

NEWSLETTER

Institute for Development of Freedom of Information



GEORGIA WINS THE FIRST OGP GOVERNMENT CHAMPIONS AWARD

On 27th of October, Georgia was awarded with the Open Government Partnership (OGP) Government Champions Award. Among three semi-finalist countries, the [video](#) presented by Georgia gained the greatest number of votes. Awards ceremony took place on OGP Civil Society Day in Mexico City, Mexico, that was held within the [OGP Global Summit Mexico 2015](#).

The summit gathered representatives from governmental and non-governmental organizations of Georgia. Among the attendees were the representatives of the Institute for Development of Freedom of Information (IDFI): Director - Giorgi Kldiashvili, Chairman - Levan Avalishvili and Project Coordinator - David Maisuradze. Ketevan Tsanava and Zurab Sanikidze from the Analytical Department of the Ministry of Justice of Georgia and Giorgi Oniani, Deputy Executive Director of the Transparency International – Georgia were also representing Georgia.

On the OGP Civil Society Day, Giorgi Kldiashvili, Direc-

tor of IDFI, explained the audience why the [Inter-Factional Group of Parliament of Georgia](#), composed of civil society representatives and nominated by the Institute for Development of Freedom of Information, deserved winning the competition.

On the OGP Civil Society Day Giorgi Kldiashvili participated in the session of ‘Best ways of involving the Legislative branch in the ‘openness partnerships’ and the Chairman of IDFI, Levan Avalishvili spoke about ‘Citizen Centric Anti-Corruption Initiatives’.

Giorgi Kldiashvili is also a co-author of the book by Eduardo Bohorquez - “Open Parliaments, Results and Expectations”. He discusses “Open Parliament in Georgia’s OGP Action Plan”.

Within the framework of the project “[Supporting Parliament of Georgia Involvement in Open Government Partnership Initiative](#)”, IDFI has announced a [competition](#) for the students, who are interested in the work of the Parliament and engagement in the working processes of the legislative body.

REGARDING TO THE OGP, IDFI HAS ALSO PREPARED THREE ARTICLES:

- [Institute for Development of Freedom of Information \(IDFI\) endorsed the OGP Joint Declaration on Open Government for the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#)
- [OGP Explorer –Web search engine for OGP commitments](#)
- [Open Government Partnership as the Tool for Implementing the United Nations 2030 Goals for Sustainable Development](#)

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTH:

On October 27th, Georgia was awarded with the OGP Government Champions Award at the OGP Global Summit Mexico 2015.

Freedom House: Georgia's score in internet freedom ranking has been improved.

STUDIES:

In October, IDFI prepared three studies:

- [Georgia in World Governance Indicators 1996 - 2014](#)
- [Legal Analysis of the Draft Law on Civil Service \(As Adopted at the Second Hearing\)](#)
- [Analysis of Capital Transfers from Georgia to Lobbyist Companies in the USA \(2008-2015\)](#)



STRATEGIC PLAN GEORGIA 2020 - STRENGTHENING PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT (ZIGB) (2015-2016)

Within the project, IDFI held two discussions:

- [Discussion - Internetization and Broadband Development of Georgia](#)

- [Public Discussion on 2016 Draft Budget](#)

Within the project, on September 25-27, IDFI organized a [workshop](#) for 13 contestants participating in the competition for analysts. Participants delivered the presentation on the basis of their research and analytic works. After that, participants published their own analytic articles on following topics:

