

David Kramer Stresses the Need for International Pressure on Moscow Until Georgia Regains Full Control

BY LIZA MCHEDLIDZE

The 7th Tbilisi International Conference, themed 'Defeating Putinism', is scheduled to be hosted in Tbilisi by the McCain Institute for International Leadership, the George W. Bush Institute, and the Center for Economic Policy Research from September 4 to 5. On September 3, conference participants paid a visit to the village of Odzisi, situated in proximity to the occupation line.

Speaking from the village of Odzisi, near the occupation line, David Kramer, Managing Director for Global Policy at the George W. Bush Institute and former US Assistant Secretary of State, emphasized that what lies behind him is the territory of Georgia, not Russia. He stressed that the international community should never acknowledge the seizure of Georgia's territory, as witnessed 15 years ago.

According to Kramer, their commitment remains unwavering, and they will persist in standing alongside Georgia, extending support to the Georgian people as they pursue their democratic and Western-oriented goals.

"It's great to be back in Georgia, but it's sad that I have to stand here again, at the occupation line. This year marks the 15th anniversary of the Russian invasion of Georgia and the occupation of the Tskhinvali region. Now, as I stand here, I can see the territory of Georgia behind me, not Russia. The international community should never recognize the seizure of Georgia's territory, as we witnessed 15 years ago. We have received information that the demarcation line is being drawn, and innocent citizens are being detained. My colleagues and I, who



are in Georgia as part of an international conference set to begin tomorrow in Tbilisi, stand here at the occupation line to ensure that we never forget what happened here. It also serves as a reminder that beyond this occupation line lies the

territory of Georgia. We will continue to stand by Georgia and support the Georgian people on their democratic and Western-oriented path," said David Kramer.

As per Kramer's remarks, Russia's aggression began in Georgia 15 years ago

and subsequently extended to Ukraine, although it never ceased in Georgia. He believes that until Georgia regains control over its entire territory, the international community bears a responsibility to exert pressure on Moscow.

MEP Viola von Cramon: Georgia's Present Situation Echoes Past Mistakes After Russian Occupation

BY LIZA MCHEDLIDZE

MEP Viola von Cramon, speaking from the village of Odzisi

near the occupation line, has pointed out that the current situation in Georgia serves as a reminder of the significant mistake made when the necessary ac-

tions were not taken after Russia occupied Georgian territories.

Cramon pointed out that despite the political developments in Tbilisi appearing to lean towards improving relations with Russia, the situation along the occupation line remains unchanged. She emphasized that the European Parliament and institutions of the European Union continue to prioritize the matter of Georgia's territorial integrity.

"We are not here for the first time. I have been to the administrative dividing line many times before, even before the full-scale Russian invasion of Ukraine. However, today, it is even more important to show solidarity and observe what is happening. Obviously, it is disappointing for us because we see that all the international negotiations have yielded zero results so far. We understand that the situation is not changing for the better. Despite political developments in Tbilisi indicating an attempt to get closer to Russia, here at the occupation line, the situation does not change. The territorial integrity of Georgia remains a priority for us in the European Parlia-

ment and within the institutions of the European Union. The current situation in Georgia serves as a stark reminder of the significant mistake made when appropriate steps were not taken after Russia occupied Georgian territories. We observe significant solidarity towards Ukraine, but in the case of Georgia, unlike Ukraine, we have not taken the necessary measures. So, this was the main mistake," said Viola von Cramon.

Cramon also commented on the ruling party Georgian Dream initiating the impeachment procedure against President Salome Zourabichvili, accusing her of 'grossly violating' the Constitution of Georgia and undertaking a series of visits to foreign countries without the government's consent.

MEP expressed her belief that the government's move to impeach the president appears to be an attempt to deflect attention from genuine issues.

"In my view, it appears to be an attempt to shift society's focus away from real problems and redirect it towards other issues," said Viola von Cramon.



The News in Brief

PREPARED BY MESSENGER STAFF

Chairman of Georgian Dream Questions Impeachment Outcome Amidst Opposition Support for President



Mamuka Mdinardze, Chairman of the Georgian Dream, expressed the belief that the impeachment procedure would likely yield no results...

According to Mdinardze, regrettably, the President of Georgia's violation of the highest law of the country will be recorded in history.

"After learning about the President's serious violation of the Constitution of Georgia, we can honestly say that, following two days of careful consideration...

results, given the reactions we've witnessed from our opponents who have shielded the individual responsible for this constitutional breach.

However, we firmly believe

that a violation of the Constitution by the President, who should be the primary guardian of our nation's highest law, cannot go unanswered.

involves debating and subsequently initiating the impeachment process. While we have not yet secured the required 50 signatures, we are confident that during our majority meeting on Monday, we will gather significantly more signatures than needed.

Israeli Knesset Speaker Amir Ohana's Official Visit to Georgia

Speaker of the Knesset of the State of Israel, Amir Ohana, paid an official visit to Georgia.

On September 4, the Ohana will engage in meetings with representatives from the legislative and executive branches of Georgia.

Speaker of the Georgian Parliament, Shalva Papuashvili, will host Ohana at the legislative institution. Subsequently, the parliamentary leaders from

both countries will issue a joint statement to the press.

Amir Ohana is scheduled to meet with Georgia's Prime Minister, Irakli Gharibashvili, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Iliia Darchiashvili, and the Chairman of the Supreme Court, Nino Kadagidze.

On September 5, during a plenary session of the Georgian Parliament, Georgian lawmakers will extend a warm welcome to the Speaker of the Knesset of the State of Israel and his accom-

panying delegation.

As part of the visit, Amir Ohana will lay a wreath at the memorial honoring the heroes who sacrificed their lives for Georgia's territorial integrity. He will also visit the David Baazov Museum, which commemorates the history of Georgian Jews and Georgian-Jewish relations.



Weather

Monday, September 4

Day Partly Cloudy High: 25°C

Night Partly Cloudy Low: 15°C

Tuesday, September 5

Day Clear High: 29°C

Night Clear Low: 17°C

Advertisement for the XV International Festival 'Night Serenades' featuring various artists and orchestras across different cities like Borjomi, Batumi, and Tbilisi.

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