepreneurship Ecosystem Development (SEED) Programme for Green Growth in Borderline Communities.

The project, which recently completed its activities, presented its results to the visitors. Young European Ambassadors met with some 40 project beneficiaries, introduced them to the YEAs’ initiative and shared



information on how to join the network.

“We draw plans of the future cooperation and expanding our networking in Gori municipality”, said Giorgi Kakulia, Networks Coordinator at EU NEIGHBOURS east programme.

The Innovation Knowledge Hub in Gori, created as part of the EU4Youth project and hosted by the ‘Biliki’ non-governmental organisation, also hosted the delegation.

YEAs also visited the ‘Leader’ sewing atelier, funded under the EU4Youth project. The workshop encourages women from vulnerable groups, including IDPs, and provides them with education to enhance their employment opportunities.

(euneighbourseast.eu)

Weather

Wednesday, March 29

Day Partly Cloudy
High: 23°C

Night Light Rain
Low: 4°C

Thursday, March 30

Day Cloudy/Windy
High: 9°C

Night Cloudy/Windy
Low: 2°C

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On the occasion of 202nd Anniversary of the Independence Day of the Hellenic Republic, the Ambassador of the Hellenic Republic in Georgia H.E. Maria Theodorou held a reception on March 27.



The Ambassador of the Hellenic Republic in Georgia H.E. Maria Theodorou



Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Georgia Mr. Teimuraz Janjalia









