

Annex - Response to the Recommendations accepted by Georgia during the 1st cycle UPR (2011)

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country of	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
1.	Consider accession to the remaining core international human rights instruments	Brazil 105.1		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>At present, Georgia is a State Party to the various core international human rights instruments. Since 2011 Georgia has become a State Party to: Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons (<i>in force for Georgia since 22 March, 2012</i>); Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (<i>ratified by Georgia on 2 April, 2014</i>); UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (<i>in force for Georgia since 12 April, 2014</i>); Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (<i>in force for Georgia since January 1, 2015</i>); Hague Convention of 19 October 1996 on Jurisdiction, Applicable Law, Recognition, Enforcement and Cooperation in respect of Parental Responsibility and Measures for the Protection of Children (<i>in force for Georgia since March 1, 2015</i>). Furthermore, on 19 June 2014 Georgia has signed the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence Against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention). Currently, the process of harmonization of Georgian legislation with the provisions of the Istanbul Convention is underway in order to complete the ratification process of the Convention.</p> <p>At the same time, Georgian authorities have already initiated relevant internal legal procedures with an aim to consider the accession to those international and regional human rights instruments that Georgia is not yet a party to: the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a Communications Procedure; International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families; International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced disappearance; Optional Protocol of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.</p>

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2.	Consider the possibility of becoming a party to the following international instruments: a) International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families; b) Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities c) International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance	Argentina a 105.2		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>On 26 of December 2013, the Parliament of Georgia ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). (<i>in force for Georgia since 12 April, 2014</i>). On 20th of January, 2014 the Georgian Government adopted the Government Action Plan 2014-2016 in order to ensure equal opportunities of persons with disabilities which is elaborated according to the convention principles and considers to implement complex measures to realize also the rights of the persons with disabilities (PWD) in recent years:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establishment of National mechanisms for monitoring and implementation of the Convention; 2. In 2016, to submit the Initial report to the UN Committee; 3. Harmonization of domestic legislation; 4. Preparation of conclusions by the state agencies about the feasibility of the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention. <p>The Coordination Council on the issues of Persons with Disabilities was established by the Government of Georgia and is chaired by the Prime Minister of Georgia. The Council is a national organ for implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).</p> <p>Georgian authorities have already initiated relevant internal legal procedures with an aim to consider the accession International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families and International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced disappearance.</p>

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3.	Consider ratifying of the International Convention on the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, in accordance with the recommendation of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, as well as the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	Algeria 105.3		Status: Implemented See response to recommendation 105.1 and 105.2.

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4.	Consider ratifying the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	Mexico 105.4		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>On December 26, 2013, the Parliament of Georgia ratified the Convention on the Right of the Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), which entered into force for Georgia on April 12, 2014.</p> <p>See also response to recommendation 105.2.</p>

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5.	Consider ratifying the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities as well as the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict.	India 105.5		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>On December 26, 2013, the Parliament of Georgia ratified the Convention on the Right of the Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), which entered into force for Georgia on April 12, 2014. See also response to recommendation 105.2.</p> <p>Georgia acceded to the Optional Protocol of the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict on 3 September, 2010 (Ratified by the Parliament of Georgia in 2002, entered into force from 3 September, 2010).</p>

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6.	Respectfully the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, in particular its article 14, as well as the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, particularly its article 6, as well as adopt appropriate measures to guarantee the impartiality of its judicial system	France 105.6		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>With an aim to further strengthen the impartiality of judiciary, several set of reforms have been undertaken within the country. The first stage of reforms of the judiciary started in 2012 and was primarily aimed at de-politicizing and strengthening the independence of the High Council of Justice and a number of other institutions of the judicial self-government. The enacted amendments ensure participation of judges in the formation of the High Council of Justice and a decision-making process on the judicial system in general. The right to nominate the candidates for the membership and the position of the secretary of the High Council of Justice is no longer exclusively vested with the chairman of the Supreme Court and is now granted to any judge. The first wave amendments also increased the transparency of the court and disciplinary proceedings. The provisions regulating the recording and broadcasting of the court proceedings and publication of the decisions of the Disciplinary Chamber and Disciplinary Board were revised. The powers of initiating and deciding on disciplinary proceedings against judges – previously vested with the same body – were split and allocated to the two different ones. The members of the disciplinary board and chamber can no longer be the members of the High Council of Justice which now ensures impartiality in the activities of the disciplinary chamber and board.</p> <p>At the next stage of reforms in line with the Constitution, the Organic Law “on Common Courts has determined the provision on probationary appointment of judges for three - year period. In particular, in accordance with Article 36(4¹) of the Organic Law of Georgia “on Common Courts”, the judge of a district (city) court and court of appeals shall be appointed to office for a term of three years and shall be assessed during these three years by the members of the High Council of Justice of Georgia (‘the evaluators’). To this end, a transparent mechanism for assessing the judicial performance during this period was also elaborated and entered</p>

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				<p>into force. The key criteria set by the mechanism are integrity and competence. Integrity in turn is divided into several subcategories and impartiality is one of these subcategories. Therefore, when assessing a judge based on impartiality account shall be taken of his/her adherence to principles, ability independently make a decision, and resistance to influence, personal steadfastness and firmness, political or other type of impartiality, fairness, etc.</p> <p>In addition, a transparent mechanism for assessing judicial candidates has also been introduced in the “Rule of Selection of Judicial Candidates” approved by the Decision of the High Council of Justice of Georgia. In accordance with Article 8 (2b) of the Rule, impartiality is one of the criteria for evaluation of judicial candidates, meaning that the members of High Council of Justice, while evaluating the candidates for judicial office, are obliged to assess whether they meet the requirement of impartiality or not.</p> <p>The third stage of reform was launched in spring 2014. It is focused on the guarantees for independence of an individual judge and his/her involvement in the activities of the court. The draft legislative amendments of this stage are aimed at the following changes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Filling of the judicial vacancies through competition as opposed to direct appointment; - Clear articulation of the guarantees for non-interference in the activities of a judge; - Election of chief justices of all district and higher instance courts by the judges themselves; - Transferring to the High Council of Justice the authority of the chief justices of courts to institute disciplinary proceedings; - Introduction of the principle of automatic allocation of cases; - Strict regulation of transfer of judges to another court; the transfer shall be strictly consensual, in exceptional circumstances and to

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				<p>closely located court only;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Refinement of the procedure of disciplinary proceedings. <p>Furthermore, the High School of Justice regularly provides training for judges on the issue of the Right to Fair Trial, which in turn also covers the issue of impartiality. For instance in 2013-2014 two trainings were conducted on the aforementioned topic and 25 judges participated in it.</p>

