

## [Open Government Partnership Representatives Meet with Open Government Georgia Stakehold- ers](#)



On April 5, 2017, national stakeholders of the Open Government Georgia met with the Open Government Partnership (OGP) Support Unit Deputy Director Joe Powel and Director for Civil Society Engagement Paul Maassen.

The workshop was to discuss Georgia's vision, plans and expectations as the country assumes the chairmanship of the Open Government Partnership (OGP) Steering Committee in October 2017. [Learn more](#)

## [Discussion on the Importance of Public Private Dialogue at the Stage of Policy Development](#)



On March 30, 2017 IDFI hosted discussion on the Importance of Dialogue with the Private Sector During the Draft Law Concept Development Stage. The event enabled over 30 representatives from private and public institutions to talk about the importance and the need of PPD from the very outset of reform planning process.

“Public participation is essential in the process of developing effective legislation. The only tool to evaluate the quality of Public

-Private Dialogue (PPD) in the process of developing new draft laws is IDFI's ongoing initiative" - said Tamar Kapianidze of USAID G4G. [Learn more](#)

## **Workshop with Private Sector Representatives - Internet Regulation in Georgia**



IDFI organized a workshop on the regulation of blocking, filtering and removal of online content in Georgia. Representatives of the following civil society and private organizations attended the meeting: Magticom, Geocell, Beeline, Caucasus Online, Silknet, Small and Medium Telecom Operators Association of Georgia, Adjara.com, LPA and Digital Report.

The goal of the event was to identify problems related with internet restrictions in Georgia and to take into account the positions of the private sector regarding blocking, filtering and removal of online content. [Learn more](#)

## **The IDFI Evaluates New Mechanism of Monitoring of Asset Declarations**



Georgian legislation provides for the obligation for public officials to submit their asset declarations annually.

Declarations are available on the webpage of the Civil Service Bureau. The system is largely functional. However, there are several shortcomings associated to it. Namely, there is no mechanism in place to verify declared data and identify the cases when inconsistent or deliberately false information is indicated. Which will then result in the liability of public officials. [Learn more](#)

## **Byzantine Politics Thrive in Soviet Georgia**

IDFI publishes the report prepared after US Embassy Representative Poloff's visit, which is available at the WIKILEAKS Public Library of US Diplomacy. The document describes political situation in Georgia at the beginning of 1991. [Learn more](#)

## IDFI's Assessment of the Proposed Constitutional Amendments

IDFI considers that despite some positive initiatives of the draft constitution elaborated by the Constitutional Commission, the document contains significant negative changes that do not serve the interests of strengthening democratic institutions and principles in the country. Therefore, we call on the government to take into account the recommendations given by local community groups during the General Public Discussions and, later, during parliamentary discussions on the draft constitution. The government must also take into account the recommendations given by international experts. It is essential for the constitutional amendments to be based on broad public consensus and not the views and interests of any one political group. [Learn more](#)

## The Coalition Believes the High Council of Justice Must Stop the Judicial Selection Competition



**Coalition**

for an Independent and  
Transparent Judiciary

The Coalition addresses the judicial selection competition that the High Council of Justice (HCOJ) initiated on February 17 to fill 84 vacancies. Applications have already been reviewed and 105 candidates were selected for interviews. [Learn more](#)