

## WORLD GOVERNANCE INDICATORS – GEORGIA IN THE WORLD BANK RANKING 2020

October, 2020

## Introduction

[Worldwide Governance Indicators](#) (WGI) constitute a research database based on over 30 data sources reflecting the views and evaluations stemming from citizens, entrepreneurs and experts. These data come from rankings and assessments stemming from surveying representatives of research institutions, CSOs, international organizations, as well as the private sector. New aggregate indicators – WGI and relevant global ranking, are constructed by combining the results of mentioned assessments and databases. WGI ranking covers 214 countries worldwide. The ranking was established in 1999 by the World Bank Institute, the Development Research Group of the World Bank and the Brookings Institution.

The purpose of this analytical document is to introduce Georgia's rankings to public, detect strong and weak sides of Georgia's development, highlight achieved progress and compare Georgia's results with those of European countries.

## Methodology

World Governance Indicators are fully based on global rankings and assessments such as Freedom House, IREX Media Sustainability Index, Open Budget Index, World Justice Project, etc. (32 in total).<sup>1</sup> Participant countries are assessed in six directions on the scale of 0-100.

**1. Voice and Accountability** - captures perceptions of the extent to which a country's citizens are able to participate in selecting their government, as well as freedom of expression, freedom of association, and a free media.

**2. Political Stability and Absence of Violence** - measures perceptions of the likelihood of political instability and/or politically motivated violence, including terrorism.

**3. Government Effectiveness** - captures perceptions of the quality of public services, the quality of the civil service and the degree of its independence from political pressures, the quality of policy formulation and implementation, and the credibility of the government's commitment to such policies.

**4. Regulatory Quality** - captures perceptions of the ability of the government to formulate and implement sound policies and regulations that permit and promote private sector development.

**5. Rule of Law** - captures perceptions of the extent to which agents have confidence in and abide by the rules of society, and in particular the quality of contract enforcement, property rights, the police, and the courts, as well as the likelihood of crime and violence.

**6. Control of Corruption** - captures perceptions of the extent to which public power is exercised for private gain, including both petty and grand forms of corruption, as well as "capture" of the state by elites and private interests.

For the purposes of this document Georgia's rankings are compared with those of European Union countries and the Eastern Partnership (EaP) countries.

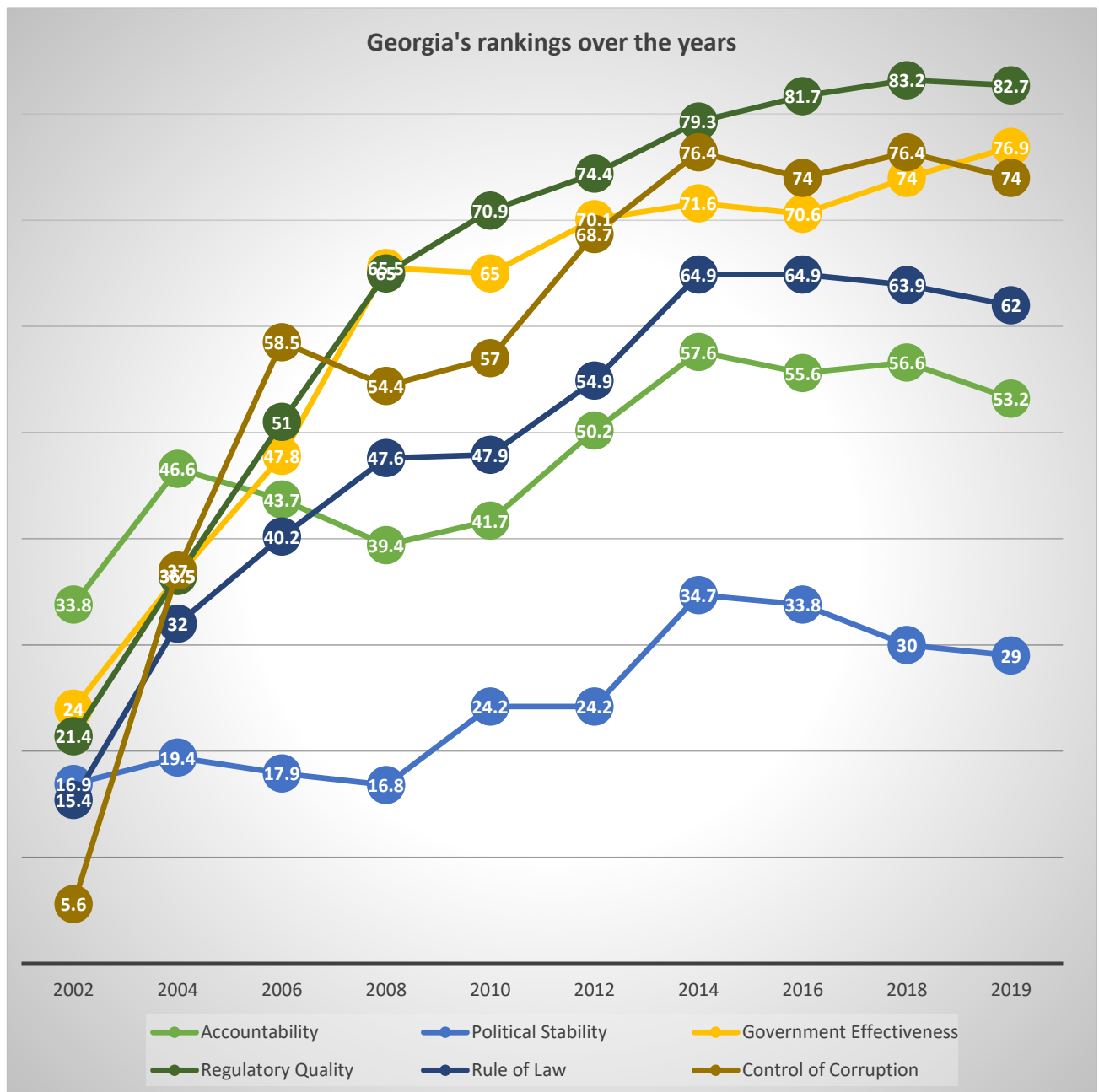
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<sup>1</sup> Data sources of World Governance indicators are available on this link:  
<http://info.worldbank.org/governance/wgi/Home/downloadFile?fileName=Table1.pdf>.