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7.	Ratify the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness	Slovakia 106.11.	Partially: Government is undertaking the review of national legal framework for the reason of subsequent ratification of 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons. However, Georgia is not intending to become a part of the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.	<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>Georgia acceded to 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons on December 23, 2011.</p> <p>After the accession of Georgia to the above Convention, the State Commission on Migration, notably its group for the reduction of statelessness, had prepared the legislative amendments, lately adopted by the Parliament of Georgia and entered into force in June 2012. In particular, aiming harmonization of Georgian legislation with the 1954 Convention, respective changes were introduced in 12 laws. As a result, a definition of stateless person, procedure for status establishment and authority of status seeker was defined on a legislative level. Furthermore, the standards established by 1954 Convention towards persons possessing stateless person's status in the fields of social security and healthcare, education, documenting, etc. was taken into consideration on the legislative level.</p> <p>In order to carry out monitoring of the harmonization of Georgian legislation with the UN 1954 Convention, the Georgian legislation is being at present analyzed and in case of need the legislative proposals will be prepared aimed at defining or enforcing the rights of stateless persons in separate branches of legislation.</p> <p>On April 2, 2014 the Georgian Parliament ratified the 1961 UN convention on the reduction of Statelessness. In order to support the harmonization of the Georgian legislation with the above mentioned convention, the Organic law on Citizenship of Georgia was drafted, which is almost entirely based on the principles of the convention and sets up a number of mechanisms to prevent and reduce the number of Statelessness in Georgia. In particular, in case of granting citizenship of Georgia to the citizen of other country under regular procedure or by the</p>

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				<p>way of restoration, as well as in case of withdrawal from citizenship of Georgia, the presidential decree enters into force only after the person submits the documents proving the granting/withdrawal from the citizenship of other country. Simplified mechanism of the neutralization of minors is set up, as well as the possibility of losing Georgian citizenship due to the lack of consular registration while living in another country is abolished.</p>

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8.	Ratify the Convention on the Status of Stateless Persons and the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness;	Bolivia 106.12.	Partially: Government is undertaking the review of national legal framework for the reason of subsequent ratification of 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons. However, Georgia is not intending to become a part of the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.	Status: Implemented Georgia acceded to 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons on December 23, 2011. On April 2, 2014 the Georgian Parliament ratified the 1961 UN convention on the reduction of Statelessness. See further the response to recommendation 106.11.

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	Constitutional and legislative framework			

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9.	Fully implement the Venice Commission and OSCE/ODIHR electoral reform recommendations, in consultation with opposition parties and civil society groups, well in advance of the 2012 and 2013 elections	USA 106.16.	Partially: Georgia supports the premise of this recommendation and works closely with both the Venice Commission and OSCE/ODIHR to ensure that their recommendations are taken into account in the final package of electoral amendments to the maximum extent possible. The reform process is a multi-party and multi-sectoral effort, with 15 political parties and civil society experts being directly engaged in the work of the Election Code Working Group. Final consensus will require an	<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>The implementation of the Venice Commission and OSCE/ODIHR electoral reform recommendations were completed in 2013.</p> <p>Administrative bodies have jurisdiction over complaints filed with them should immediately forward them to the competent authority. Stakeholders can file complaints to the competent bodies in order to ensure effective, impartial and timely adjudication.</p> <p>To ensure that the legislation is consistent, loans received by political parties for the purpose of election campaigning is already subject to the same restrictions and reporting requirements as donations.</p> <p>The legislative amendment have passed at the Election Code, which states that political parties should protect gender quotas for the submission list in the parliamentary elections. After election at least 25% representation of women in parliament will be provided.</p> <p>On reform of the electoral legislation, GE informed that the provisions declared unconstitutional by the Constitutional Court and the electoral system in general were being widely discussed. Replacing the current so called Parallel (Majoritarian-Proportional) system with the proportional system is under consideration. Discussions involve the parliamentary and non-parliamentary parties, different governmental agencies, institutions, experts, etc. GE also informed on ongoing work on the new constitutional amendments within the Constitutional Commission aiming at: preparing the draft of the Constitutional Law; improving separation of the government on horizontal and vertical level, the system of checks and balances; improving the status and functions of the independent constitutional institutions, which were left beyond the constitutional regulations.</p>

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			intensive consultation process, in which OSCE/ODIHR recommendations will serve as important guide posts. However, the extent of the implementation of Venice Commission and OSCE/ODIHR recommendations will be subject to broad political consensus.	

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10.	Complete and enact the draft media law reform, such that it includes measures to increase media ownership transparency and financial transparency	USA 106.14.	Accepts: On 8 April 2011, the Parliament of Georgia passed amendments to the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting to enhance media ownership and financial transparency. Measures included a prohibition for companies registered in offshore locations to own shares in a broadcasting license.	<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>The major changes in Georgia's legislation, mainly in the Georgian law on Broadcasting, related to transparency of the media ownership as well as financial transparency were made by the parliament of Georgia in 2011. The amendments aimed to tackle two problems: 1. Broadcasters registered in offshore zones providing no access to owners' identification data and 2. hidden interests of local owners.</p> <p>The new regulations determined who shall not hold the license/authorization in the broadcasting sector and this prohibition applied to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Public (administrative) authority; ▪ officials or other employees of public (administrative) authority; ▪ Legal entity interdependent with public (administrative) authority; ▪ Political party or its officials; ▪ Legal entity registered in offshore zone; ▪ Legal entity with a share or stocks in it directly or indirectly owned by a legal entity registered in offshore zone. <p>According to 2011 year amendments of Georgian Law on Broadcasting, Georgian National Communications Commission (The regulator state body) affirmed form of Declaration of Compliance, which should be enclosed to an application by the seeker of license/authorization. The declaration of compliance consists of the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ identification data of a seeker of license/authorization; ▪ data on superior officers and bodies of a seeker of license/authorization;

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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ a confirmation that a seeker of license/authorization or its beneficial owner are not the persons to whom it is prohibited to own the license/authorization in the broadcasting sector ▪ Identification data of beneficial owners of a seeker of license/authorization and information about the shares owned by them. <p>Georgian Law on broadcasting also defines who the beneficial owner of the broadcaster is.</p> <p>Beneficial owner is determined as a person who on the basis of law or a deal, receives or may receive monetary or other benefit from broadcaster's activity and has no obligation to transfer it to another person. If a beneficial owner is a legal entity created to further ideal goals, or if a legal entity owner does not have a person who owns a substantial share, beneficial owner is a member of its governing body.</p> <p>Broadcaster's transparency obligation consists of several activities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Obligation to provide the regulator with the declaration of compliance in case of a change in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • owners of a broadcaster; • stockholders of a broadcaster's share; • members of governing bodies and officials of a broadcaster; <p>In this case, the broadcaster is obliged to inform the regulator within 10 days of the occurrence of such change and also the broadcaster is obliged to publish the declaration of compliance on broadcaster's web-site;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Annually, no later than February 1 the broadcaster is obliged to provide

