



Institute for Development of Freedom of Information (IDFI)

Press-Release

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IDFI's research and experience show that the Georgian Common Courts often refuse to disclose decisions on specific cases on the grounds of protecting personal data. In some cases, the Common Courts neglect public interest or other legitimate goals and give preference to personal data protection. This approach limits access to court decisions and creates the need to sufficiently balance personal data protection and other legitimate interests.

For the purpose of improving access to court decisions, in July 2016, IDFI launched **Increasing Access to Judicial Decisions in Georgia** project with support of East-West Management Institute's Promoting Rule of Law in Georgia (PROLoG) Program. The program is funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

IDFI and its partner organizations will conduct a detailed assessment of public access to decisions in the Common Courts of Georgia, and study the legislative and practical causes of the existing problems. The project team will examine best international practice of access to court decisions and analyze existing problems in view of the constitutional principles of freedom of expression, right to information and judicial transparency.



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Based on the analysis, IDFI together with other stakeholders will draft legislative amendments. IDFI will also develop recommendations on proactive publication of court decisions based on best international practices and a study of various web-platforms for publishing such data.

Finally, IDFI will advocate for the amendments in legislation based on the recommendations prepared within the project, and initiate a parallel process of strategic litigation at the Constitutional Court of Georgia.

The project will last for 7 months and will be completed on January 31, 2017.

Details on the project activities can be found at www.idfi.ge –Current Projects:
<http://bit.ly/2bCG6ZW>

For more information please contact:

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