

United National Movement and Strategy Agmashenebeli Discuss Their US Visit

By Liza Mchedlidze

The United National Movement and Strategy Agmashenebeli provided an overview of their visit to the United States of America. During their campaign, they engaged in discussions with various key figures, including Alexander Sokolowski, the Deputy Administrator of the USAID Europe and Eurasia Bureau, and congressmen Robert Aderholt, Linda Sánchez, and Mike Turner. They also held meetings at the offices of Senators Ben Cardin and Amy Klobuchar and interacted with the Heritage Foundation and immigrant groups in New York.

According to Tina Bokuchava, chairman of the 'United National Movement,' the message reiterated in the U.S. capital is that Georgia must definitely receive the status of a candidate for EU membership.

According to Bokuchava, "The US is not formally a decision-maker on joining the European Union, although the US is an important part of the discussions leading up to the decision."

UNM chairman stated that the conversation addressed next year's parliamentary elections in Georgia and highlighted the importance of long-term observers.

"We've received assurances that there will be an unprecedented number of long-term observers in Georgia during the upcoming elections. These elec-



tions hold significant geopolitical importance for our Western partners. In meetings with organizations that typically organize such observation missions — IRI, NDI, and USAID, which fell victim to an unprecedented attack from the 'Russian Dream' aligned with Putin's interests — we were promised a substantial presence of long-term observers for Georgia," stated Bokuchava. Petre Tsiskarishvili, General

Secretary of the United National Movement, highlighted that the Americans had fundamental questions regarding the strategic partnership.

"From the Western perspective, two primary dimensions are considered: either a country serves as a geopolitical strategic partner with regional and military influence, akin to various nations in the Middle East, or it aligns with democratic values,

or both. In the case of Georgia, we aim to embody the spirit of both these dimensions. We assure our colleagues that in case of an opposition victory, Georgia will realign itself with both democratic values and a strategic geopolitical direction, reclaiming its former position maintained over the past two decades," stated Tsiskarishvili.

According to Alexander Crevaux-Asatiani, Deputy Sec-

retary of Foreign Relations for the United National Movement, the USA raised concerns about the Chinese Communist Party's emerging role as a strategic partner for Georgia.

"Establishing a strategic partnership with the Chinese Communist Party has made it evident to everyone in the West that the Georgian government is conducting an anti-Western campaign," added Crevaux-Asatiani.



Justice Minister Rati Bregadze Says Escaped Prisoners Do Not Pose a Threat to Society

By Liza Mchedlidze

Three prisoners escaped from the Aversi clinic in Tbilisi where they were brought for examination and medical research, specifically computer tomography. In response to the escape, Minister of Justice Rati Bregadze urged the escaped prisoners to surrender to law enforcement officers.

"A sad incident took place today. We confirm that three prisoners escaped from the medical facility when they were brought there. We cannot share more information at this stage. Operational and search measures are underway.

I call on these three persons to come to their senses in time and surrender to the law enforcement officers. Maybe with this, they will at least reduce their responsibility for the crime they commit-

ted today," said Bregadze.

The Justice Minister mentioned that the escaped prisoners do not pose a threat to society and the Ministry of Justice is collaborating with the Ministry of Internal Affairs on the matter.

"Certainly, various measures are being taken to apprehend these individuals promptly. They did not pose a threat to society; there is nothing dangerous. Similar types of crimes occur in all states; however, appropriate accountability arises. If any employee violated the law, they will be held responsible. I take the responsibility that necessary legal measures will be enacted," noted Bregadze.

According to the clinic, the transport service brought the prisoners to the medical facility on November 1, for an examination. They escaped from the clinic around 13:00.

The News in Brief

Prepared by Messenger Staff

State Security Service of Georgia: 7 Georgian Citizens Illegally Held in Occupied Tskhinvali Prison



Irakli Antadze, deputy director of the Analytical Department of the State Security Service of Georgia, stated that, according to the latest data, seven Georgian citizens are illegally imprisoned in the occupied Tskhinvali prison.