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				<p>the regulator as well as society by the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • declaration of compliance (despite changes within a year); • on holding other licenses in broadcasting sphere or authorization of broadcasting; • on holding a share or stocks in any other broadcaster; • on possessing a periodical printed publication; • on holding a share or stocks in a periodical printed publication; • on possessing a news agency; • on holding a share or stocks in a news agency; • on holding a share or at least 5% of stocks in any other company. <p>Note: If the holder of a share or stocks in its capital, a founder, other member, director, donor or their family member concurrently holds share or stocks in other license holders or a person having broadcasting authorization, a share or stocks in a periodical printed publication, a share or stocks in a news agency, a broadcaster shall also disclose and furnish regulator with the above mentioned information.</p> <p>Due to the digital switch over, in June 2015 the Parliament of Georgia has amended the Georgian law on Broadcasting. Consequently, common procedure for broadcast authorization was amended.</p> <p>The new paragraph 3c, 3d, 3e and 3f of article 45¹ defines which documentation and information shall be enclosed with authorization application. In accordance with the amended law a person seeking to carry out broadcasting shall provide information about sources of Financing, asset declarations of this person and his family members.</p> <p>The paragraphs 60 and 61 of the law on broadcasting strictly define broadcaster concentration on the market.</p>

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11.	Amend legislation, public policies and programmes to comply with its international commitments against all forms of discrimination, as stipulated in the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women	Bolivia 106.19.	Georgia accepts the essence of the recommendation. However, Georgia cannot accept the portion of the recommendation asking specifically to “amend legislation”, as it considers that existing national law, policy and programs comply with its international obligations under the named conventions. Georgia cooperates closely with the United Nations Treaty Monitoring Bodies, will continue to do so in the future and will take	<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>In relation to CERD:</p> <p>On May 2, 2014 the Law of Georgia on Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination was adopted by the Parliament. The adoption of the Law was accompanied with a set of amendments to other legislative acts, including Law on Gender Equality, Criminal Code of Georgia, etc. to harmonize provisions of all relevant statutory acts that serve to elimination of discrimination and ensuring equality.</p> <p>Purpose of the law shall be elimination of all forms of discrimination and ensure for every person equal enjoyment of rights prescribed by law irrespective of race, skin colour, language, sex, age, citizenship, origin, place of birth or residence, property or social status, religion or belief, national, ethnic or social origin, profession, marital status, health, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, political or other opinions, or other characteristics (Article 1 of the Law) <i>See Appendix I.</i></p> <p>The Law also distinguishes between direct and indirect discrimination. The former is defined as “the kind of treatment or creating the conditions when one person is treated less favorably than another person in a comparable situation on any grounds specified in Article 1 of this Law or when persons in inherently unequal conditions are treated equally in the enjoyment of the rights provided for by the legislation of Georgia, unless such treatment or creating such conditions serves the statutory purpose of maintaining public order and morals, has an objective and reasonable justification, and is necessary in a democratic society, and the means of achieving that purpose are appropriate” whereas the latter is defined as “a situation where a provision, criterion or practice, neutral in form but discriminatory in substance, puts persons having any of the</p>

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		<p>measures as necessary to ensure continued compatibility with its international commitments</p>	<p>characteristics specified in Article 1 of this Law at a disadvantage compared with another person in a comparable situation, or equally treats persons who are in inherently unequal conditions, unless such situation serves the statutory purpose of maintaining public order and morals, has an objective and reasonable justification, and is necessary in a democratic society, and the means of achieving that purpose are appropriate.”</p> <p>The novelty of the law is the introduction of the concept of multiple discrimination previously unknown to the Georgian legal system. The law defines the multiple discrimination as discrimination based on combination of two or more characteristics and provides that any form of discrimination, being it direct, indirect or multiple, shall be prohibited in Georgia. Simultaneously, it stipulates that special and provisional measures aimed at encouraging equality, particularly in gender issues, shall not be considered as discrimination.</p> <p>Discrimination according to the Law shall be prohibited in all spheres, both public and private. Elimination of discrimination and ensuring of equality shall be monitored and controlled by an independent body – Public Defender of Georgia. To exercise this power the Public Defender shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) discuss the applications and complaints of natural and legal persons or groups of persons, who consider themselves to be victims of discrimination; b) examine acts of discrimination based on applications or complaints, as well as on his/her own initiative and make appropriate recommendations; c) prepare and forward general proposals to relevant institutions or persons on the issue of preventing and combating discrimination; d) for the purposes of this Law, prepare opinions regarding necessary legislative changes and submit them to the Parliament of Georgia as legislative proposals;

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				<p>e) invite a victim of discrimination and an alleged discriminating person, and try to settle the case by mutual agreement of the parties;</p> <p>f) submit recommendations to relevant institutions or persons to restore the rights of victims of discrimination if the parties fail to reach an agreement and if there is sufficient evidence of discrimination;</p> <p>g) be authorised to apply to a court, as an interested person, according to the Administrative Procedure Code of Georgia, and request the issue of an administrative legal act or the performance of an action, unless an administrative body responds to or shares a recommendation and there is sufficient evidence of discrimination;</p> <p>h) record and analyse statistical data on discrimination cases;</p> <p>i) organise events to raise public awareness of discrimination;</p> <p>j) cooperate with various international governmental and non-governmental organisations, local non-governmental organisations and the representatives of local civil society on discrimination issues.</p> <p>The Public Defender also prepares and publishes a special annual report on combating and preventing discrimination, as well as on equality situation in the country.</p> <p>It is important to mention that in March, 2012, Article 53 of Criminal Code of Georgia was amended. The newly inserted paragraph of the mentioned Article envisages that any crime committed under the discriminatory bases is considered as aggravated circumstance.</p> <p>In relation to the CRC:</p> <p>During recent years Georgian legislative framework has advanced significantly. The Government of Georgia has reviewed and amended the</p>

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				national legislation in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of Child (1989) (<i>hereinafter</i> – CRC) ¹ together with its additional protocol (2000), ² Geneva declaration on the rights of the child (1924), ³ UN declaration on the rights of the child (1959), ⁴ the Beijing Rules (1985), ⁵ Guidelines on Justice in Matters Involving Child Victims and Witnesses of Crime (2005), ⁶ United Nations Rules for the Protection of Juveniles Deprived of their Liberty (Havana Rules) (1990), ⁷ United Nations Guidelines for the Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency (1990), ⁸ Council of Europe Convention on Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (Lanzarote Convention) (2007), ⁹ Guidelines of the

¹ Convention on the Rights of the Child adopted by General Assembly resolution 44/25 of 20 November 1989, available at: <http://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/crc.aspx>.

² Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography adopted by General Assembly resolution A/RES/54/263 of 25 May, 2000, available at: <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/OPSCCRC.aspx>.

³ Geneva Declaration of the Rights of the Child adopted by League of Nations on 26 September, 1924, available at: <http://www.un-documents.net/gdrc1924.htm>.

⁴ Declaration of The Rights of the Child adopted by UN General Assembly Resolution 1386 (XIV) of 10 December 1959, available at: <http://www.un.org/cyberschoolbus/humanrights/resources/child.asp>.

⁵ United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Administration of Juvenile Justice ("The Beijing Rules") adopted by General Assembly resolution 40/33 of 29 November 1985, available at: <http://www.un.org/documents/ga/res/40/a40r033.htm>.

⁶ Guidelines on Justice in Matters Involving Child Victims and Witnesses of Crime adopted by the Economic and Social Council resolution 2005/20 of 22 July, 2005, available at: <http://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/docs/2005/resolution%202005-20.pdf>.

⁷ United Nations Rules for the Protection of Juveniles Deprived of their Liberty adopted by General Assembly resolution 45/113 of 14 December 1990, available at: <http://www.unrol.org/files/TH007.PDF>.

⁸ United Nations Guidelines for the Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency adopted by the General Assembly on 14 December 1990 (A/RES/45/112) , available at: <http://www.un.org/documents/ga/res/45/a45r112.htm>.

⁹ Council of Europe Convention on Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse, 2007, available at: http://www.coe.int/t/dghl/standardsetting/children/Lanzarote%20Convention_EN.pdf.

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				<p>Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on child-friendly justice (2010),¹⁰ the European Rules (2008),¹¹ two model laws of the UNODC (Model Law on Justice in Matters Involving Children in Conflict with the Law (and related Commentary); Model Law on Justice in matters involving child victims and witnesses of crime (and related Commentary)), statutes of various international organizations as well as other important documents and best practices of different countries. Legislative reform includes, inter alia, adoption of the new Criminal Procedure Code¹² and Code on Imprisonment¹³, which establish effective guarantees for the protection of the rights of juvenile offenders.</p> <p>Prevention of juvenile crime is one of the key priorities of the Government within the Juvenile Justice (<i>hereinafter</i> – JJ) component of the overall Criminal Justice Reform (<i>hereinafter</i>– CJR). The emphasis is put on the developing various programs aimed at primary, as well as secondary and tertiary prevention of youth delinquency.</p> <p>The Juvenile Crime Prevention Strategy of Georgia was elaborated by the JJ Working Group (<i>hereinafter</i> - JJ WG) in September and adopted by the Criminal Justice Reform Inter-Agency Coordination Council (<i>hereinafter</i> – ICC) on December 16, 2011. The Strategy was approved in March 2012. The strategy aims to develop unified national policy for juvenile delinquency prevention, provide the basis for development of effective crime preventions measures and interventions, as well as</p>

¹⁰ Guidelines of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on child-friendly justice, 2010, available at: http://www.coe.int/t/dghl/standardsetting/childjustice/Guidelines%20on%20child-friendly%20justice%20and%20their%20explanatory%20memorandum%20_4_.pdf.

¹¹ Recommendation CM/Rec(2008)11 of the Committee of Ministers to member states on the European Rules for juvenile offenders subject to sanctions or measure, available at: <https://wcd.coe.int/ViewDoc.jsp?id=1367113&Site=CM>.

¹² The Criminal Procedure Code of Georgia, 2009

¹³ The Code of Imprisonment of Georgia, 2010.

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				<p>indicate responsible state institutions. The strategy is divided in five parts and combines – Introduction, Main Principles of Strategy, Interagency Coordination and Responsible Institutions, Primary Prevention, Secondary Prevention, Tertiary Prevention. The Strategy reflects the main principles and regulations of CRC and is based on the international standards and best practice of states. The Strategy and its Action Plan reduce juvenile offending, as well as rehabilitate and reintegrate into society juveniles in conflict with law. In the framework of ICC the revision process of the Strategy and its Action Plan has been lunched in 2014 and the first draft has been elaborated. Draft strategic documents are being discussed within the Sub-Working Group on Juvenile Crime Prevention operating under JJ WG.</p> <p>For ensuring better realization of children’s rights in all areas of the legal system including criminal justice, the concept of <i>Justice for Children in Georgia</i> was proposed by the UNICEF. The concept gained a wide support from the GoG and it was decided to start the new phase of the reform which would reflect the policy of the Justice for Children in order to protect the best interests and consider the needs of all juveniles involved in criminal, administrative or civil proceedings. Subsequently, the Juvenile Justice Strategy elaborated in 2009 and subject to annual revision was expanded in March 2014 to cover the justice for children as recommended by UNICEF in their concept paper endorsed by the relevant ministries. The ICC at its 11th Session agreed on the following English translation: Justice for Children Strategy.</p> <p>The new policy of GoG reflects the standards of the CRC Committee which considers that State’s approach to juvenile crime must involve the prevention of delinquency and must stress the importance of diverting children from the criminal justice system;¹⁴ and that individual approach</p>

¹⁴ Justice for Children Strategy, p. 8.

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				<p>to a child in contact with the justice system shall be ensured at any stage of proceedings.¹⁵</p> <p>In addition to the diversion, which was successfully incorporated in the Criminal Procedure Code in 2010 the JJ WG worked to expand the legislative options of alternative sanctions for juveniles and bring criminal liability of juveniles in line with common European standards. In 2014 the application of diversion was expanded as alternative to traditional justice system for juveniles. In this process, Ministry of Justice (<i>hereinafter - MOJ</i>) cooperates with UNICEF, which provided detailed analysis of the problematic issues of Criminal Code of Georgia with respect to the criminal liability of juveniles. The recommendations of UNICEF with respect to legislative amendments were researched thoroughly by MOJ. The recommendations and findings of research were also reviewed at the meeting of JJ WG, held in January, 2013. Relevant chapters of the Criminal Code were analyzed in detail on the retreat held on March 15-17, 2013, where Georgian and foreign experts were strongly advocating idea of adoption of separate code regulating all aspects of juvenile justice. The Minister of Justice endorsed elaboration of a special Juvenile Justice Code and decided to create working group with this mandate. This decision was widely welcomed by the JJ WG as it is considered to constitute the best practice throughout the globe.</p> <p>In March 2015 Ministry of Justice in cooperation with UNICEF completed working on the first ever stand-alone Juvenile Justice Code based on the UNODC Model Law on Juvenile Justice and Related Commentary, Convention on the Rights of the Child and other relevant international standards. The aim of the Juvenile Justice Code is to fully incorporate into the legislation the best interest of child and other principles of juvenile justice enshrined in the Convention on the Rights of the Child and</p>

¹⁵ Ibid, p. 11.