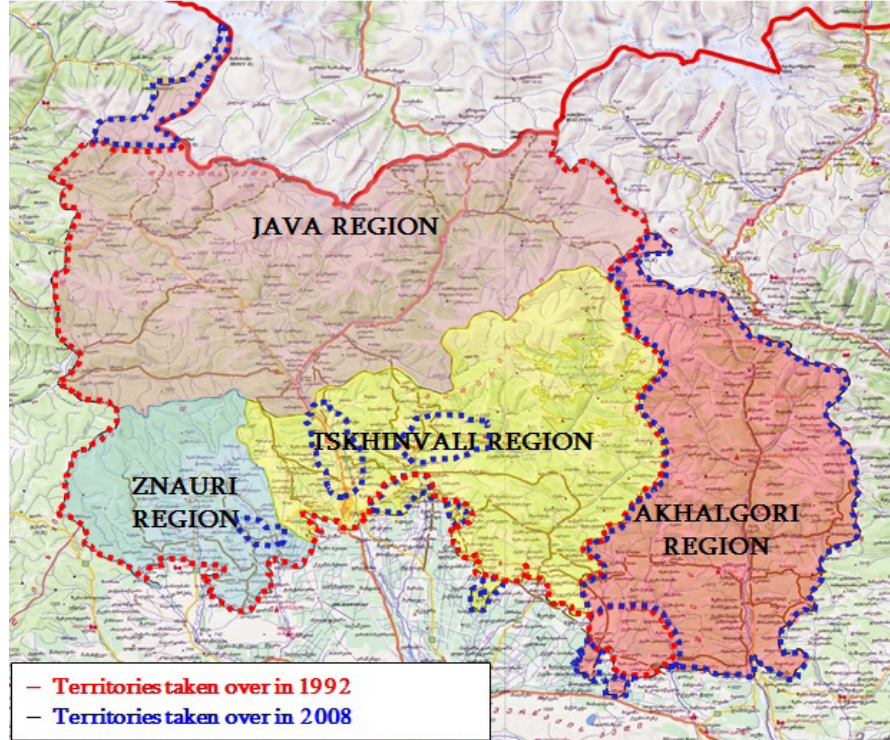
- [Strategic Plan 2020 – Answers From the Ministry of Finance of Georgia](#)
- [Reasons and Threats of Depreciation of National Currency](#)
- [The Effects of Depreciation of GEL on the Social-Economic Strategy Georgia 2020](#)
- [First Steps for Primary Health Reform](#)
- [BDD 2016-2019: Dividing a Small Cake](#)
- [Pension Reform in Georgia](#)
- [The Causes of Creation and Existence of Informal Institutions in Public Sector in Georgia](#)
- [Highlights Of Estonian ICT Day At The World Bank And The Future Of E-Government](#)
- [Restructuring of Georgian Railways](#)
- [Inclusive Economic Growth and Capability Approach - Alternatives for Georgia's Development Policy](#)
- [Advantages of Georgia's Accession to EU's Energy Community](#)
- [Broadband Development and Realization of the Goals of Georgia 2020](#)
- [Prospects of Bond Market Development](#)

CURRENTLY IDFI IMPLEMENTS THESE PROJECTS:

- [Public Information Database - www.opendata.ge 2013-2015](#)
- [Supporting Parliament of Georgia Involvement in Open Government Partnership Initiative](#)
- [Supporting and Monitoring of the Transition to Digital Terrestrial Broadcasting in Georgia \(2015\)](#)
- [Open Data: Source for Changes and Innovations](#)
- [Strategic Plan Georgia 2020 - Strengthening Public Involvement \(ZigB\) \(2015-2016\)](#)
- [Public-Private Dialogue \(PPD\) Quality Tracking in Georgia](#)
- [Promoting Internet Freedom in South Caucasus - Follow Up](#)
- [Improvement of Electronic Transparency in the Municipalities of Kakheti and Promotion of Public Engagement in the Work of Local Self-Governments](#)

IDFI published information received from State Service of Veterans Affairs, requested on 12th of August. Information included data regarding the budget and implemented projects, bonuses, salary supplements, costs of official visits, dismissed and restored employees.

As a result of the information provided by the Ministry of Defense of Georgia, IDFI published an article regarding the new administrative border of the occupied regime. The following article inquires, which territories still controlled by Georgia can be left out of the so-called administrative border of the country (and according which had has a “creeping occupation” of Georgia been occurring by the self-declared Republic of South Ossetia since the 2008 War).



JOINT STATEMENTS:

- Statement of Media Advocacy Coalition Regarding the Seizure of Shares of LTD TV Company Georgia
- NGOs Joint Statement Regarding Promotion of Judges at High Council of Justice
- Coalition Joint Statement regarding to curbing Media freedom by government
- The coalition's opinion on the first meeting of the prosecutors assembly

OTHER ACTIVITIES:

- IDFI's Analysts Conducted Final Training by CSRDG
- IDFI's Analyst Held a Training on E-participation
- IDFI Held a Lecture on Transparent Archives and Stalin's Lists

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