Antadze stated that on October 31, two people were kidnapped within 24 hours. The occupiers arrested a middle-aged man from the village of Takhtisdziri while he was out

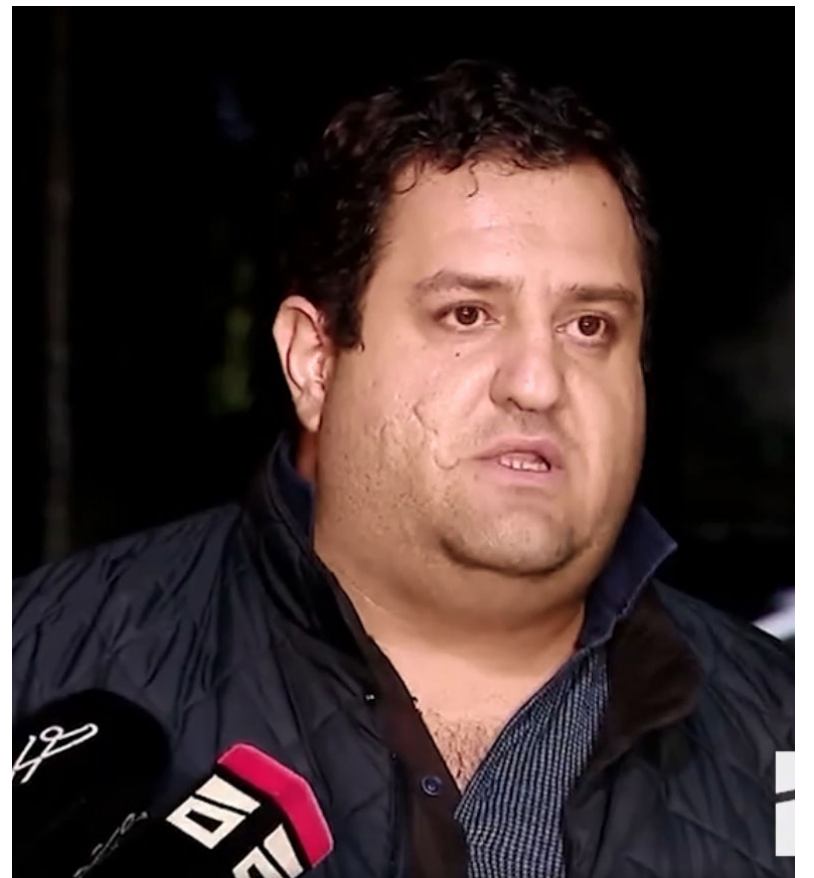
herding cattle. Prior to that incident, a citizen of Georgia was kidnapped from the Sinaguri village.

“As of today, we have seven illegal prisoners. Another illegal arrest occurred yesterday at 22:00. The circumstances and details are not known to us. The arrest took place in the surrounding area of the occupied village of Gvirgvina. A case of illegal border crossing was observed near the occupied village of Kardzman, and another case was observed in the Gori municipality. Additionally, yesterday, an illegal border crossing incident was observed in the territory of Ergneti,” said Antadze. He mentioned that within the last 2 months, there have been three cases of illegal border crossings.

United National Movement Member Reportedly Attacked in Dmanisi, UNM Accuses Georgian Dream of Orchestrating

On November 1, opposition party member Giorgi Tatuashvili from the United National Movement (UNM) was reportedly attacked in Dmanisi. The UNM stated that a shooting took place. The identity of the attackers remains unknown. However, the UNM accuses the ruling party Georgian Dream of orchestrating the incident.

The United National Movement appealed to the diplomatic corps to “consider this open political vendetta as part of the Russian criminal regime’s violent pre-election campaign for the 2024 parliamentary elections.”



Giorgi Tatuashvili served as the mayor of Dmanisi after being elected in 2017 while being a member of the Georgian Dream party. However, he was expelled from the ruling party in 2020.

The GRETA project, partially funded by the European Union, has highlighted its achievements at a final event in October to show how the project has benefited people living in the mountainous regions of Georgia.

The ‘Green Economy: Sustainable Mountain Tourism and Organic Agriculture’ (GRETA) project is implemented by the Austria Development Agency in Georgia with the support of the European Union, Austria, and Sweden. The project aimed to help improve the business environment and create new income opportunities in two important sectors of the Georgian economy, mountain tourism and organic agriculture. The project was active in Mestia, Lentekhi, Tsageri, Oni, Ambrolauri, Sachkhere, Tchiatura, and Tkibuli.

GRETA project in Georgia highlights achievements in strengthening mountain tourism and organic agriculture



Thanks to the project, more than 300 small and medium-sized entrepreneurs from mountain regions of Georgia expanded their opportunities through training in marketing, branding, and other commercial activity management skills.

In addition, 20 mountaineers received professional certification in accordance with international standards and about 30 representatives of private and public businesses were introduced to bioproduction through comprehensive training.

The project also established tea and wine associations and supported the creation of nine tourism products, which added new dimensions to the region’s attractiveness.

(euneighbourseast.eu)

Weather

Thursday, November 2

Day ☀️ Clear
High: 24°C

Night 🌙 Clear
Low: 11°C

Friday, November 3

Day ☁️ Partly Cloudy
High: 22°C

Night ☁️ Cloudy
Low: 12°C

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