



Human Rights Council
Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review
Fifty-first session
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Georgia

Compilation of information prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

I. Background

1. The present report was prepared pursuant to Human Rights Council resolutions 5/1 and 16/21, taking into consideration the outcome of the previous review.¹ It is a compilation of information contained in relevant United Nations documents, presented in a summarized manner owing to word-limit constraints.

II. Scope of international obligations and cooperation with human rights mechanisms

2. The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination encouraged Georgia to consider ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.²

3. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women recommended that Georgia ratify the Workers with Family Responsibilities Convention, 1981 (No. 156) of the International Labour Organization (ILO), the ILO Maternity Protection Convention, 2000 (No. 183), the ILO Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189) and the ILO Violence and Harassment Convention, 2019 (No. 190).³

4. The Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities recommended that Georgia ratify and implement the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired or Otherwise Print Disabled.⁴

III. National human rights framework

1. Constitutional and legislative framework

5. The United Nations country team stated that Georgia had reintroduced the draft law on transparency of foreign influence in April 2024. The law had previously been presented in February 2023 and withdrawn in March 2023 after large-scale protests. The law defined civil society and media organizations receiving over 20 per cent of their funding from abroad as “organizations acting in the interest of a foreign power”. The country team stated that



discussions in Parliament and the adoption of the draft law had been accompanied by mass protests that had been dispersed by the police. The law had nevertheless been adopted on 14 May 2024.⁵

6. The United Nations country team stated that the Foreign Agents Registration Act, which had been adopted on 1 April 2025, provided for criminal liability for organizations that failed to register as “agents of a foreign principal”, including sentences to up to five years of imprisonment.⁶

7. The United Nations country team stated that, in April 2025, Parliament had introduced amendments to the law on grants, requiring prior government approval for foreign funding of civil society organizations and suggesting punishment for recipients for unapproved funding with fines.⁷

8. The United Nations country team recommended that Georgia repeal the law on transparency of foreign influence and the Foreign Agents Registration Act, as they negatively affected the freedoms of association and expression, the right to privacy, the right to participate in public affairs, and the prohibition of discrimination. It also recommended that Georgia repeal amendments to the law on grants.⁸

2. Institutional infrastructure and policy measures

9. The Human Rights Committee recommended that Georgia continue to provide the Public Defender’s Office with sufficient human and financial resources to carry out its mandate effectively and independently, in compliance with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles).⁹

10. The Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment recommended that Georgia increase the financial resources of the national preventive mechanism in order to guarantee its independence and operational capacity, in accordance with the provisions of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.¹⁰

IV. Promotion and protection of human rights

A. Implementation of international human rights obligations, taking into account applicable international humanitarian law

1. Equality and non-discrimination

11. The Human Rights Committee was concerned by continuing allegations of intolerance, prejudice, hate speech and hate crimes against members of vulnerable and minority groups, including women, ethnic and religious minorities, lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons, and migrants, often perpetrated by extreme right-wing groups.¹¹

12. The same Committee recommended that Georgia step up efforts to strengthen the investigation capacity of law enforcement officials on hate crimes and hate speech, including online hate speech, and ensure that all cases were systematically investigated, that perpetrators were held accountable, with penalties commensurate with the crime, and that victims had access to full reparation.¹²

13. The Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations of ILO requested that Georgia enhance the capacity of the competent authorities, including judges, labour inspectors and other public officials, to identify and address cases of ethnic and racial discrimination.¹³

2. Right to life, liberty and security of person, and freedom from torture

14. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) noted credible allegations of serious human rights violations by law enforcement authorities during the dispersal of the protests between 28 November and early December 2024. The

allegations were related to the use of unnecessary or disproportionate force, torture or ill-treatment, including lack of respect for the rights and safety of media workers and due process rights of detained protesters.¹⁴

15. OHCHR recommended that Georgia: (a) urgently address serious allegations of human rights violations in the context of public protests, including by halting the arbitrary arrest of demonstrators, and the unnecessary or disproportionate use of force by law enforcement against journalists and media workers covering protests; (b) conduct prompt, independent and thorough investigations and hold those found responsible to account; and (c) ensure that any detention of individuals was consistent with international human rights law and that all concerned were afforded the full scope of due process and fair trial protections, including judicial review of the lawfulness of detention, prompt trial by a competent and independent court or release.¹⁵

16. The Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities was deeply concerned at information before the Committee about inhuman or degrading treatment, in particular of persons with psychosocial disabilities and persons with intellectual disabilities, including the use of mechanical and chemical restraints, isolation, seclusion, forced medication, neglect, physical abuse and sexual violence, in psychiatric interventions and in institutions.¹⁶