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				<p>relevant international standards, to expand the alternatives to criminal prosecution, such as diversion and mediation, and to diversify the sanctions available to the judge to ensure that the detention and imprisonment are used only as measures of last resort against juveniles.</p> <p>The draft Code has been presented to the ICC in January 20, 2015, approved by GoG in March 12, 2015 and subsequently sent to the Parliament of Georgia. The draft Code passed first reading of the Plenary Session of the Parliament.</p> <p>The key findings of the Draft Code are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the juvenile justice procedure, first of all the best interests of a juvenile shall be considered • Any measures taken against a juvenile in conflict with the law shall be proportionate to the committed act, as well as personality of a juvenile and corresponding to his or her educational, social and other needs.¹⁶ • Juvenile justice procedure shall be administered only by the authorities specialized in juvenile justice. Judge, prosecutor, investigator, defence attorney, mediator, social worker, probation officer, who works with a juvenile in conflict with the law as well as with juvenile witness or victim shall have undertaken special training in the methodology of communication with a juvenile victim or witness and other related areas.¹⁷ • The participation of a juvenile at any stage of legal proceedings will be guaranteed and juvenile justice procedure will be conducted without any unjustified delay.¹⁸ • The rights and guarantees for Juveniles in custody will be

¹⁶ Ibid, Article 6.

¹⁷ Ibid, Article 15.

¹⁸ Ibid, Articles 11 and 12.

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>significantly higher comparing to adults.¹⁹</p> <p><i>1. Diversion and crime prevention</i> Diversion and Mediation mechanisms were implemented on November 15, 2010 in accordance with the amendments of Criminal Code of Georgia. Pursuant to these amendments discretionary prosecution was introduced. The main purpose of this mechanism is to expand the use of alternatives to prosecution in dealing with juvenile offenders, divert juvenile offender from the criminal prosecution and propose alternative to the criminal responsibility. This mechanism aims to decrease the negative impact of criminal justice system, avoid stigma of juveniles and reduce re-offending in society. Firstly, Juvenile Diversion and Mediation Program was introduced in four cities of Georgia on November 15, 2010. After this, program was expanding step by step and since July 2013, program is spread to the whole territory of Georgia.</p> <p>On November 2014 some important amendments were introduced into Juvenile Diversion and Mediation Program, several gaps were covered. By now juvenile may be involved in the diversion and mediation program for committing not only less grave crime, but also for grave crime. After these amendments, the role of the mediator has been increased in the program. The program is based on the concept of restorative justice and takes the interests of offenders and victims into consideration. It is designed to prevent crime and encourages the healthy functioning of the community as a whole.</p> <p>By the end of 2014, 743 juveniles were diverted and only 60 (8%) of them committed a repeated crime. All professionals involved in</p>

¹⁹ Ibid, Chapter XIII.

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>diversion/mediation process have undergone trainings and obtained necessary practical skills. In the period of 2010-2014 program had more than 200 trained professionals working for it.</p> <p>In 2013, With the financial support of UNICEF and PH International LEPL "Center for Crime Prevention" created training modules and intensive trainings for professionals (prosecutors, social workers, mediators) involved in the program. With the support of international organizations LEPL "Center for Crime Prevention" periodically organizes trainings for professionals to raise their qualification and to increase coordination mechanism between them. There are representatives from 3 state bodies involved in the program. Among them are Prosecutors, Social workers (employees of the offices of the National Bureau of Probation) and Mediators, (employed by LEPL "Center for Crime prevention, under the Ministry of Justice of Georgia). In addition, relevant ministries have adopted guidelines for social workers, mediators and prosecutors.</p> <p><i>3. Street children</i></p> <p>As regard to the street children, in April 2012 the Government of Georgia has adopted National Action Plan 2012-2015 for Child Welfare and Protection (NAP) under the Government Order N762 and established Inter-agency Coordinating Council for the implementation of NAP. In its activities, the Council is guided by the Constitution of Georgia, international agreements and treaties, other legislative and sub-normative acts. The Council has established Working Groups (WGs) for the preparation of the researches/analyzes and recommendations within the limits of their competence/mandate. Membership of the WG is open for the representatives of the governmental and non-governmental agencies, relevant legal entities, international organizations, experts and scientists. The Council among other issues also deals with street children. The Working Groups, as well as the task forces are created on particular issues related to street children, like the child identification, registration, etc.</p>

Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
			<p>Interagency Coordination Council for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings was created by the Decree of the Government of Georgia №281, dated April 10, 2014. Council activities covers issues related to the children living and/or working on the street. In addition 2013-2014 Trafficking in Persons (TIP) National Action Plan (NAP) provided identification of “street children and providing awareness-raising campaign to inform them regarding forced labour and sexual exploitation. The activities that are aimed at bringing children working and living in the streets to the formal education as well as providing them with the information regarding threats related to TIP are reflected in National Action Plan on Combating Trafficking in Persons for 2015-2016. Inter-Agency Council Combating TIP created temporary working group to elaborate conceptual document on preventing TIP against children working and living in the streets in November 2014. All relevant agencies, local NGOs and international organizations are part of working group. As result of the inputs made by working group package of the amendments was elaborated which aims at increasing number of state agencies (including local municipalities) responsible for referring children being subject of violence to relevant state services.</p> <p>Additionally, procedure for granting identity documents for such children will be sophisticated ensuring easier registration of children living and working in streets in cases of failure of doing this by their parents.</p> <p>In order to proactively reveal the facts of Trafficking in human beings, Central Criminal Police Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia elaborated the Standard Operational Procedures for the mobile groups, which are in charge proactively reveal the facts of trafficking and other related crimes.</p> <p>Above mentioned Mobile groups periodically check locations of “street</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>children” in order to identify the elements of labour and sexual exploitation. In this regard, the Central Criminal Police department closely cooperate with the State Fund for the Protection and Assistance of Victims (Statutory) of Trafficking (hereinafter – State Fund). Two investigations on trafficking against minors were launched by Central criminal Police Department (August, September 2013) based on the information of the territorial unit of the State Fund (Child Crisis Center in Tbilisi).</p> <p>Public Service Development Agency of the Ministry of Justice of Georgia is collaborating with Social Service Agency in order to introduce the relevant amendments in legislation to create a temporary identification documentation for the children living and working in the streets. Nowadays most of the street children have no identification or citizenship, therefore Social Service Agency is not able to provide healthcare and educational services for this children. As a result of the amendments, state will be able to provide temporary identification document for street children, until their citizenship and legal status is determined.</p> <p>2. <u>National and international adoption</u> Government of Georgia has commenced the amending process of the Law on Adoption and Foster Care. Issues related to national and international adoption was not properly regulated under domestic legislation and international standards; therefore it was decided to amend the whole Law. The special Working Group was established in December 2011 for the implementation of Hague Convention on Protection of Children and Co-operation in Respect of Inter-country Adoption. The Working Group has drafted the provisions regulating national and international adoption cases in accordance within the Hague Convention. The Governmental and Non-governmental agencies were involved in the activities of working group, which was headed the UNICEF invited expert. The Working Group meetings were held once a</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>month. Currently, the final draft of the Law on Adoption and Foster Care has already been elaborated and sent to the Parliament.</p> <p>3. <u>Adoption of national legislation on child abduction</u> Georgia signed the Convention in October 25, 1980 on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction (hereinafter the Convention) on July 24, 1997 and it entered into force on October 1, 1997. Public International Law Department of Ministry of Justice of Georgia was designated as the Central Authority under the Convention. Alongside with providing Georgian translation of the Convention, MOJ translated explanatory report of the Convention into Georgian and disseminated to the practicing judges with the assistance of the High Council of Justice in order to increase general knowledge about the Convention, its requirements, judicial practice and experience of foreign States. MOJ has also prepared application forms, both in Georgian and English languages, in line with the Conventional requirements, which are available at the official website of MOJ.</p> <p>Currently the Central Authority of Georgia has finished drafting of the detailed Guidebook for the Judges and Lawyers related to Child Abduction cases as well as practicalities regarding the application of the Convention; The Draft Guidebook includes information extracted from Explanatory Reports, Practical Handbooks, and Guidelines to Good Practice, Judges' Newsletters, state practice etc. Furthermore, for the effective implementation of the Convention certain legal amendments were commenced in Georgian legislation: in July 2011 new provisions were added to the Civil Code of Georgia in relation to the substantive part for the rights of custody and right of access. As to the procedural part, chapter was added to the Civil Procedure Code of Georgia on the Special Aspects of Return or Exercise of Right of Access with a Child Wrongfully Removed or Retained. Nowadays only two courts are authorized to consider child abduction cases. The local jurisdictions are</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>distinguished between Tbilisi and Kutaisi City Courts, respectively for the eastern and western part of Georgia.</p> <p>Central Authority of Georgia also elaborated new Referral and Enforcement Mechanism, which regulates the procedure of processing child abduction cases between national state agencies and procedure of enforcement of courts decisions. The Referral and Enforcement Mechanism is recently under review of involved state agencies, after which it will be approved by the government.</p> <p>In 2012, Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs of Georgia (MSY) joined Council of Europe's youth campaign – No Hate Speech Movement - for human rights online, to reduce the levels of acceptance of hate speech and to develop online youth participation and citizenship, including in Internet governance processes. In the scope of the campaign the Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs of Georgia is implementing different training-seminars throughout Georgia on human right and no hate speech.</p> <p>In 2014, Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs of Georgia launched a national campaign "Sport against Violence" topics of domestic violence were covered. The main messages of the campaign were: "No domestic violence" and "No violence against women". In the scope of the campaign representatives from different sport federations - local celebrities expressed their position and condemned all forms of violence, among them: Basketball, Judo, University Sport, Arm-wrestling for people with special needs, Water polo federations and other athletes.</p> <p>National Youth and Children Palace of Georgia (subordinated body of the Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs) organized 16 days Campaign of Activism Against Gender-based violence in 2014. Round table on the topic - "Together for Brighter Future, Without Violence" were held as well.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>Since 2014, sub-program of homeless children's provision with shelters has been launched within the Social Rehabilitation and Child Care State Program. The target group of this subprogram is children living and/or working on the street. The main objective of the subprogram is the psycho-social rehabilitation and integration of homeless children (children working and/or living on the street).</p> <p>The mobile teams' service is provided in the frame of the subprogram, the day care centers, crisis intervention centers and transit centers are functioning also.</p> <p>The important amendments were made in 2014 in the Law of Georgia on "Elimination of Domestic Violence, Protection of and Support to the Victims":</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the term "neglect" was defined and "domestic violence" constitutes violation of constitutional rights and freedoms of one family member by another through neglect and/or physical, psychological, economic, sexual violence or coercion; - victim identification group has been defined to determine the status of the victim of domestic violence. Also, issues related to the identification of domestic violence cases against minors (children), rights and protection guarantees of the victims of domestic violence, reporting procedures on the fact of domestic violence and rehabilitation measures for domestic violence offender (abuser) has been defined. <p>"The rule of victim identification and determining the status by the Group Identifying a Domestic Violence Victim operating with Interagency Council of Fighting Domestic Violence" was approved by the Decree №684 of the Government of Georgia.</p> <p>The Council of Europe Convention on "Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse" was ratified by the Parliament of</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>Georgia in March 2014 and was enforced on January 1 , 2015.</p> <p>Legal Aid Service, as a part of the juvenile justice system, made important steps in order to improve advocacy service to protect rights of minors being in conflict with the law. In particular, in 2014, the Service approved the concept on development of the juvenile justice system in the framework of which specialization (intensive trainings) on juvenile cases for the LAS lawyers has been started. In 2014, with support of UNICEF and the EU, up to 30 public lawyers underwent 2 trainings. The specialization of the public lawyers in juvenile justice will take place in the following years too.</p> <p>It is worth to mention that according to the project of the Code on Juvenile Justice, juvenile cases should only be examined by the specialized policemen, prosecutors, judges and lawyers. In 2014, lawyers of Legal Aid Service defended juveniles in 459 criminal cases.</p> <p>In relation to CEDAW:</p> <p>The Government of Georgia criminalized domestic violence (DV) in June 2012. The new Article 126¹ of the Criminal Code of Georgia defines domestic violence as coercion, systematic insult, blackmail, humiliation committed by one family member against another, which has given rise physical pain or suffer and has not produced the consequences referred to in Article 117 (intentional damage to health), Article 118 (less serious damage to health on purpose) or Article 120 (intentional light damage to health) of Criminal Code of Georgia. Pursuant to new Article 126¹ family members are: spouse, mother, father, grandfather, grandmother, son/daughter (stepchild), adopted child, adoptive parent, spouse of the adoptive parent, foster child, foster parents (foster family), guardian, grandson/granddaughter, brother, sister, parents of the spouse, brother in law, sister in law, former spouse, individuals who</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>share/shared domestic household.</p> <p>Article 126¹ envisages the aggravating circumstances for domestic violence.</p> <p>Apart from this, new Article 11¹ introduces novelty of categorization of domestic violence. Domestic crimes are crimes committed by one family member against another and envisaged by Criminal Code of Georgia under following Articles: 108 (murder), 109 (intentional murder under aggravating circumstances), 115 (leading to suicide), 117 (intentional grave damage to health) , 118 (intentional less grave damage to health), 120 (intentional minor damage to health), 126 (violence), 126¹ (domestic violence), 137-141 (rape, Violent act of sexual nature, Coercion to sexual intercourse or to other acts of sexual nature Sexual intercourse or other kind of sexual contact with a person under sixteen, Perversion), 143 (illegal detention), 144-144³ ,(taking hostage, torture) 149-151 (Unlawful placement or detention at a psychiatric hospital, coercion, threatening) 160 (Inviolability of residence and other property), 171 (Inducing a juvenile in anti-social activities), 253 (Engaging in prostitution), 255 (Illegal production or sale of pornography or other objects), 255¹(Engaging a juvenile in illegal production or distribution of pornographic work) 381¹,(Non-compliance with requirements and/or obligations provided by a protective or a preventive order) 381². (Failure to meet the request of a Guardianship Body).</p> <p>In addition, Government of Georgia made the decision to ratify the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence. In this regard, special Working Group was established under the DV Council in close cooperation with UN Women, UNICEF and other local NGOs, which has elaborated the amendments to the national legislation related to domestic violence.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>Legislative amendments were approved by the parliament in 12 legal acts in light to eradicate domestic violence. Parliament intends to complete ratification of the convention by the end of 2015. According to these amendments forced marriage is criminalized, including non-registered marriage. The amendment entered into force also in the Law on elimination of domestic violence, which also envisages the protection of domestic violence victims and the law is reflects the numerous legal aspects of Istanbul Convention.</p> <p>Government is preparing another stage of legislative amendments to combat violence against women.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
	Institutional and human rights infrastructure			

