



კოალიცია  
დამოუკიდებელი  
და გამჭვირვალე  
მართლმსაჯულებისთვის  
Coalition for  
an Independent and  
Transparent Judiciary

## Coalition for an Independent and Transparent Judiciary Calls Georgian Parliament for Suspension of Making Amendments to the Law on General Courts

The Coalition for an Independent and Transparent Judiciary again voices its position concerning the draft law initiated by Shalva Shavgulidze on “Making Amendments to the Organic Law of Georgia on General Courts” to be discussed by Georgian parliament. As it is known, the Georgian parliament considers the above-mentioned draft law by second hearing with an accelerated manner today. In addition, today Mr. Konstantine Kublashvili, Chairman of the Supreme Court, expressed his position regarding the legislative draft and suggested that the parliament temporarily suspends the discussion of the draft law. The above-mentioned circumstances prompted us to once again express our position.

The Coalition made the statement on 28<sup>th</sup> September 2013<sup>1</sup> and assessed negatively the appointment of judges for a 3-year period and the opportunity of monitoring on an annual basis the activities of judges appointed for the trial period - both initiatives proposed by the draft law. At the meeting with the Coalition members the authors of the draft law have produced the certain arguments concerning the adoption of the law with accelerated manner. Nevertheless, we believe that making decision on the issue of such importance in such a short period of time, without involving all stakeholders is unadvisable and may be detrimental to the future development of the country’s judiciary system. It should be taken into account as well that the judicial authorities have developed an alternative draft amendments on appointing judges with indefinite term, which means prolonging authority to the judges being in office at present. Said mechanism should also be considered deficient.

Considering all above-mentioned we call the government of Georgia, representatives of judicial authorities and the Georgian parliament to hold the collaborative consulting within the shortest timeframes to discuss and decide on the important issues pertinent to the rule of appointing judges. The parties should ensure that the political consultations will be held with maximal involvement of all stakeholders on one hand, and on the other hand, to make political decisions that will contribute to developing the Georgian judiciary system in rightful way. The Coalition for an Independent and Transparent Judiciary is ready to engage actively in said consultations as need be.

Also, we would like to stress once more that due to holding discussions on these very important issues within unreasonably short timeframes, the Georgian parliament is advised to suspend considering the above-mentioned draft law and

### Coalition Members:

Article 42 of the Constitution  
Multinational Georgia  
Solidarity to Illegal Prisoners  
Georgia Small and Medium  
Enterprise Association  
Civil Integration Foundation  
Georgian Lawyers for  
Independent Profession  
Business and Economic Center  
Liberal  
Center for Protection of  
Constitutional Rights  
International Society for Fair  
Elections and Democracy  
Association Green Wave  
The Union “21 Century”  
Georgian Young Lawyer’s  
Association Human Right  
Center  
Transparency International  
Union of Meskhetian Democrats  
Liberty Institute  
Georgia Bar Association  
Civil Development Agency  
United Nations Association of  
Georgia  
The European Law Students’  
Association  
Civil Society Institute  
Open Society Georgia  
Foundation  
Institute of Democracy  
American Chamber of  
Commerce  
Association of Civic Initiatives  
and Employees Defense  
Eurasia Partnership Foundation  
Institute of Development of  
Freedom of Information  
Human Rights Priority  
Tbilisi Media Club

<sup>1</sup> [http://www.coalition.org.ge/article\\_files/186/Coalition\\_Statement\\_September\\_2013.pdf](http://www.coalition.org.ge/article_files/186/Coalition_Statement_September_2013.pdf)

allow all stakeholders (firstly, judicial, legislative and executive authorities) take part in the process of working on the legislative initiatives.