17. The Human Rights Committee recommended that Georgia ensure that the Public Defender's Office was provided with unimpeded access to all places of detention and information about allegations of torture and ill-treatment in order to fully discharge its function as the national preventive mechanism.¹⁷

18. The Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture recommended that Georgia put in place effective mechanisms to allow detainees to submit complaints concerning ill-treatment confidentially and directly, and without any form of internal or external scrutiny or censorship, to independent, impartial and effective bodies with the power to investigate and trigger appropriate protective and remedial action. It also recommended that Georgia ensure that those submitting such complaints were not subjected to any form of reprisal or sanctions, including physical, disciplinary or administrative sanctions.¹⁸

3. Administration of justice, including impunity, and the rule of law

19. The Human Rights Committee remained concerned about reports of the persistent lack of independence and impartiality in the judiciary, despite judicial reforms. It was particularly concerned about the lack of transparency in the procedure for the selection and appointment of judges, including judges of the Supreme Court, as well as the concentration of powers within the High Council of Justice, including the power to nominate and discipline judges.¹⁹

20. The United Nations country team recommended that Georgia undertake comprehensive reform of the justice sector, in accordance with the recommendations of the European Commission for Democracy through Law (Venice Commission), to ensure full independence, accountability and impartiality of the judiciary. It also recommended that Georgia ensure transparency and public accountability across the judiciary by promptly publishing judgments from all courts online, livestreaming sessions of judicial governing bodies and publishing their decisions.²⁰

21. The United Nations country team recommended that Georgia safeguard fair trial rights by ensuring full compliance with international human rights standards.²¹

22. The Human Rights Committee recommended that Georgia ensure, in law and in practice, that administrative detainees were guaranteed fundamental legal safeguards from the very outset of the deprivation of their liberty, including the rights to have prompt access to a lawyer, to notify a person of their choice of their detention and to be brought promptly before a judge.²²

23. The same Committee remained concerned about continuing reports of corruption and bribery with impunity. It was particularly concerned about the failure to promptly and effectively investigate all cases of corruption, including those involving high-ranking officials, and to prosecute perpetrators, reportedly due to the lack of sufficient independence among law enforcement bodies and the judiciary.²³

4. Fundamental freedoms

24. The Human Rights Committee was deeply concerned about reports of threats, intimidation, harassment and attacks against journalists, human rights defenders and government critics, with a sharp increase in the number of such incidents in recent years, and the substantial involvement of the authorities in those acts with impunity.²⁴

25. The United Nations country team stated that, in April 2025, Parliament had adopted amendments to the law on broadcasting, introducing restrictions on broadcasters receiving direct or indirect funding from foreign powers. It noted that the restrictions would curb media freedom and could significantly weaken or even eliminate television channels from the media landscape.²⁵

26. The Human Rights Committee recommended that Georgia redouble its efforts to prevent and prohibit public officials and private actors, including members of radical groups, from interfering with the legitimate exercise of the right to freedom of expression of journalists, artists, writers, human rights defenders and government critics, including through refraining from the use of civil and criminal provisions as a tool to suppress critical reporting on matters of public interest.²⁶

27. The United Nations country team stated that, on 13 December 2024, Parliament had introduced amendments to the law on peaceful assembly and demonstration and the Code of Administrative Offences. It noted that they could have a chilling effect on demonstrators and undermine the right to peaceful assembly.²⁷

28. The Human Rights Committee noted with concern reports of structural discrimination against religious minorities, and allegations of stigmatization, pressure to convert and harassment of members of religious minorities, particularly Muslim students, in State schools.²⁸

5. Right to privacy

29. The Human Rights Committee was concerned about the lack of sufficient safeguards against arbitrary interference with the right to privacy in the form of surveillance, interception activities and access to personal data.²⁹

30. The Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities expressed concern about the lack of comprehensive measures ensuring data protection and privacy practices in hospitals and institutions for persons with disabilities.³⁰

6. Right to marriage and family life

31. The Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities noted that children could be placed in State care facilities or foster care away from their parents, preventing regular contact.³¹

32. The Committee on the Rights of the Child remained seriously concerned about reports of children being removed from their families due to poverty, despite it being prohibited under the Code on the Rights of the Child, as well as insufficient measures for identifying children and families in need of support.³²

7. Prohibition of all forms of slavery, including trafficking in persons

33. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women recommended that Georgia take targeted measures to prevent trafficking in girls for the purpose of sexual exploitation and establish specialized gender-responsive and child-sensitive support services, including shelters, for victims of trafficking in girls.³³