## Georgia's rankings

Georgia obtained the highest assessment in World Governance Indicators in 2013-2014. Prior to this date indicators demonstrated steady and rapid development of Georgia. During this period especially noticeable was Georgia's progress in the areas of Rule of Law and Control of Corruption.

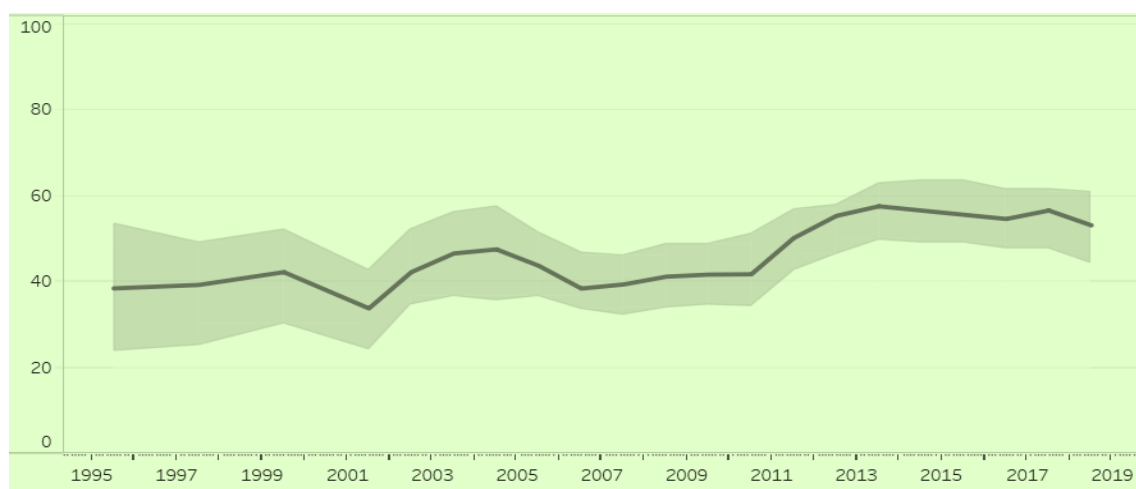
According to the World Governance Indicators, the pace of the country's development significantly slowed down since 2014. According to the latest assessment of the World Bank, Georgia has advanced in the area of Government Effectiveness, however, regress was detected in all of the rest five directions. In addition, Georgia was able to return to 2014 results in 2018 in the area of control of corruption and in 2019 its score reduced again. The lowest score among six directions for Georgia has always been the for the political stability area.



