

## Declaration

As a result of long fight and efforts of a number of generations, Georgia today is an independent country. It is our responsibility now to continue building up the independent state, maintain freedom and transmit to the future generations.

Freedom is the only condition for the happy and dignified life of an individual. The free country respects rights and freedom of its each citizen, provides for the guaranteed opportunity for the realization of capabilities, protects their property and private life and ensures the secure environment for their prosperity.

Fight for freedom is an enormous responsibility and requires the impregnable will, tireless toil and the skills to adequately react to varied challenges. With this very fight does Georgia join the process of saving and developing civilization and secure its due place in the world community of nations.

Along with numerous challenges connected with state-building, Georgia is confronted with threats from the huge and aggressive neighbor, which, due to its insatiable imperial ambitions withstands the whole free world. Under such circumstances, the country should, on the one hand, endure painful transformation and, on the other hand, survive the external aggression. The alternative is appeasement and surrender, which excludes independence and development. There is no other choice: either endure and survive or give up freedom.

This is why Georgia today needs to be in the close union of those friendly countries with which it shares the fundamental values.

After the Second World War the free world saw the importance of consolidation around liberal and democratic values and created NATO and EU as the main fundamentals of liberal values human rights protection.

Integration in these structures should be the main priority of our country's development as the best way to promote economic development and security. The main aim of NATO, organization based on common values, was to protect the euro-atlantic space from "the empire of evil". This organization shaped the Europe we know today: united, free and peaceful. After the end of the cold war, subsequent enlargements of NATO secured freedom and security of the new members.

This big family of free nations known as the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, declared that Georgia shall become its member. This means, that our country shall have the secure environment for its peaceful and continuous development and its each citizen shall be provided with the essential guarantee for prosperity and happiness.

Association agreement between EU and Georgia was the new chapter of Georgian integration in European family. Even though this agreement does not involve concrete guarantees it deepens the process of integration.

Our natural place is in the NATO, where together with our allies, we shall build the peaceful and happy future for us and for our children. In order to turn this perspective into the reality, along with NATO's open door policy and efforts of our government, it is crucial that each citizen of Georgia exercises personal courage and steadfast diligence.

We, the undersigned declare that:

- Peaceful development of a free and independent Georgia will be best achieved through its integration into NATO and the European Union;
- Our goal is to contribute towards building a free, independent state where human rights and liberties are duly observed and state institutions efficiently function;
- To achieve this, we will concert our best efforts and closely cooperate with each other to expedite Georgia's full integration into the Euro-Atlantic institutions.