34. The ILO Committee of Experts requested that Georgia ensure that, both in law and practice, no one who, in a peaceful manner, expressed political views or opposed the established political, social or economic system, could be sentenced to penalties under which compulsory labour was imposed.³⁴

8. Right to work and to just and favourable conditions of work

35. The ILO Committee of Experts noted that, in 2022, the unemployment rate was nearly 17 per cent, with youth unemployment particularly high at over 38 per cent. The Committee noted that a large portion of the workforce remained in the informal economy, with an estimated 37 per cent of employment being informal, which negatively affected job security and access to social protection benefits in spite of efforts made to enhance access to social protection.³⁵

36. The Committee on the Rights of the Child recommended that Georgia strengthen the Labour Inspection Service and monitoring mechanisms in the formal and informal sectors.³⁶

37. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women recommended that Georgia amend the Labour Code and the Law on Public Service to give effect to the principle of equal pay for work of equal value in the private and public sectors in order to narrow and eventually close the gender pay gap.³⁷

38. The Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities recommended that Georgia adopt a strategy, in close consultation with organizations of persons with disabilities, to promote the employment of persons with disabilities in the open labour market.³⁸

39. The ILO Committee of Experts urged Georgia to amend the law on transparency of foreign influence, in consultation with the social partners, so as to explicitly exclude the organizations of employers and trade unions from its scope of application.³⁹

9. Right to social security

40. The United Nations country team recommended that Georgia develop and adopt a national inclusive social protection strategy targeting child poverty and deprivation.⁴⁰

41. The Special Rapporteur on disability noted that the cost of goods and services required for raising a child with disabilities were out of reach for most families in Georgia. He stated that more active family support measures were important as a preventative measure against abandonment and institutionalization, especially for children with intellectual and psychosocial disabilities.⁴¹

42. The same Special Rapporteur recommended that Georgia assess and adjust the level of the social package for persons with disabilities to ensure its alignment with the right to an adequate standard of living.⁴²

43. The same Special Rapporteur stated that many persons with disabilities did not benefit from the support and social protection measures that were available, owing to a lack of awareness, especially in rural and remote areas and among those from ethnic minorities.⁴³

10. Right to an adequate standard of living

44. The ILO Committee of Experts trusted that Georgia would adopt adequate legislative provisions on the minimum wage and the proper payment of all wages.⁴⁴

45. The Committee on the Rights of the Child recommended that Georgia alleviate poverty among children and expand the targeted special assistance programme to include all children living in poverty, including asylum-seeking children, and further increase the coverage of the child cash benefit to support families in bringing up their children.⁴⁵

46. The same Committee recommended that Georgia ensure that all children, including those in rural and remote areas, had access to clean, drinkable water and adequate sanitation.⁴⁶

47. The Special Rapporteur on disability stated that there were currently no national housing strategy or unified standards for providing social housing.⁴⁷

11. Right to health

48. The United Nations country team stated that, despite progress, Georgia continued to face critical challenges in maternal and reproductive health. It recommended that Georgia guarantee universal access to quality sexual and reproductive health services for all individuals, include a full range of contraceptives in the universal healthcare benefits package

– targeting youth and women receiving State social assistance – and integrate age-appropriate, rights-based sexual and reproductive health rights and healthy lifestyle education into national general and vocational school curricula.⁴⁸

49. The Committee on the Rights of the Child recommended that Georgia further strengthen efforts to reduce infant and neonatal mortality rates and expand preventive healthcare services.⁴⁹

50. The same Committee recommended that Georgia strengthen measures to address children's exposure to lead, especially children in western Georgia and children living in poverty.⁵⁰

51. The Special Rapporteur on disability stated that there were serious concerns over the poor conditions in psychiatric institutions, which were overcrowded, with the result that there was a serious risk of neglect, abuse and violence.⁵¹

52. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women recommended that Georgia adopt measures to ensure the availability, accessibility and quality of mental healthcare services.⁵²

12. Right to education

53. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) recommended that Georgia fully enshrine the right to education, beyond basic education, in legislation and continue efforts to ensure quality education.⁵³

54. The Committee on the Rights of the Child recommended that Georgia take the measures necessary to improve the infrastructure and quality of education, and provide quality training for teachers, with particular emphasis on rural areas.⁵⁴

55. The United Nations country team recommended that Georgia introduce and implement inclusive education frameworks across all levels, ensuring full participation of children with disabilities and children with special needs.⁵⁵

56. The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination was concerned that significant challenges remained with regard to access to education and low educational outcomes for Roma children. Absenteeism and dropout rates were higher among Roma children, linked to a number of factors, including language and cultural barriers. It was concerned that child and/or forced marriage continued to constitute an additional obstacle to access to education for some Roma girls.⁵⁶