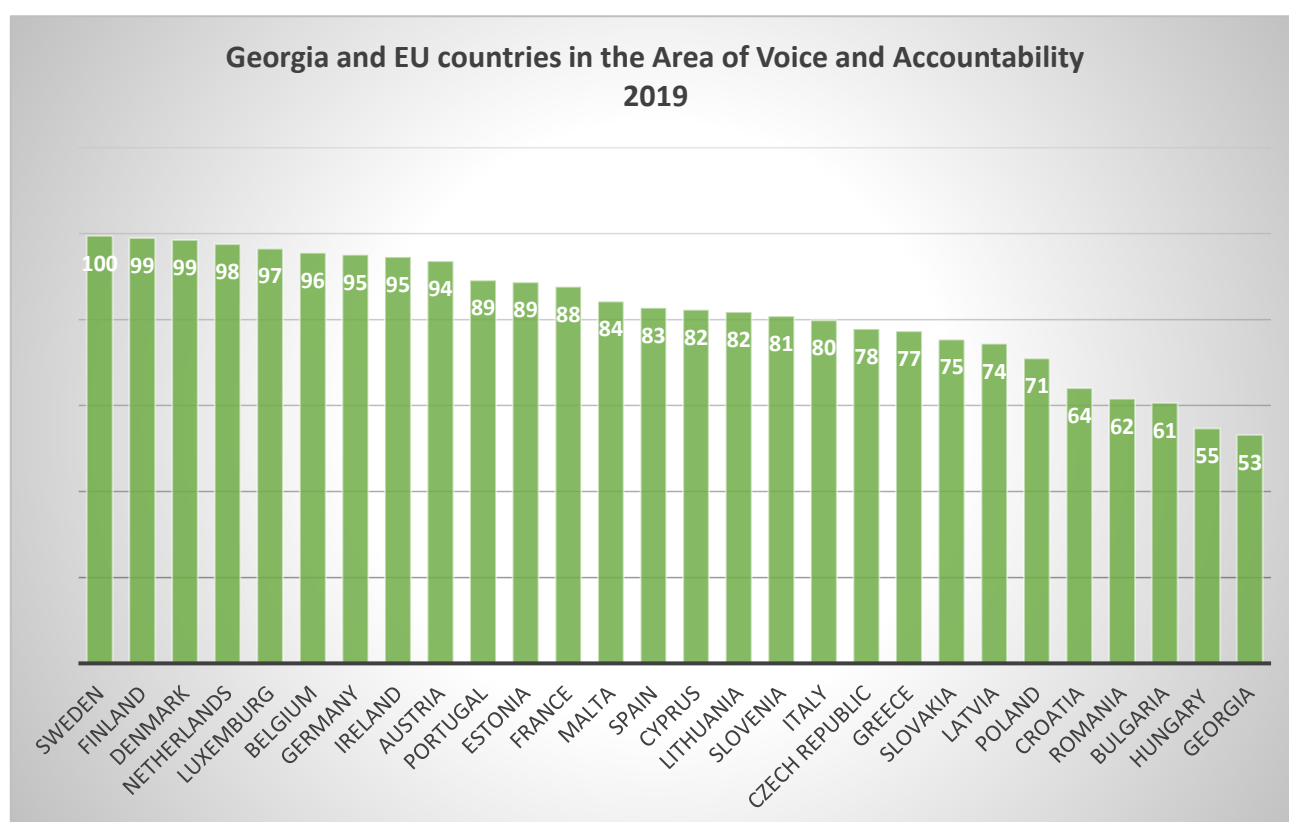
## Voice and Accountability

This direction captures the extent to which a country's citizens are able to participate in selecting their government, freedom of expression, freedom of association and free media.

The evaluation of Georgia in the indicator of Voice and Accountability is only slightly higher than the half of the maximum possible score – 53, which is the lower than that of last year and still below the results shown in 2014-2015.



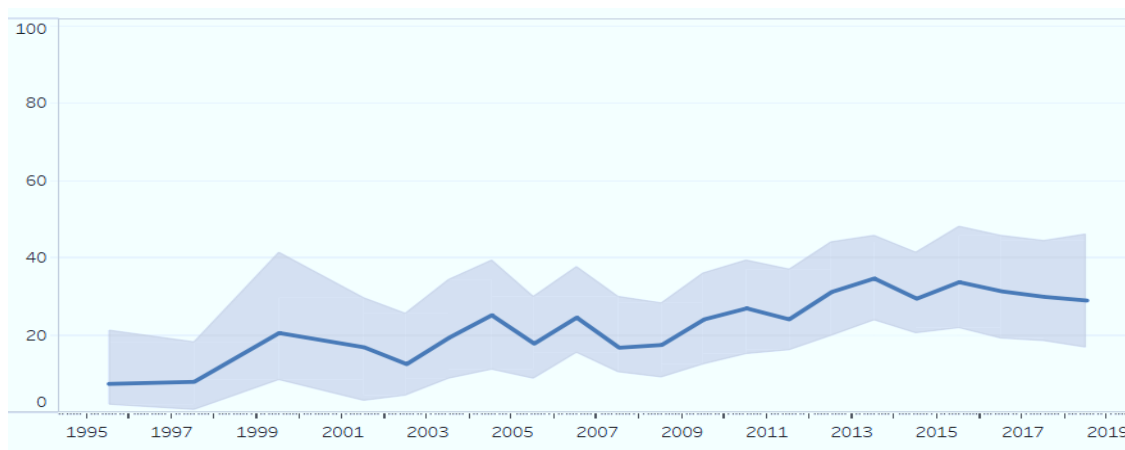
Notwithstanding the worsened results in the area of Voice and Accountability, Georgia is still a leader among the Eastern Partnership (EaP) countries (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Moldova, Belorussia and Ukraine), however, it is on the last place among the European Union countries.



