# ALDE Adopts Resolution Calling for Sanctions Against Georgian Dream



#### By Liza Mchedlidze

The Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE) has adopted a resolution calling for the European Union (EU) to impose sanctions on the Georgian Dream government. Georgian politicians in attendance at the ALDE Council meeting in Vilnius have discussed the implications of this resolution.

The resolution specifically urges the EU to sanction Bidzina Ivanishvili and his fam-

ily members. Additionally, ALDE calls for visa restrictions and financial sanctions against pro-Russian lawmakers and violent law enforcement officers in Georgia.

At the same meeting, it was decided that Girchi-More Free-

dom would become a full member of ALDE, and Droa an affiliated member.

"The ALDE Council recently adopted a resolution that practically calls on the European institutions to cut off communication with the highest political officials of the Georgian Dream. It also calls on the European institutions to reconsider the issue of visa-free travel, especially if free and fair elections are not held in Georgia. The initiators of the resolution are ten parties from nine countries, which clearly shows the attitude of EU member states towards Georgia," Japaridze said.

Grigol Gegelia, a member of the political party Lelo, highlighted the significance of this development.

"The resolution initiated by leading European parties explicitly calls on EU governments to sanction all leaders of the Georgian Dream who undermine Georgian democracy and our European path. This includes Bidzina Ivanishvili, his family members, and officials from power institutions who violate the rights of peaceful demonstrators and trample democratic principles," Gegelia stated.

According to Gegelia, The resolution comes as a stern warning ahead of the upcoming EU foreign ministerial meeting.

"Everyone involved in actions that betray Georgia's historical pro-European stance, including those aligned with Russian interests, will face consequences from both the EU and the USA," Gegelia added.

# Georgian State Program Supports Overseas Oncology Treatment for Children

#### By Liza Mchedlidze

Georgian Deputy Health Minister Tamar Gabunia announced on Friday that 30 children diagnosed with cancer have completed their treatment abroad and returned to Georgia. These children were beneficiaries of a state program that finances oncological treatment in foreign medical institutions. Now, they will continue their health monitoring in Georgian clinics.

Launched in August last year, the programme has provided treatment for 92 children abroad, with three more recently joining. Gabunia detailed that six clinics are involved in this initiative, four located in Turkey and the others in Spain and Israel.

"The treatment of these children has amounted to 5.5 million GEL," Gabunia stated, emphasizing that there are no restrictions on including patients with a confirmed cancer diagnosis in the programme.

Gabunia explained that a special council, composed of international experts including doctors from the Georgian diaspora, evaluates each patient's condition before their inclusion in the program. This council also recommends which medical institution would be most suitable for each patient.

"The Ministry has certain statistics on the types of problems that might not be thoroughly managed in partner clinics," Gabunia noted, highlighting plans to expand the number of clinics involved in the programme to better address these issues.



Exchange Rates: US Dollar - 2.8001;

Euro - 2.9916;

GBP - 3.5382;

100 Russian Ruble - **3.1815**;

Swiss Franc - **3.1388** 

## The News in Brief

Prepared by Messenger Staff

**Prime Minister Advocates** 'Policy of Strategic Patience' at Georgi's Independence Day **Event in Berlin** 

"Germany is a symbol of how you can patiently build your own country. Germany patiently waited for decades for unification and integration, and finally, in 1989, the Germans achieved their dream. We also have a policy of strategic patience, and we are sure that with our



Prime Minister Irakli Kobakhidze spoke about the possibility of strengthening the country with the "policy of strategic patience" at an event dedicated to Georgia's Independence Day in Berlin.

policy, in the end, it will be possible to realize the dream of Georgia, the dream of Georgians, and Georgia will be a united and complete state," said Kobakhidze.

#### Damage Assessment Underway in Lagodekhi **Municipality After Severe** Hailstorm

A special commission in Lagodekhi municipality is currently assessing the aftermath of a devastating natural disaster after the hail wreaked havoc on vineing particularly challenging conditions.

The disaster has resulted in the destruction of both annual and perennial crops. According to affected farmers, vineyards have suffered extensive damage, with approximately 80% of them affected.

Since early morning, local government representatives have been on-site to evaluate the situation firsthand. The extent of



yards, watermelon, and melon gardens, compounded by strong winds and rain persisting for about 20 minutes. The communities of Labor and Ninigori are facthe damage is being meticulously calculated by the special commission to guide relief efforts and support for the affected areas.

# EU confirms launch of EU accessions negotiations with Ukraine and Moldova on 25 June in Luxembourg

The Council of the European Union today adopted the general EU positions, including negotiating frameworks, for accession negotiations with Ukraine and Moldova, the Belgian Presidency in the Council of the European Union announced on X (formerly Twitter).

"This opens the way for launching the negotiations on Tuesday 25 June in Luxembourg," the Belgian Presidency said, adding that at 15:30 will start an intergovernmental conference (IGC) with Ukraine, and at 18:00 - with Moldova.

"I am grateful to the EU Council and the Belgian Presidency for their robust political will," Ukrainian President Volodymyr

### Weather

Monday, June 24



Night ) Clear

Low: 20°C

Tuesday, June 25

Day Clear High: 33°C

Night Oclear Low: 19°C

Zelensky, wrote on X. "I am grateful to everyone on our team who worked hard to make this historic step a reality. Millions of Ukrainians, and indeed generations of our people, are realising their European dream. Ukraine is returning to Europe, where it has belonged for centuries, as a full-fledged member of the European community."

He also congratulated "Moldovan friends" and said that two countries "will make the EU stronger together".

President of Moldova Maia Sandu said today on X that she had signed the Decree on initiating Moldova's EU accession negotiations. "Becoming an EU member is our path to peace, prosperity, and a better life for all citizens. Wishing our delegation every success as they officially launch negotiations in Luxembourg next week," Sandu said.

(euneighbourseast.eu)

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