57. The Committee on the Rights of the Child remained concerned about poor school attendance and limited access to education for children belonging to ethnic minorities, in part due to the insufficient number of teachers in non-Georgian schools.⁵⁷

58. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women was concerned about the comparably higher dropout rates among and the barriers faced by girls with disabilities to access inclusive education, in particular in rural areas.⁵⁸

59. The Committee on the Rights of the Child remained concerned about the number of asylum-seeking and refugee children remaining out of school, as Georgian language classes were not provided throughout the country.⁵⁹

60. The same Committee recommended that Georgia ensure that computer equipment and sufficient Internet access were available, paying particular attention to children in rural areas and children with disabilities.⁶⁰

13. Cultural rights

61. The Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities was concerned that persons with disabilities faced barriers to access to tourism venues, including cultural monuments, taking part in cultural life and participating in sporting events, and that there was an absence of measures to facilitate persons with disabilities participating in cultural life, recreation, leisure and sport, in the long-term human rights strategy, 2022–2030.⁶¹

14. Development, the environment, and business and human rights

62. The Committee on the Rights of the Child urged Georgia to regulate and engage with the tourism industry in the prevention, monitoring and reporting of cases of sexual exploitation of children in travel and tourism.⁶²

63. The Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders was deeply concerned that people and groups organizing to protect the environment, whether in their local communities or on a regional or national scale, had reported a difficult and hostile environment.⁶³

B. Rights of specific persons or groups

1. Women

64. The Human Rights Committee remained concerned by the underreporting of cases of violence against women, particularly cases of sexual violence, low rates of prosecution and conviction for those crimes and insufficient protection and support services for victims, including psychological services.⁶⁴

65. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women recommended that Georgia, as a matter of priority, intensify efforts for the prevention of gender-based violence against women, in particular femicide, and ensure that all forms of gender-based violence against women and girls, including domestic and sexual violence, were effectively investigated and that perpetrators were prosecuted *ex officio*.⁶⁵

66. The same Committee recommended that Georgia strengthen victim support services and protection, provide adequate and accessible shelters, medical treatment, psychosocial counselling and economic support to victims, including in rape crisis centres, in all parts of the country.⁶⁶

67. The Human Rights Committee remained concerned about reports of the continuing underrepresentation of women, particularly women from vulnerable groups, in decision-making roles in all areas of public life.⁶⁷

68. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women was concerned that women in political and public life faced sexist and misogynist political discourse, sexual harassment, sexism, threats and intimidation.⁶⁸

69. The ILO Committee of Experts asked Georgia to step up its efforts to promote gender equality in employment and occupation and reduce occupational segregation, and to address existing stereotypes regarding women's professional aspirations, preferences and capabilities, and their role in the family.⁶⁹

2. Children

70. The Committee on the Rights of the Child was seriously concerned about the high level of violence against children and the insufficient procedural and policy measures in place to address violence against children in families, residential care, foster care and educational institutions.⁷⁰

71. The Human Rights Committee was concerned by reports of ill-treatment and violence, including sexual violence, committed against children in residential institutions.⁷¹

72. The Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities was concerned at reports of corporal punishment, abuse and domestic violence, affecting in particular children with disabilities in rural areas and autistic children.⁷²

73. The Committee on the Rights of the Child recommended that Georgia ensure prompt and effective investigations into all allegations of violence against children, in particular cases of sexual abuse and violence against children, and prosecute and punish the perpetrators with penalties commensurate with the gravity of their crimes.⁷³

74. The Human Rights Committee recommended that Georgia continue its efforts to ensure that independent monitoring bodies, including the Public Defender's Office, had

unimpeded access to all residential institutions in which children were housed and that all allegations of ill-treatment of and violence against children therein were promptly and effectively investigated, perpetrators were prosecuted and, if convicted, punished with appropriate penalties, and that victims had access to effective remedies and means of protection and assistance, including accommodation or shelters.⁷⁴

75. The Committee on the Rights of the Child recommended that Georgia strengthen its existing efforts and ensure that all children in all settings, including in public and private schools, foster care systems, alternative care settings and in detention, had access to confidential, child-friendly and independent complaint mechanisms for reporting all forms of violence, abuse, discrimination and other violations of their rights.⁷⁵

76. The Human Rights Committee recommended that Georgia continue its efforts to effectively enforce legal provisions prohibiting forced and early marriage, and corporal punishment and conduct awareness-campaigns throughout the country.⁷⁶