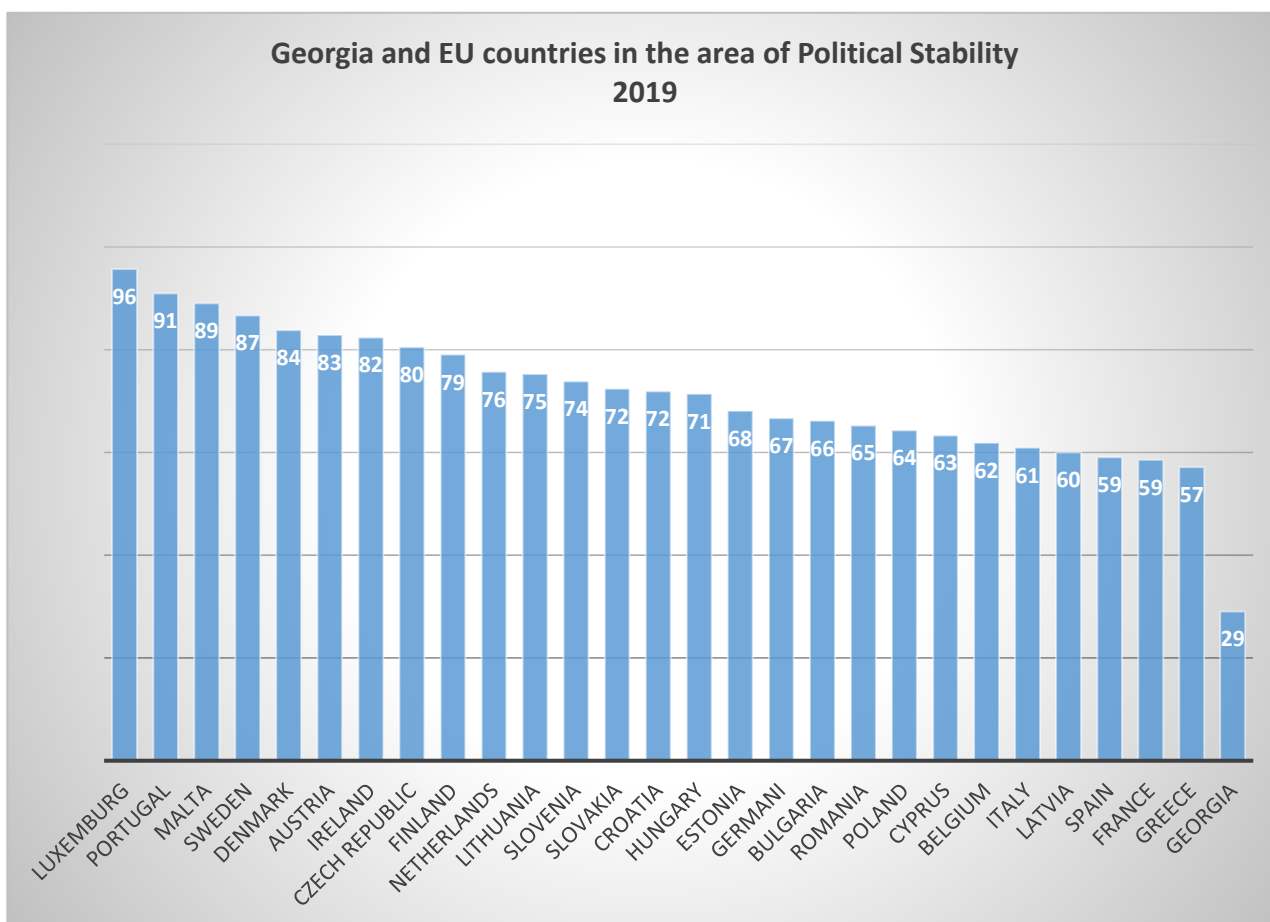
## Political Stability and Absence of Violence

Captures the likelihood that the government will be destabilized or overthrown by unconstitutional or violent means, including politically-motivated violence and terrorism.

Regardless of the fact that Georgia has never received a high score in the indicator of Political Stability, the evaluation further worsened in 2019 and reached only 29.



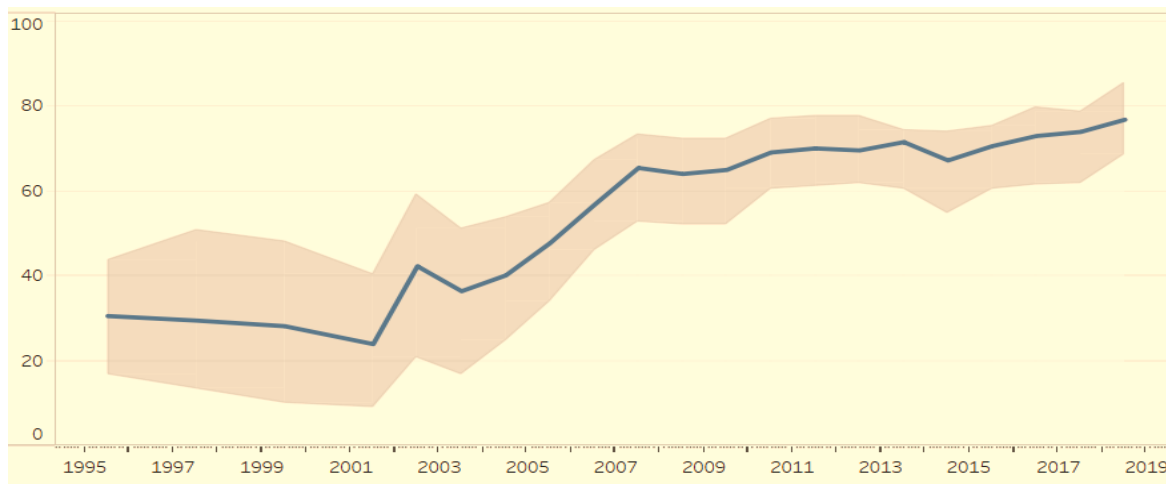
In the Area of Political Stability Belorussia is a leader among EaP countries, while Georgia is on the third place after Moldova. Among EU countries, Georgia is on the last place in terms of political stability and has a significantly lower score than Greece taking place before Georgia.



