

NEWSLETTER (April,2015)

SUPPORTING PARLIAMENT OF GEORGIA INVOLVEMENT IN OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE

On 30th of April the Georgian Parliament became a part of Open Government Partnership. Within the scopes of the project Supporting Parliament of Georgia Involvement in Open Government Partnership Initiative the memorandum on Parliamentary openness was [signed](#).



The memorandum was signed by the chairman of the Parliament Mr. Davit Usuphashvili and by the members of international and non-governmental organizations of Open Parliament Georgia working group. From the side of IDFI the memorandum was signed by the founder and director – Giorgi Kldiashvili.

Before the signing ceremony, the chairman of board at IDFI – Levan Avalishvili [presented](#) organization's new study [The Issues of Open Parliament in OGP member countries](#). The representatives of Parliament and international and non-governmental organizations were attending the presentation. The meeting was chaired by MP Ms. Guguli Maghradze, who also is the chair of the

Editorial Board comprised by the MPs of the Inter-Factional Group.

In frames of the project IDFI organized the [first meeting](#) on 3th of April between inter-fractional group and open Parliament working group. The participants of the meeting were: the members of the Parliament and international and non-governmental organizations. The chairman of the meeting was the head of the inter-fractional group – Tinatin Khidasheli.

Later the members of the [meeting](#), that was held within the frameworks of the project discussed the issues related to raising the role of Georgian Parliament in OGP initiative and implementation of the principles of openness.

Advisers at Public Institutions

IDFI prepared the study Advisers at Public Institutions, which revealed:

1. Cases of nepotism and non-purpose expenditure of administrative expenses;
2. Several advisors of ministers are Intelligence officers
3. Duties and responsibilities of advisors are quite unclear

Statistical Information Received from the Prosecutor's Office on the Number of Red Notices Circulated by the INTERPOL as well as on Extraditing Wanted Nationals of Georgia (2010-15)

IDFI referred to the Prosecutor's Office and requested statistical information for the years of 2010-2015 on the number of motions filed by the Prosecutors Office to the General Assembly of INTERPOL with the request of circulating red notice and number of these motions granted. IDFI also requested statistical data on the number of motions filed to the law enforcement agencies of foreign countries on extraditing wanted nationals of Georgia and the ratio of granted and denied motions.

Round Table – Strengthening the Institute of Whistleblower protection in Georgia

A round table – Strengthening the Institute of Whistleblower Protection in Georgia was organized by civil service bureau, with support of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and Kingdom of Sweden. Within frames of the meeting, the director of IDFI – Giorgi Kldiashvili presented the recommendations of civil society on how to address existing gaps and challenges in Georgian legislation.

THE NUMBER OF IDP FAMILIES PROVIDED WITH ACCOMMODATION



Number of registered IDPs in 2015 is up to 263 598 person (122 383 men and 141 215 women). The information received by IDFI includes detailed living addresses of IDPs.

According to the analyse, 18 679 families received housing space since 2009.

For social insurance for IDP in 2014 the Ministry allocated the highest amount of funds (7 065 959 GEL).

Inconsistently Low Salary Remunerations at National Center for Manuscripts

IDFI requested public information from the National Center for Manuscripts. Received information revealed, that the salary remunerations at the Center is absolutely inconsistent to salary policy in public sector. There are 113 employees at the center and the highest salary (of the director) is equal to 490 GEL (after tax: 392). The average salary is 300 GEL.

Statistical Information on the Number of Infected with HIV-AIDS

Based on the information provided by the Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia IDFI prepared a statistical analyze about the amount of patients infected with C hepatitis HCV virus and HIV

Abortion Statistics in Georgia 2004-2014

On 16th of April 2015 the Ministry of Labour health and Social Affairs of Georgia provided the information on the amount of abortions in Georgia in 2013-2014. Based on same type of information of last years, IDFI revealed tendencies of abortion in Georgia between 2004 and 2014.

Tbilisi City Court Fully Granted the Appeal of IDFI vs. the Penitentiary Department

On 9th February 2015 the City Court fully granted the appeal of IDFI versus Penitentiary Department. The agency is obligated to provide requested information about bonuses, travelling allowances, diplomas and other public information.



Transparency of Real Estate Property Industry in USA and Appeal of CSOs to USA Government

Based on international informational medium IDFI presents conditions of real estate industry in USA, which involves an appeal of non-governmental organizations (including “Transparency international – USA”) to State Finance Department (Ministry) to revise the ancestry of foreign property owners.

Training for Students on Access to Public Information

Within the frames of the project “Personal Data Protection and Freedom of Expression,” which was organized by the TSU Student Self-Government and the European Law Students Association Georgia (ELSA), the representatives of IDFI – Nino Merebashvili and Tamar Iakobidze conducted training about legislative regulation of information and its practice in Georgia. The training lasted for two days.

Joint Statement of Non-Governmental and Media Organizations about Draft Law on Public Appeal of Violence Activities

IDFI joins the statement of non-governmental organizations and appeals to Georgian Parliament to act effectively with existing laws, to investigate hatred-motivated crimes and to defend the rights of vulnerable groups.

Coalition Opinion on the Prosecution Reform Concept

The Coalition for an Independent and Transparent Judiciary is examining the Prosecution Reform Concept, put toward by the Criminal Justice Reform Inter-Agency Coordination Council on April 8, 2015, which proposes several amendments to the rules of appointing the chief prosecutor. The Coalition made several recommendation, related to following issues:

1. Nomination of the chief prosecutorial candidate
2. Composition of the Prosecutorial Council
3. Final Decision-making in Parliament
4. Accountability of the Prosecution

NGOs Joint Statement on ex Prime Minister's opinions about Eka Gigauri and Kakha Kozhoridze

IDFI shares the position of NGOs and joins the appeal to ex Prime Minister, Bidzina Ivanishvili, who recently made negative statements about the leaders of civil society - Eka Gigauri (TI Georgia) and Kakha Kozhoridze (Ex head of GYLA)

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