

# Irakli Kobakhidze Accuses President Salome **Zourabichvili of Violating the Constitution**

#### By Liza Mchedlidze

The government of Georgia recently denied President Salome Zourabichvili official working visits to 10 countries. Despite this, Zourabichvili arrived in Berlin on August 31 and held a meeting with the President of Germany.

"We are already aware that Salome Zourabichvili is opposed to European integration. While I wouldn't emphasize this too much, her actions also involve a violation of the constitution, and we must address this matter," stated Irakli Kobakhidze, Chairman of the Georgian Dream party.

According to Kobakhidze, the President's visits without government permission constitute a significant breach of the constitution. One potential mechanism for addressing this violation is impeachment, although the process requires the support of 100 votes in the parliament.

"If we were to approach the Constitutional Court, it would likely rule that the Georgian Constitution has indeed been directly violated in this case. The ruling would be straightforward based on a textual interpretation. However, it's worth noting that impeachment necessitates the backing of 100 votes, and Salome Zourabichvili is relying on the United National Movement for her support."



In response to Zourabichvili's visit to Germany, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia issued a statement clarifying that

the embassies are not involved in organizing the President's visits to Europe.

not coordinated with the government, the foreign embassies of Georgia are not engaged in the "Given that these visits are logistical and organizational as-

pects of these visits," the Ministry of Foreign Affairs explained.

# President Zourabichvili Echoes Politicians Hindering Georgia's EU Candidacy, Mamuka Mdinaradze Says

By Liza Mchedlidze

ccording to Mamuka Mdinaradze, Chairman of the Georgian Dream, Georgia holds a leading position in all important fields based on European Union criteria. He asserted that President of Georgia Salome Zourabichvili is attempting to 'justify' the decision against granting EU candidacy status to the country. Based on Mdinaradze's statement, President Zourabichvili is echoing the rhetoric of politicians who are actively working to obstruct Georgia's path to EU candidacy. According to Mdinaradze, Zourabichvili is intentionally disregarding the country's constitution.

ernment did not grant the president consent to express her stance on the candidate's status in Europe on behalf of Georgia.

However, despite the European Union's own criteria positioning Georgia in a leading role across all essential fields, the president is working to justify the decision against her country. She is echoing the rhetoric of politicians who are actively opposing the attainment of this status and inaccurately representing the choice of the Georgian people as pro-Russian. In addition to these challenges, the president is unreservedly and intentionally violating her country's constitution. Nevertheless, in the face of these obstacles and other influences that might be anti-Georgian or pseudo-Western, Georgia remains committed to advancing towards a full and dignified membership in the European family!" Mdinaradze wrote.



'The decision not to grant us the status was the right one," states the President of Georgia.

Members of the Georgian war party, supported by their television media, proudly defend her while questioning why the gov-

### P2 Politics/Economics

The Messenger

Exchange Rates: US Dollar - 2.6293;

Euro - **2.8596;** 

6; GBP - 3.3358;

8; 100 Russian Ruble - 2.7247;

247; Swiss Franc - 2.9841

## The News in Brief

PREPARED BY MESSENGER STAFF

Khazaradze Responds to Georgian Dream Chairman, Says Russian Government is Violating Georgia's Constitution by the chairman of the Georgian Dream, Irakli Kobakhidze. According to Khazaradze, the Russian government is presently violating the Constitution of Georgia. "Mostings between the Presi

"Meetings between the President of Georgia and their European counterparts should only concern our country's adversarGeorgian Constitution, it's the Russian government in the guise of the 'Georgian Dream' party, which is undermining the pro-Western choice established in the Constitution! Europe is the preferred path of the Georgian people, and it belongs to us. It represents a secure future for our nation and our children!" Khazaradze stated.

#### UNM's Sopo Japaridze Engages with Kakheti Voters, Highlighting Saakashvili's Influence

A member of the United National Movement, Sopo Japaridze, met with electors in Kakheti. Japaridze, who represents the interests of the third president, Mikheil Saakashvili, joined forces with Irakli Pavlenishvili, the deputy secretary general of the United National Movement, and Gigi Gigitelashvili, the deputy chairman of the United National Movement faction in the Telavi city council, to connect with the



local population at the Telavi market.

Sopo Japaridze highlighted the significant role of Kakheti for Mikheil Saakashvili.

"In a time when nobody believed in the potential for tourism development in Kakheti, Mikheil Saakashvili had faith and took decisive actions to bring about the progress we see today. He introduced Kakheti to the world, even during the wine embargo when the region faced its toughest challenges. He acquired land in Kvareli and hosted delegations from around the globe, effectively showcasing Kakheti to the world. Hence, the opinions and concerns of every citizen here hold great importance for Mikheil Saakashvili," Japaridze stated.

The leader of Lelo Georgia, Mamuka Khazaradze, has responded to the statement made

ies and those against European integration. If there's anything currently undermining the

Event

On the occasion of the Victory and Turkish Armed Forces Day, the Ambassador of the Republic of Türkiye H.E. Mr. Ali Kaan ORBAY and Military Attaché Col. Burak ALTINER held a Reception on August 30.







Weather

Friday, September 1 Day Clear High: 33°C Night D Clear Low: 21°C published by The Messenger

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 Nino Metreveli Commercial Director

Mariam Mchedlidze Editor-in-Chief

Khatuna Gogichaishvili Layout Designer, Photographer **The Alessenger** welcomes your contributions. If you are interested in submitting an article or news item please contact.

All contributions should be submitted by e-mail.

**The Messenger** Georgia's English language daily is an independent newspaper, and, 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 advertisments.

**The Messenger** preserves the style of a source written in English where possible.















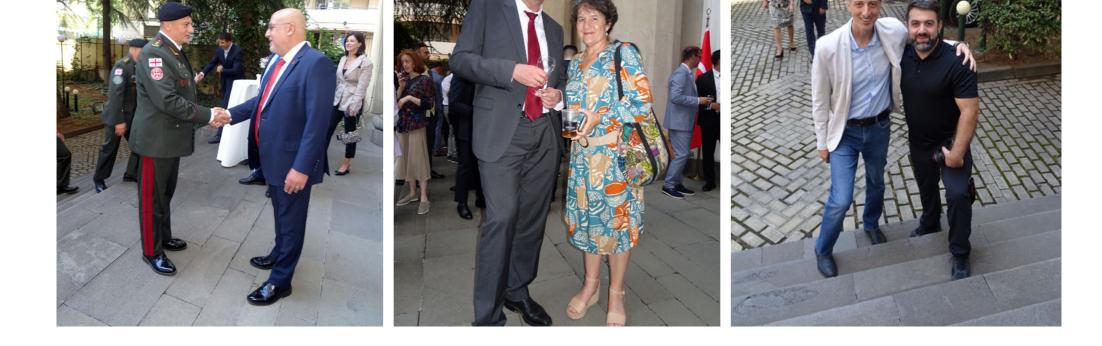




### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2023

# Event P5











### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2023

# **Event P7**