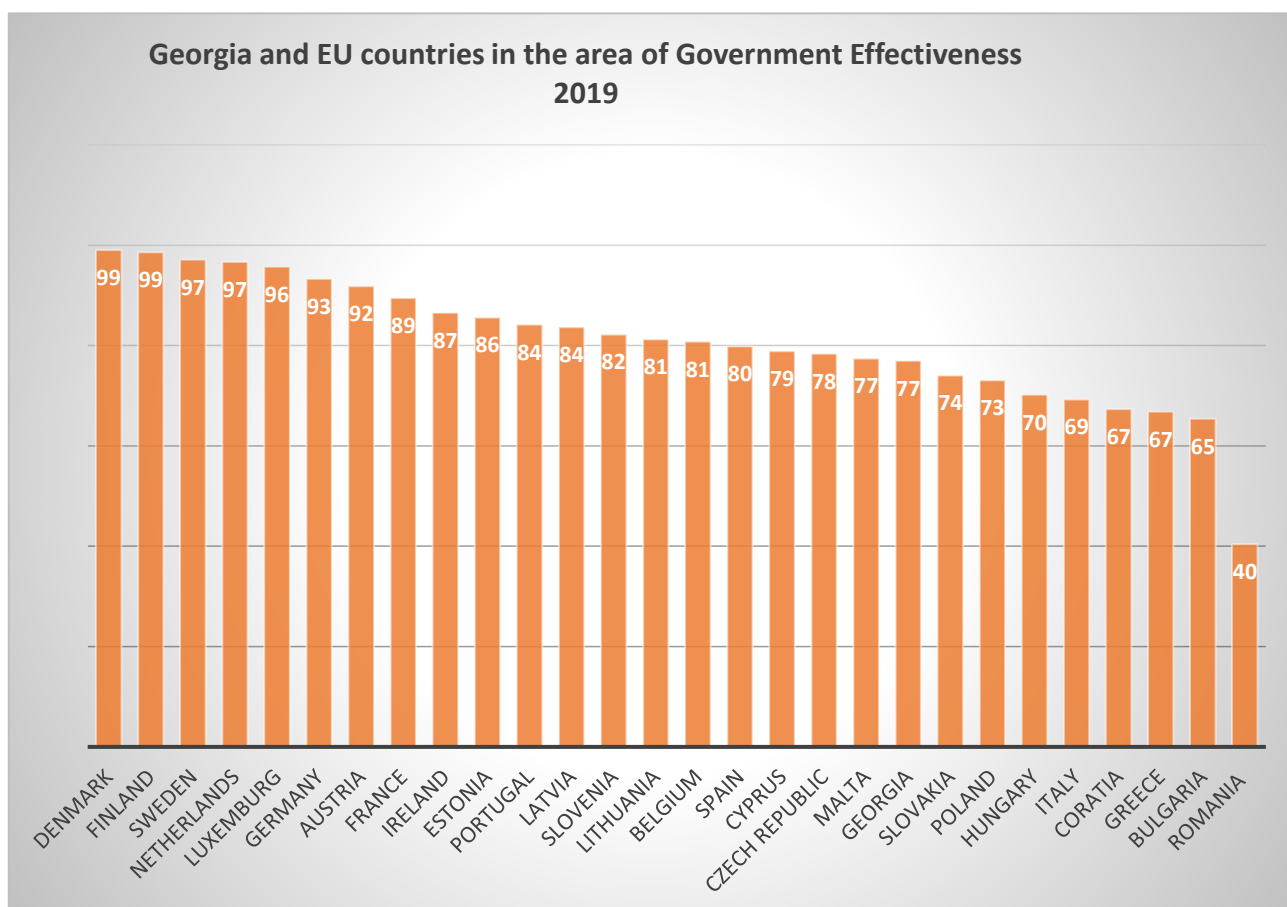
## Government Effectiveness

In this area the quality of public services, the quality of the civil service and the degree of its political independence is assessed.

Georgia's Government effectiveness has been scored 76.9 that is the highest score obtained by Georgia over years in this direction.



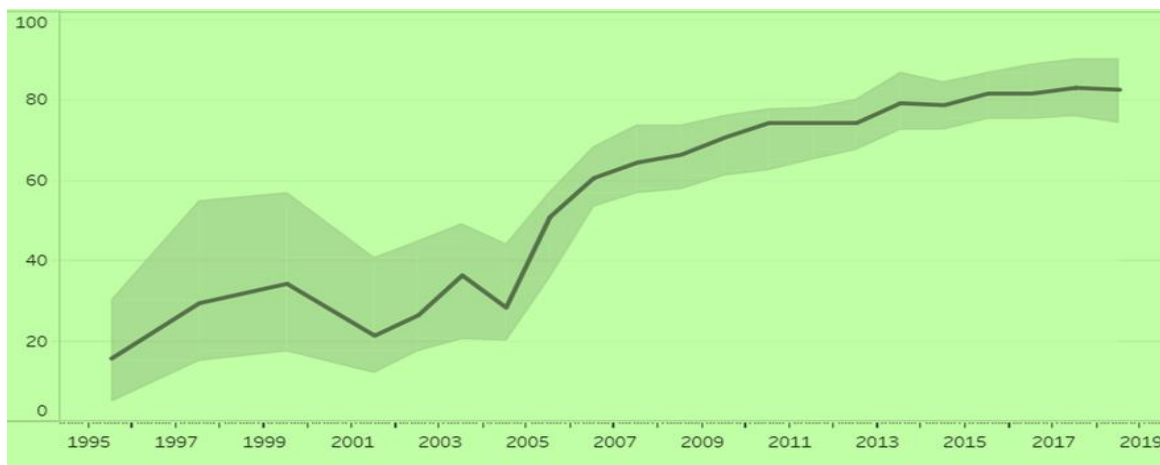
In the area of Government effectiveness Georgia's score is much higher than of the Eap countries'. As for the EU countries Georgia ranks higher than eight of them: Slovak Republic, Poland, Hungary, Italy, Croatia, Greece, Bulgaria and Romania.