77. The Committee on the Rights of the Child, while welcoming the significant progress made in deinstitutionalization, remained seriously concerned about the continuing institutionalization of children in licensed small group homes which hosted up to 10 children each, the significant number of children residing in non-licensed residential care institutions, including religious ones, and the lack of monitoring of the conditions in such institutions, and the lack of a deinstitutionalization strategy and action plan in accordance with the Code on the Rights of the Child.⁷⁷

78. The same Committee recommended that Georgia phase out institutionalization and adopt, without delay, a strategy and action plan for deinstitutionalization, ensuring that there were adequate human, technical and financial resources for its implementation and that it included systemic transformation of the childcare, welfare and protection systems.⁷⁸

79. The same Committee recommended that Georgia eliminate hazardous child labour, especially in the informal sector and in agriculture.⁷⁹

80. The Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture recommended that Georgia put children in detention only as a measure of last resort and for the shortest appropriate period of time.⁸⁰

81. The Committee on the Rights of the Child recommended that Georgia, for the few situations where deprivation of liberty was justified as a measure of last resort, ensure that the children were not detained with adults and that detention conditions complied with international standards, including with regard to access to education and health services.⁸¹

82. The same Committee recommended that Georgia take measures for the effective identification of children in street situations and put in place referral mechanisms for their comprehensive and long-term care, recovery and reintegration, and prevent their involvement in hazardous work, including prostitution.⁸²

83. The same Committee recommended that Georgia expeditiously establish specialized child court facilities and procedures with adequate human, technical and financial resources and specialized judges for children. It also recommended that Georgia strengthen the capacity of the Juvenile Referral Centre and increase the reintegration services provided for children in need.⁸³

3. Older persons

84. The Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities recommended that Georgia amend the law on the rights of persons with disabilities to take into account the specific requirements of older persons with disabilities.⁸⁴

4. Persons with disabilities

85. The Committee on the Rights of the Child remained concerned about insufficient measures to prevent the abandonment of children with disabilities and their institutionalization.⁸⁵

86. The same Committee urged Georgia to take urgent measures to prevent the abandonment of children with disabilities and their institutionalization by providing comprehensive support to families with children with disabilities.⁸⁶

87. The Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities recommended that Georgia strengthen awareness-raising activities, such as public campaigns, with various target audience groups, aimed at eliminating negative stereotypes and prejudice towards persons with disabilities, in particular persons with intellectual or psychosocial disabilities and children with disabilities.⁸⁷

88. The same Committee was concerned about the absence of comprehensive national legislation about accessibility and of a national accessibility plan encompassing all areas of life.⁸⁸

89. The Special Rapporteur on disability recommended that Georgia repeal any discriminatory legal provisions that declared persons with disabilities unable to work and engage with employers and labour unions to combat stigma and raise awareness of the rights of persons with disabilities.⁸⁹

90. The Committee on the Rights of the Child remained concerned about the lack of quality healthcare services for children with disabilities, including therapeutic sessions for children with autism, especially in rural and remote areas, as well as for asylum-seeking, refugee and migrant children with disabilities.⁹⁰

91. The same Committee remained concerned about insufficient implementation of inclusive education owing to the lack of infrastructure, transportation, teaching resources, technologies and aids, including sign-language materials.⁹¹

92. The same Committee remained concerned about persistent discrimination and bullying of children with disabilities, including in schools and by school administrators and staff.⁹²

93. The Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities was concerned about the lack of information about legal aid and remedies, including access to a lawyer, for persons with disabilities.⁹³

94. The same Committee recommended that Georgia ensure the availability, accessibility, affordability and adaptability of services in the community for persons with disabilities, including with regard to education, healthcare, participation in political and public life and rehabilitation, and remove segregated services.⁹⁴

5. Minorities

95. The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination was concerned that discriminatory attitudes towards ethnic minorities were still persistent and that awareness of the relevant legislation and redress mechanisms remained limited, particularly among ethnic minorities.⁹⁵

96. The same Committee was concerned about persistent, structural socioeconomic inequalities, in particular in rural areas densely inhabited by ethnic minorities, including in regard to employment and health.⁹⁶

97. The ILO Committee of Experts asked Georgia to continue to promote equality of opportunity and treatment of ethnic minorities in employment and occupation, including through targeted measures to increase their representation in governance institutions and improve their educational opportunities.⁹⁷

98. The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination was concerned about the continued low representation of minorities in political and decision-making bodies and public administration, including at the municipal level.⁹⁸

99. The same Committee recommended that Georgia implement a comprehensive strategy to improve Georgian language skills among ethnic minorities, particularly in areas densely inhabited by ethnic minorities, including with regard to adult education.⁹⁹

100. The Human Rights Committee noted with concern the relatively low rate of birth registration among minority groups.¹⁰⁰

6. Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons

101. The Human Rights Committee remained concerned about the reported prevalence of discrimination, harassment, intimidation and attacks against lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons, advocates for their rights and journalists.¹⁰¹

102. The same Committee was concerned by reports of homophobic and transphobic rhetoric being conducted with impunity by politicians, other public officials and religious figures.¹⁰²

103. OHCHR stated that the law on family values and protection of minors equated same-sex relationships with incest, denied legal recognition to same-sex couples and transgender people, restricted access to healthcare and undermined efforts to fight HIV/AIDS. It recommended that Georgia repeal the law and address risks emanating from it, including hate speech, possible incidents of violence, stigma, intolerance and misinformation.¹⁰³

104. The Human Rights Committee recommended that Georgia step up its efforts to provide effective protection against all forms of discrimination and violence on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity, both in law and in practice, and ensure that such violations were promptly and effectively investigated, that perpetrators were held accountable, with penalties commensurate with the seriousness of the crime, and that victims had access to full reparation.¹⁰⁴

7. Migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers

105. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) was concerned that the law on international protection introduced concepts of “safe third country” and “safe country of origin” without setting out procedures or criteria for determining which countries were considered safe, and assigned responsibility for designating safe countries solely to the Ministry of Internal Affairs, without providing for independent oversight or judicial review. That potentially put people at risk of being returned to harm and therefore undermined the principle of non-refoulement.¹⁰⁵

106. UNHCR stated that the delivery of court decisions exclusively in the Georgian language, without translation support or guaranteed legal aid, deprived many asylum-seekers of meaningful access to justice.¹⁰⁶

8. Internally displaced persons

107. The Human Rights Committee remained deeply concerned by information that about 52 per cent of internally displaced families were waiting to be accommodated, while many lived in municipal buildings, schools and camps, which were not suitable for long-term accommodation and were often without running water, electricity or a sewerage system. It regretted reports of the high levels of poverty among those individuals, the insufficient amount of their monthly allowance and their inadequate access to social services.¹⁰⁷

108. The Independent Expert on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order stated that a large number of internally displaced persons were not registered administratively, particularly those in rural areas, which prevented them from benefiting from essential services.¹⁰⁸

9. Stateless persons

109. UNHCR recommended that Georgia amend article 10 of the law on citizenship to reduce the risk of childhood statelessness and ensure that the rights of stateless persons were fully respected without discrimination. It also recommended that Georgia introduce a provision in the law granting nationality to all children born in Georgia who would otherwise be stateless.¹⁰⁹

110. The Committee on the Rights of the Child urged Georgia to establish an effective and efficient identification and referral mechanism for children who were undocumented and at

risk of statelessness, and ensure that its legislation was in line with the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons.¹¹⁰

C. Specific regions or territories

111. OHCHR stated that there were continuing allegations of human rights violations in Abkhazia, Georgia, and the Tskhinvali region/South Ossetia, Georgia, including violations of the right to life; torture and ill-treatment; arbitrary detention; violations of property rights; violations of the right to receive an education in native languages; restrictions on freedom of movement; and discrimination on ethnic grounds. The absence of effective remedies for violations and abuses of human rights or regular and independent monitoring and reporting – compounded by the lack of international access, especially to South Ossetia – continued to hinder human rights protection on the ground.¹¹¹

112. OHCHR reiterated its call for immediate and unimpeded access for OHCHR and international and regional human rights organizations and mechanisms to Abkhazia and South Ossetia.¹¹²

