



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

Statement of Coalition

The Chairman of Supreme Court of Georgia, Mr. Konstantine Kublashvili, declared publicly that a meeting between a concrete judge and prosecutor took place during which issues of planned Conference of Judges were discussed. According to the Chairman of Supreme Court, such an action means the interference into the affairs of judges on the part of representatives of the executive authority. A statement was also released by the Justice Minister, Ms. Tea Tsulukiani, according to which the Chairman of Supreme Court conducts secret meetings with judges on the same topic in regions. Similar information was released by a group of judges.

The Conference of Judges, scheduled for 9 June is of great importance for strengthening the independence of judiciary and self-government of judges. For the first time ever in the history of Georgian justice, judges are given a real opportunity to man the administrative units of the court system independently and according to personal attitudes.

Bearing in mind the importance of the forthcoming Conference of Judges, it is necessary that the pre-election period passes in maximally quiet environment. In the common court system each and every judge must have a real opportunity to make his/her choice and/or conduct a pre-election campaign in a free and unrestricted manner. Restricting the rights of or discriminating any group is unacceptable in this process. It is crucial for all branches of power to observe the principle of distribution of power whilst for the top officials of the judiciary to ensure the creation of a competitive election environment for judges.

We call on every relevant body and person both inside and outside the court system to refrain from such an improper communication with judges on topics pertaining to the planned elections during the Conference of Judges which may threaten the free expression of will by judges. At the same time, it is important that facts of such communication with judges are studied and in the event any of them is proved, that measures envisaged by the law are undertaken. The Coalition believes that an illegal interference of any person in the processes going on inside the judiciary is absolutely unacceptable. Any such action will be perceived as the pressure on courts.

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
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
Human Rights Education and
Monitoring Centre
Foundation for the Support of
Legal Education

We call on the executive power as well as on top officials of the judiciary not to interfere in the ongoing processes and not to create unjustified risks to judges' making unimpeded choice. At the same time, we call on politicians to refrain from making such an action towards courts which would adversely affect the free expression of will of judges.

Davit Asatiani

Chairman of Coalition for an Independent and Transparent Judiciary

Kakha Kozhoridze

Deputy Chairman of Coalition for an Independent and Transparent Judiciary