## Regulatory Quality

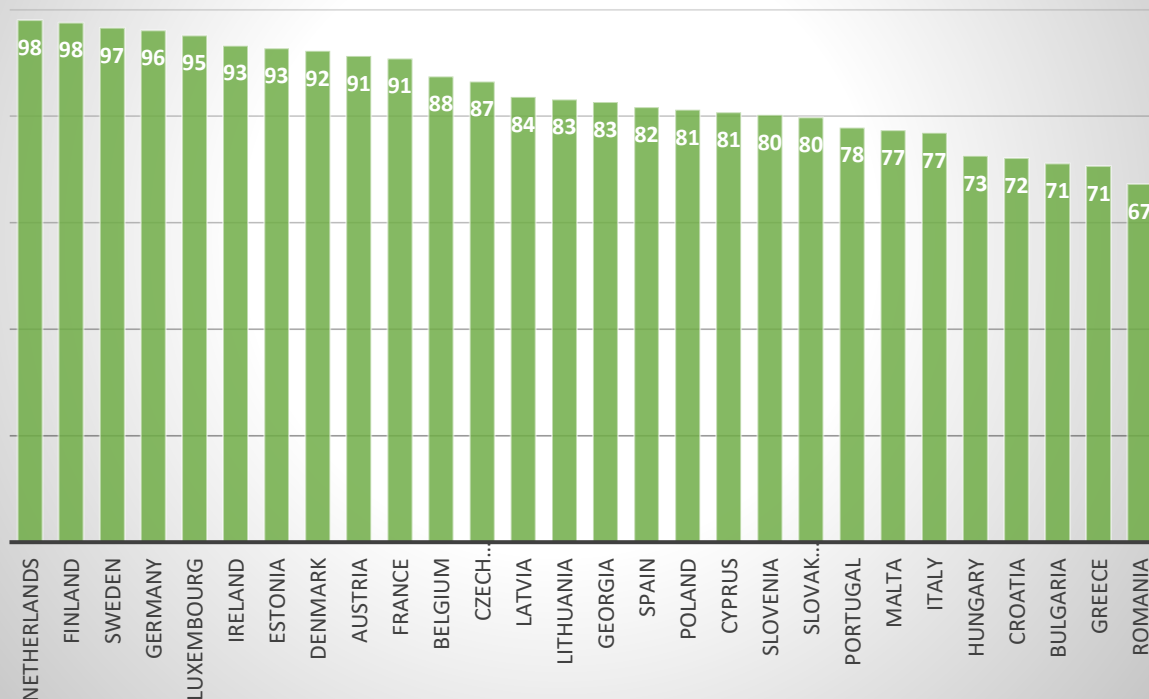
In this direction the ability of the government to formulate and implement regulations that permit and promote private sector development is assessed.

Georgia has obtained the highest score in regulatory quality (82.7) out of six areas assessed, however this score is lower than it was in 2018.



The commitment of Georgia to initiate and implement reforms promoting private sector development received one of the highest score which makes Georgia a leader among EaP countries. As for the EU countries, Georgia is on the 15<sup>th</sup> place among them.

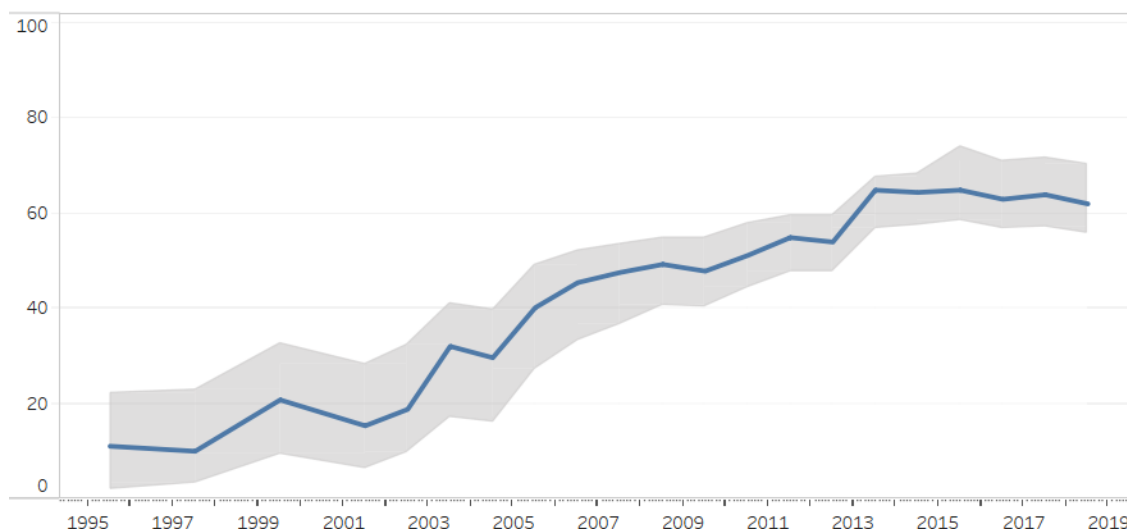
**Georgia and the EU countries in the area of Regulatory Quality  
2019**



