

Badri Japaridze: Constant Attacks on US Ambassador Aim to Discredit Closest Partner, the United States

BY LIZA MCHEDLIDZE

According to Badri Japaridze, a Lelo party leader, the unwavering significance of the United States as a loyal ally to Georgia and its people remains steadfast, despite the continuous efforts of the 'Georgian Dream' party to discredit the United States through their consistent attacks on the US ambassador to Georgia, Kelly Degnan.

In Japaridze's view, Kelly Degnan has not undertaken any initiatives to promote a constructive dialogue among the diverse political factions. Additionally, he stated that Kelly Degnan tirelessly dedicated herself to nurturing a process of constructive dialogue among a wide array of political groups, encompassing both the ruling party and opposition parties.

Lelo party leader emphasized that Degnan held a strong conviction that such a dialogue would play a pivotal role in advancing democracy in Georgia, all the while carefully considering the best interests of the nation.

"Throughout her tenure as the Ambassador of the United States of



America to Georgia, and as an ambassador representing our country's closest strategic ally and friend, Kelly Degnan worked tirelessly to foster a process of constructive dialogue among diverse political groups—both the ruling party and opposition parties. She strongly believed that this dialogue would contribute to the advancement of democracy in Georgia while considering the nation's best interests. Regrettably, the 'Georgian Dream' party and its affiliates responded to the ambassador's efforts with a coordinated personal attack against her. The continuous attack on the US ambassador is evidently an attempt to discredit our closest partner, the United States. However, despite these endeavors by the 'Georgian Dream,' the unwavering partnership between the United States and Georgia, as well as the Georgian people, remains of paramount importance. Kelly Degnan's initiatives aimed to deepen this partnership and friendship. I wish to express gratitude for her contributions in Georgia and extend well wishes for her future endeavors," stated Japaridze.

Irakli Kadagishvili Accuses Kelly Degnan's Statement of 'Revolutionary Scenario' in Election Process

BY LIZA MCHEDLIDZE

In a recent interview with Radio Liberty, US Ambassador to Georgia Kelly Degnan encouraged citizens to actively participate in the upcoming elections. She expressed her optimism for improvements in the 2024 elections and emphasized that the crucial aspect is not just the USA's confidence in the outcome but rather the faith of the Georgian people that the elections are fair and reflective of their will.

Irakli Kadagishvili, a member of the parliamentary majority representing the 'Georgian Dream' party, has remarked that Degnan's statement urging Georgians to vote is saturated with politics. As per Kadagishvili, this statement is suggestive of a push towards conducting the election process in a "revolutionary scenario".

"In 2020, we observed the elections being unilaterally recognized, and concurrently, the crisis was facilitated. However, no piece of evidence, document, or testimony could substantiate claims of election falsification. It was widely acknowledged that the introduction of an electronic vote-counting system could mitigate falsification issues and ensure prompt result announcements. While this system has gained acceptance, we have already witnessed a coordinated assault on its credibility. The ambassador issued a statement, followed by one political party, and naturally, others will follow suit. This orchestration fosters the perception that even elections conducted via the electronic system could be manipulated. Essentially, this narrative implies that even banks are susceptible to



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robbery. This narrative seems geared to cultivate a societal inclination that lays

the groundwork for transforming a lost election into a revolutionary scenario. Unfortunately, this appears to be the underlying objective of the current campaign

that commenced yesterday and today. My hope is for the incoming ambassador, who is due to arrive in Georgia in September, to actively foster the development of closer

and strategic relations between Georgia and the United States, as well as between the Georgian and American governments,” stated Kadagishvili.

The News in Brief

PREPARED BY MESSENGER STAFF

Russian Occupation Forces Illegally Detain Two Georgian Citizens

Upon receiving information about the incident, the State Security Service activated the ‘hotline’ operated by the EU Monitoring Mission.

The international partners and co-chairs of the international

“The responsibility for all destructive actions committed in the occupied territories of Georgia, as well as along the occupation line, rests with the occupying power of Russia,” the agency stated.

to listen to people’s concerns and share their ideas and plans in a post on social media.

In his statement, Saakashvili mentioned that facing challenging times ahead makes it crucial for everyone to unite more than ever. He acknowledged that the country is dealing with significant obstacles and emphasized that achieving progress and modernizing Georgia would be impossible without the active participation of the Georgian people.

“Together, with the involvement of everyone, we must build a prosperous Georgia – a nation from which our people won’t

seek emigration but, conversely, where our compatriots will return to their homeland for a brighter future.

Many talented and accomplished citizens remain silent today. I wish to directly address you: every opinion matters. Share your thoughts with me on how Georgia should develop as a nation. While I find myself in Putin’s captivity today, my objective remains unaltered. My primary duty is to serve you faithfully – for you and with you! Nothing is impossible for us. Our finest days lie ahead. Victory is within reach!” Mikheil Saakashvili wrote.



The Russian occupation forces have unlawfully detained two Georgian citizens near the Akhalubani village in the Gori municipality. This information has been disseminated by the State Security Service.

discussions in Geneva have been informed about this unlawful action.

At this stage, all available mechanisms have been activated to secure the prompt release of the unlawfully detained individuals.

Mikheil Saakashvili Addresses Georgians Ahead of Election Campaign

Following Sopo Japaridze’s announcement of the launch of an election campaign on behalf of Mikheil Saakashvili on August 21, the former president of Georgia, asserted his readiness



Mikheil Saakashvili

1.3M followers • 0 following

EU and UNDP purchase 1,000 contactless ID card readers for war-affected communities in Ukraine

On 21 August, the European Union and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), in partnership with the Ministry of Digital Transformation of Ukraine, delivered 1,000 contactless ID card readers to enhance the administrative services infrastructure in



the war-torn communities of Chernihiv, Dnipro, Kharkiv, Kherson, Kyiv, Mykolaiv, Poltava, Sumy, and Zaporizhzhia oblasts.

The devices will help to provide various administrative services, such as registration of births, marriages and deaths or place of residence and provision of other social services, and pensions. The contactless ID card readers will facilitate these procedures, reducing processing time.

“Through this and other initiatives, the European Union,

together with partners, intends to provide tangible support that improves the daily lives of citizens in war-affected communities,” said Frederik Coene, Head of Cooperation at the EU Delegation to Ukraine.

The contactless ID card readers were purchased and transferred by UNDP in Ukraine as part of the ‘EU4Recovery — Empowering Communities in Ukraine’ (EU4Recovery) project, with financial support from the EU.

(euneighbourseast.eu)

Weather

Wednesday, August 23

Day ☀️ Clear High: 33°C

Night 🌙 Clear Low: 19°C

Thursday, August 24

Day ☀️ Clear High: 32°C

Night 🌙 Clear Low: 18°C

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