Notes

- ¹ [A/HRC/47/15](#), [A/HRC/47/15/Add.1](#) and [A/HRC/47/2](#).
- ² [CERD/C/GEO/CO/9-10](#), para. 19. See also [CRC/C/GEO/CO/5-6](#), para. 44; [CEDAW/C/GEO/CO/6](#), para. 47; and UNESCO submission for the universal periodic review of Georgia, para. 27.
- ³ [CEDAW/C/GEO/CO/6](#), para. 36 (f).
- ⁴ [CRPD/C/GEO/CO/1](#), para. 60 (a). See also [A/HRC/55/56/Add.1](#), para. 88 (a).
- ⁵ United Nations country team submission for the universal periodic review of Georgia, paras. 11 and 12.
- ⁶ *Ibid.*, paras. 15 and 17.
- ⁷ *Ibid.*, para. 18.
- ⁸ *Ibid.*, p. 7.
- ⁹ [CCPR/C/GEO/CO/5](#), para. 10. See also [CEDAW/C/GEO/CO/6](#), paras. 19 and 20.
- ¹⁰ [CAT/OP/GEO/ROSP/1](#), para. 24.
- ¹¹ [CCPR/C/GEO/CO/5](#), para. 19.
- ¹² *Ibid.*, para. 20 (d).
- ¹³ See https://normlex.ilo.org/dyn/nrmlx_en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID,P13100_COUNTRY_ID:4373069,102639:NO.
- ¹⁴ [A/HRC/59/66](#), para. 10. See also [CCPR/C/GEO/CO/5](#), para. 45.
- ¹⁵ [A/HRC/59/66](#), para. 65 (a). See also United Nations country team submission, p. 5; and [CCPR/C/GEO/CO/5](#), paras. 28 (c) and 46 (a).
- ¹⁶ [CRPD/C/GEO/CO/1](#), para. 31 (b).
- ¹⁷ [CCPR/C/GEO/CO/5](#), para. 28 (a).
- ¹⁸ [CAT/OP/GEO/ROSP/1](#), para. 70.
- ¹⁹ [CCPR/C/GEO/CO/5](#), para. 37. See also [A/HRC/54/28/Add.1](#), para. 33.
- ²⁰ United Nations country team submission, p. 10.
- ²¹ *Ibid.*
- ²² [CCPR/C/GEO/CO/5](#), para. 30.
- ²³ *Ibid.*, para. 11.
- ²⁴ *Ibid.*, para. 43 (b).
- ²⁵ United Nations country team submission, para. 26.
- ²⁶ [CCPR/C/GEO/CO/5](#), para. 44 (a).
- ²⁷ United Nations country team submission, para. 22.
- ²⁸ [CCPR/C/GEO/CO/5](#), para. 41.
- ²⁹ *Ibid.*, para. 39.
- ³⁰ [CRPD/C/GEO/CO/1](#), para. 45.
- ³¹ [A/HRC/55/56/Add.1](#), para. 65.
- ³² [CRC/C/GEO/CO/5-6](#), para. 27 (d).
- ³³ [CEDAW/C/GEO/CO/6](#), para. 28 (a).
- ³⁴ See https://normlex.ilo.org/dyn/nrmlx_en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID,P13100_COUNTRY_ID:4353794,102639:NO.
- ³⁵ See https://normlex.ilo.org/dyn/nrmlx_en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID,P13100_COUNTRY_ID:4415045,102639:NO.