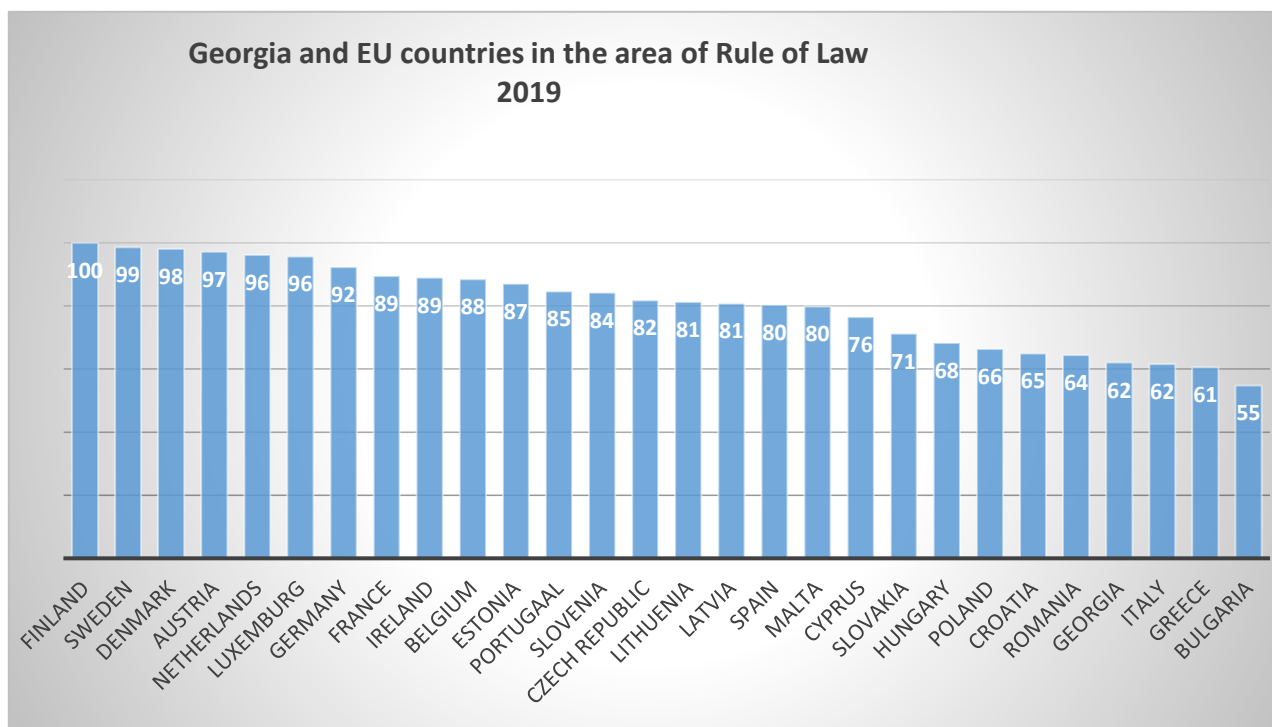
## Rule of Law

This area captures the perceptions of the ability of the government to formulate and implement regulations that permit and promote private sector development.

According to the assessment, Georgia's performance in the area of rule of law significantly improved in 2013 - 2014, however, the situation in this area has been worsening since then. Although in 2018 assessment of rule of law in Georgia became a little more positive, however, in 2019 it worsened again and the score is lower than it was in 2014.



Georgia is a leader among EaP countries in the area of rule of law, however, the country is deteriorating its own achievements. Among EU countries Georgia's score is higher than those of Italy, Greece and Bulgaria but is much lower than most of the countries' scores.

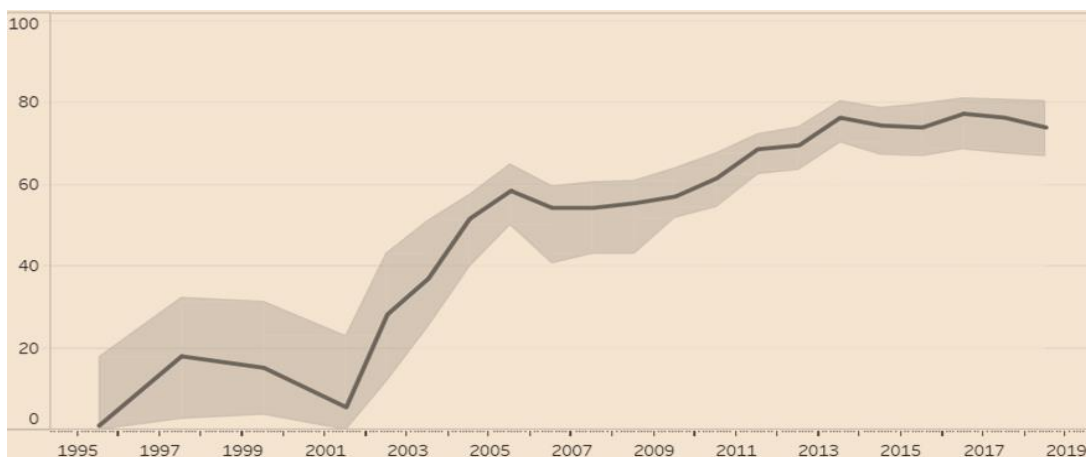




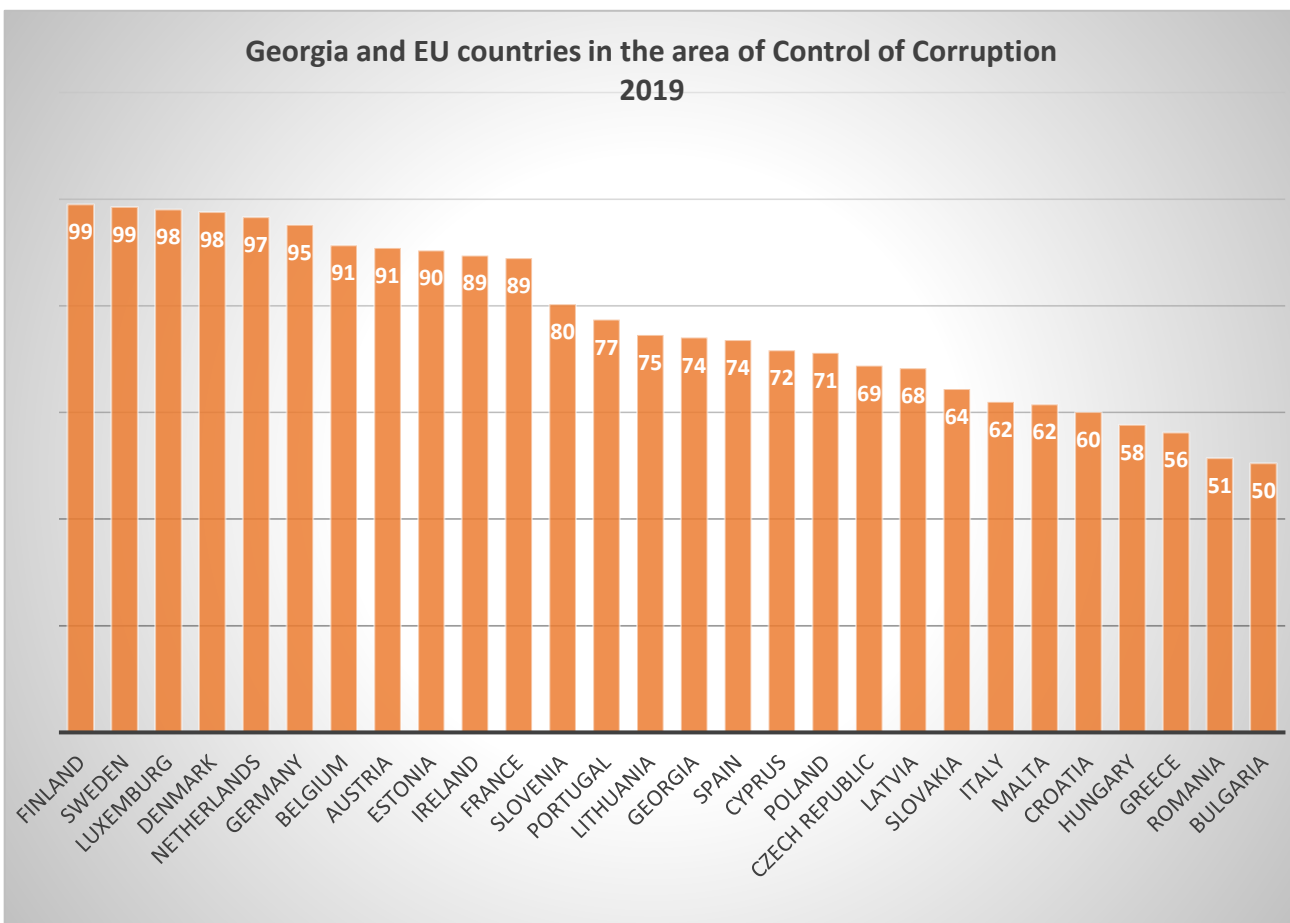
## Control of Corruption

This area captures the perception of both petty and elite forms of corruption and of the extent to which public power is exercised for private gain.

Control of corruption is on the third place put of six directions assesses in 2019 in Georgia – regulatory quality and government effectiveness on the first two places. On 2019 the ranking of Georgia in this direction worsened compared to 2018 (as well as compared to 2014) and went down to the result shown in 2016.



Georgia is a leader among EaP countries in terms of controlling corruption and is on the 15<sup>th</sup> place among EU countries showing a better result than the countries such as Czech Republic, Slovakia, Poland, Italy, Latvia, Croatia and others.



## Conclusion

Over the years Georgia has shown significant progress in all of the six areas of World Governance indicators. Especially interesting is the road that Georgia has went in terms of fighting corruption.

However, unfortunately, pace of country's development slowed down since 2014. In most of the areas Georgia has been unable to keep up with the high standards shown in 2014.

Georgia's scores are still very low in the areas of accountability and political stability while the regress is detected in five out of six areas in the recent years.

For the purposes of ensuring continuous development of democratic governance in Georgia and bringing it closer to the EU countries, it is crucial to emphasize achieved progress and at the same time internalize the problems identified by the Worldwide Governance Indicators. We hope that the government will take appropriate measures and implement effective reforms that will ensure Georgia's rapid development and be reflected in the future assessments of Governance Indicators by the World Bank.