- ³⁶ [CRC/C/GEO/CO/5-6](#), para. 40 (c).
- ³⁷ [CEDAW/C/GEO/CO/6](#), para. 36 (c).
- ³⁸ [CRPD/C/GEO/CO/1](#), para. 54 (c).
- ³⁹ See https://normlex.ilo.org/dyn/nrmlx_en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID,P13100_COUNTRY_ID:4414502,102639:NO.
- ⁴⁰ United Nations country team submission, p. 13.
- ⁴¹ [A/HRC/55/56/Add.1](#), paras. 37 and 38.
- ⁴² *Ibid.*, para. 87 (m).
- ⁴³ *Ibid.*, para. 36.
- ⁴⁴ See https://normlex.ilo.org/dyn/nrmlx_en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID,P13100_COUNTRY_ID:4415045,102639:NO.
- ⁴⁵ [CRC/C/GEO/CO/5-6](#), para. 34 (a).
- ⁴⁶ *Ibid.*, para. 34 (b).
- ⁴⁷ [A/HRC/55/56/Add.1](#), para. 33.
- ⁴⁸ United Nations country team submission, para. 34 and p. 12.
- ⁴⁹ [CRC/C/GEO/CO/5-6](#), para. 18 (a).
- ⁵⁰ *Ibid.*, para. 31 (b).
- ⁵¹ [A/HRC/55/56/Add.1](#), para. 72.
- ⁵² [CEDAW/C/GEO/CO/6](#), para. 38 (e). See also [A/HRC/55/56/Add.1](#), para. 91 (a).
- ⁵³ UNESCO submission, para. 22.
- ⁵⁴ [CRC/C/GEO/CO/5-6](#), para. 37 (b).
- ⁵⁵ United Nations country team submission, p. 14.
- ⁵⁶ [CERD/C/GEO/CO/9-10](#), para. 13.
- ⁵⁷ [CRC/C/GEO/CO/5-6](#), para. 36 (a).
- ⁵⁸ [CEDAW/C/GEO/CO/6](#), para. 33 (c).
- ⁵⁹ [CRC/C/GEO/CO/5-6](#), para. 36 (e).
- ⁶⁰ *Ibid.*, para. 37 (f). See also United Nations country team submission, p. 14.
- ⁶¹ [CRPD/C/GEO/CO/1](#), para. 59 (b).
- ⁶² [CRC/C/GEO/CO/5-6](#), para. 26 (c).
- ⁶³ [A/HRC/55/50/Add.2](#), para. 65.
- ⁶⁴ [CCPR/C/GEO/CO/5](#), para. 23.
- ⁶⁵ [CEDAW/C/GEO/CO/6](#), para. 26 (c) and (d).
- ⁶⁶ *Ibid.*, para. 26 (e).
- ⁶⁷ [CCPR/C/GEO/CO/5](#), para. 15.
- ⁶⁸ [CEDAW/C/GEO/CO/6](#), para. 29 (b).
- ⁶⁹ See https://normlex.ilo.org/dyn/nrmlx_en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID,P13100_COUNTRY_ID:4373072,102639:NO.
- ⁷⁰ [CRC/C/GEO/CO/5-6](#), para. 22 (a).
- ⁷¹ [CCPR/C/GEO/CO/5](#), para. 47.
- ⁷² [CRPD/C/GEO/CO/1](#), para. 33 (d).
- ⁷³ [CRC/C/GEO/CO/5-6](#), para. 23 (a).
- ⁷⁴ [CCPR/C/GEO/CO/5](#), para. 48 (a).
- ⁷⁵ [CRC/C/GEO/CO/5-6](#), para. 12 (a).
- ⁷⁶ [CCPR/C/GEO/CO/5](#), para. 48 (b). See also [CERD/C/GEO/CO/9-10](#), para. 14 (d); [CRPD/C/GEO/CO/1](#), para. 34 (e); [CRC/C/GEO/CO/5-6](#), para. 25 (a); and [CEDAW/C/GEO/CO/6](#), para. 43 (a).
- ⁷⁷ [CRC/C/GEO/CO/5-6](#), para. 27 (a)–(c).
- ⁷⁸ *Ibid.*, para. 28 (a). See also [CRPD/C/GEO/CO/1](#), para. 40 (b).
- ⁷⁹ [CRC/C/GEO/CO/5-6](#), para. 40 (a).
- ⁸⁰ [CAT/OP/GEO/ROSP/1](#), para. 99.
- ⁸¹ [CRC/C/GEO/CO/5-6](#), para. 42 (g).
- ⁸² *Ibid.*, para. 41 (b).
- ⁸³ *Ibid.*, para. 42 (b) and (c).
- ⁸⁴ [CRPD/C/GEO/CO/1](#), para. 12 (d).
- ⁸⁵ [CRC/C/GEO/CO/5-6](#), para. 29 (c).
- ⁸⁶ *Ibid.*, para. 30 (b).
- ⁸⁷ [CRPD/C/GEO/CO/1](#), para. 18 (a).
- ⁸⁸ *Ibid.*, para. 19 (a).
- ⁸⁹ [A/HRC/55/56/Add.1](#), para. 87 (k) and (l).
- ⁹⁰ [CRC/C/GEO/CO/5-6](#), para. 29 (d).
- ⁹¹ *Ibid.*, para. 36 (d).
- ⁹² *Ibid.*, para. 29 (e).
- ⁹³ [CRPD/C/GEO/CO/1](#), para. 27 (c).

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- ⁹⁴ Ibid., para. 40 (e).
⁹⁵ [CERD/C/GEO/CO/9-10](#), para. 7.
⁹⁶ Ibid., para. 11 (e).
⁹⁷ See https://normlex.ilo.org/dyn/nrmlx_en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID,P13100_COUNTRY_ID:4057606,102639:NO.
⁹⁸ [CERD/C/GEO/CO/9-10](#), para. 11 (a).
⁹⁹ Ibid., para. 12 (b).
¹⁰⁰ [CCPR/C/GEO/CO/5](#), para. 51.
¹⁰¹ Ibid., para. 17.
¹⁰² Ibid.
¹⁰³ [A/HRC/59/66](#), paras. 22 and 65 (d). See also United Nations country team submission, p. 8.
¹⁰⁴ [CCPR/C/GEO/CO/5](#), para. 18 (a).
¹⁰⁵ UNHCR submission for the universal periodic review of Georgia, pp. 2 and 3.
¹⁰⁶ Ibid., p. 4.
¹⁰⁷ [CCPR/C/GEO/CO/5](#), para. 33.
¹⁰⁸ [A/HRC/54/28/Add.1](#), para. 11.
¹⁰⁹ UNHCR submission, pp. 4 and 5.
¹¹⁰ [CRC/C/GEO/CO/5-6](#), para. 20 (b).
¹¹¹ [A/HRC/59/66](#), para. 30.
¹¹² Ibid., para. 66.
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