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
12.	Continue efforts in establishing institutions to protect and guarantee human rights and to provide sufficient resources to these institutions	Germany 105.7		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>The Data Protection Supervisory Authority (DPA) was established in July 2013 on the basis of Georgian Law on Personal Data Protection. The Authority is fully operational and equipped with adequate financial and human resources. The Head of the Authority - the Personal Data Protection Inspector of Georgia is elected by the Parliament of Georgia for 3 years term. The Inspector is independent and is not subordinated to any public body of public official. The Inspector carries out its functions through the Office. The structure, activities and responsibilities of the Office is defined by the Regulations adopted by the Inspector. Under the current structure the Georgian DPA has 4 main Departments (Legal Department, Inspections Department, International Relations Department and IT Department) and several structural units (administration, public relations, etc.). Currently, there are 40 staff members in total.</p> <p>The annual budget of the Office of the Inspector increased up to 2,205,000 GEL in 2015 (2014 budget was 600,000 GEL and in 2013 - 205,000 GEL). Further increase is foreseen in the 2016 budget draft submitted to the Ministry of Finance.</p> <p>The mandate of the Supervisory Authority covers public and private sectors. In 2014 its scope was extended to the data processing by the law-enforcement agencies for crime prevention and investigation purposes.</p> <p>The Authority has respective monitoring and supervisory powers, including power to conduct investigations, study lawfulness of data processing and in case of violations it can impose fines. Basic functions of the Georgian DPA include: (i) consulting the data controllers, data processors and other interested persons on data processing and data protection issues; (ii) reviewing complaints submitted by data subjects; (iii) inspecting legality of data processing; (iv) raising public awareness</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>and educating public as well as data controllers and data processors on data protection related issues; (v) participating in the law-making process related to the personal data protection.</p> <p>According to the statistical data, since July 2013, in total 1281 consultations (977 verbal and 304 written consultations) have been provided; 36 citizens' complaints were discussed, inspection of 46 public and private institutions was carried out and several institutions, including Prosecution Service, Ministry of Interior and Ministry of Corrections were fined for illegal data processing.</p> <p>Raising public awareness on personal data protection related issues, as well as educating public and private institutions on privacy and personal data protection has been a priority. The Data Protection Authority elaborated sector specific and thematic guidelines, basic data protection manual and in cooperation with different training centers trained more than 2500 employees of public and private organizations. Different information materials such as brochures on data protection rights, leaflets on data controllers' obligations and data processing for border control purposes were disseminated.</p> <p>The Personal Data Protection Inspector of Georgia submits Annual Report on the State of the Personal Data Protection in Georgia and Activities carried out by the Office to the Government and the Parliament of Georgia. The Annual Reports analyze the situation in terms of data protection on the basis of the citizens' complaints, conducted inspections and held consultations and they summarize the respective findings. The Reports are available on the web-page: www.personaldata.ge</p> <p>For the purposes of establishing independent external oversight over the covert surveillance activities carried out by the law-enforcement agencies, in November 2014 Parliament of Georgia adopted legislative amendments</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>and entrusted the Data Protection Supervisory Authority with external monitoring function. In March, 2015 a two-stage electronic monitoring system of covert surveillance activities was created. With this system the Data Protection Authority can exercise prior control over the lawfulness of data collection and obstruct to the interception unless all legal requirements are met.</p> <p>In addition, in 2014 a special Commission on Destroying of the Materials Collected through the Covert Surveillance Activities was created. The Commission is chaired by the Personal Data Protection Inspector and is composed of the high ranking officials of the Parliament and Government of Georgia, Public Defender and representatives of civil society. It monitors the destruction of the materials obtained as a result of surveillance activities.</p> <p>On 2 May, 2014 the Parliament of Georgia adopted a comprehensive Anti-discrimination Law of Georgia. Elimination of discrimination and ensuring of equality shall be monitored and controlled by an independent body – Public Defender of Georgia. In order to ensure effective fulfillment of the new tasks assigned by the Law, the budget for Public Defender’s Office has been increased by 80% compared to 2011. Total spending by the office amounted to 2.2 million GEL in 2011, 2.9 million GEL - 2012, 3 million GEL – 2013, 3.5 million GEL in 2014 and the allocations for 2015 amount to 4 million GEL. 14. In December 2014, under the amendments to the law on Public Defender, the number of Deputies Public Defender (Ombudsman) of Georgia increased (prior to the change the Public Defender had only one Deputy and needed the additional assistance for the realization of his functions).</p> <p>On July 5, 2013 the Government of Georgia established the Inter-agency task force for the elaboration of the Human Rights Strategy and Action Plan. The Council comprised of representatives of the executive,</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>legislative, judicial branches of the Government, the Public Defender and representatives of non-governmental as well as international organizations, experts, and scholars. Comprehensive needs assessment and analysis was prepared by Mr. Thomas Hammarberg, the EU Special Adviser on Constitutional and Legal Reforms and Human Rights in Georgia.</p> <p>On April 30, 2014 the Georgian Parliament adopted the National Human Rights Strategy of Georgia (2014-2020) followed by the approval of the Governmental Action Plan by the Government of Georgia on July 9, 2014. The Strategy and the Action Plan identify human rights priorities and streamline the activities of various government agencies, while also making a positive contribution to the coordination of donor support which, in turn, should increase the effectiveness of the government's work in the area of protection of the human rights. The Strategy lays down general principles, whereas concrete actions are specified in the Action Plan.</p> <p>The seven years Strategy establishes and strengthens the human rights based approach which will drive the state policy and programmes and determine right-holders and duty-bearers in each particular case. The Strategy explicitly requires from the state to respect, protect, fulfill and promote human rights. With a view to achieving the vision and goals, the Strategy envisages legislative and institutional changes, as well as changes in practice.</p> <p>The Action Plan is a comprehensive document covering two first years of the implementation of the Strategy, namely 2014-2015. It lists goals, objectives, activities, responsible agencies, timeframes and indicators. The Plan is a 'living' document that can be amended depending on the needs.</p> <p>The Inter-agency council on human rights, chaired personally by the</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>Prime Minister monitors the process of implementation of the Action Plan. The Council is accountable to the parliament by annual reporting.</p> <p>As an additional guarantee for the effective implementation of the Action Plan, the Human Rights Secretariat, responsible for productive Inter-Agency coordination and close monitoring of the execution of the Action Plan was created in the Administration of the Government. On April 1, 2014 the human rights council approved the very first progress report prepared by the human rights secretariat.</p> <p>Moreover, Inter-Agency council focusing specifically on the rights of persons with disabilities, chaired by the Prime Minister was identified as an implementation mechanism for the 2006 UN convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, therefore designating the Secretariat as a coordination mechanism, and the Public Defender's Office as a monitor of the process.</p> <p>In November 2014, the Inter-Agency Council on fighting against domestic violence was established at the Administration of the government chaired by the assistant to the Prime Minister on Human Rights and Gender Equality issues. The council has already convened two meetings and discussed various recommendations suggested by the civil society representatives.</p> <p>In December 2014 the Group in charge of granting a victim status has been selected by the selection commission of the Inter-Agency Council. The Group consists of 12 civil society representatives (doctors, psychologist, psychiatrist, lawyers and social workers). As a result of the competition, 8 organizations were also selected which can submit the case to the Group on behalf of a potential victim of domestic violence. The Group members as well as those 8 organizations mentioned above are undergoing training with the support of the UN Women and will become</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>functional in the nearest future. As a coordination structure on gender and women's empowerment, secretariat is involved in work of National Coordination Group responsible for the monitoring of the Security Council Resolution No. 1325 on Women, Peace and Security No.1325, No.820, No.888, No.889 and No.1960 Action Plan implementation. From 2015 the coordination of the National Group was assigned to the assistant to the Prime Minister on Human Rights and Gender Equality issues.</p> <p>In 2011-2014, significant reforms were carried out in the legal aid field. In December, 2013, amendments were made to the Law of Georgia on Legal Aid, according to which, since January 26, 2014, Legal Aid Service has left the system of the executive power and has been formed as an independent organization. The Service became accountable before the Parliament of Georgia. Moreover, Legal Aid Council was created which consists of 9 members and ensures independence and transparency of the Service.</p> <p>Together with the institutional independence, main attention was paid to expansion of the mandate of Legal Aid Service. Namely, since March, 2011, insolvent persons are entitled to receive legal aid on cases of administrative offenses that envisage administrative arrest as a penalty. Besides this, on the bases of the amendments made to the Law of Georgia on Legal Aid in December, 2014, Legal Aid Service will provide free advocacy service on certain categories of civil and administrative cases according to complexity and importance of a case, from April 15, 2015.</p> <p>The network of the Legal Aid Service offices was significantly expanded too. In comparison with the year of 2007 when the Service had offices in 10 cities, by the end of 2014, the network of legal aid bureaus and consultation centers covered 18 cities already. The main attention was paid to the regions settled with the ethnic minorities and highland areas where 6 offices were opened in 2010-2014.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
13.	Build capacities and comply with international commitments	Iraq 105.8		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>In order to facilitate the proper implementation of Georgia's reporting obligations before the UN treaty-based and charter-based bodies, permanent inter-agency working group as the national coordination mechanism has been set up in 2014 upon the initiative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia (MFA), which includes high and mid-level officials from the executive, judiciary and the legislative branches. In parallel, relevant trainings were organized with support the UNDP for the inter-agency working group members with the aim to provide deep overview of the UN human rights obligations as well as importance and best practices of their implementation. The information received during the training is now successfully used in the course of preparation of the UPR report of Georgia as well as other reports on the implementation of the UN human rights treaties. The MFA is going to continue trainings in the future in cooperation with International Organizations.</p> <p>Following the 2012, the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia underwent important changes in order to address international and national recommendations and bring the law enforcement system closer to European standards, whether by means of structural reorganization or by introducing a new legislative framework. The main objectives of the new management were to depoliticize the police force, ensure accountability for any wrongdoing and the transparency of police work. Following a thorough review of the police systems of several European countries, especially that of Germany, new Law of Georgia on the Police was adopted on October 4, 2013. The Law aims to create the legal ground for a sophisticated, politically unbiased police of European standards, protecting public security and law and order.</p> <p>In order to ensure the prevention of police from human rights violations, special focus should be made on providing police officers with relevant</p>

Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
			<p>education and skills. In this process the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia (MIA) is guided by the respective recommendations of international organizations. Accordingly for instance police officers regularly undergo trainings in anti-discrimination, domestic violence, fighting trafficking in human beings and etc.</p> <p>With the aim of determining existing deficiencies and weaknesses within the system, large-scale testing of operative staff was conducted throughout Georgia in early 2013. It helped the MIA to have information on the level of professionalism of police officers and to elaborate relevant amendments to police training curriculum in cooperation with partner countries.</p> <p>At the beginning of 2013 MIA Academy carried out reforms according to which the duration of the basic training courses for the officers of Patrol Police Department has been extended from 12 weeks (376 hours) to 20 weeks (651 hours). Furthermore Human rights course has been doubled and new subject - Asylum seekers and refugees has been added to the curriculum with the duration of 6 hours.</p> <p>As a part of the policy of compliance with international commitments, Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs of Georgia initiated two-day workshop on implementation of commitments defined by the European Convention on Spectator Violence and Misbehavior at Sports Events and in particular at Football matches (T-RV). The workshop was organized by the EU Commission (TAIEX instrument) in cooperation with the Ministry. The workshop took place on 29-30 May, 2013 and aimed at capacity building at the executive (national and local level), legislative bodies as well as sport movement.</p> <p>On May 20-22, 2014, on request of the Georgian side joint consultative team visit of the T-RV Standing Committee and UEFA took place in</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>Georgia. The consultative visit aimed at analyzing the current situation on the issues of an integrated approach of safety, security and service at mass sport events and in particular at football matches. In December 2014, the consultative team has released a report with recommendations to be considered and implemented by the Georgian side.</p> <p>Since joining the Council of Europe’s “Anti-Doping Convention” (2003) and UNESCO “International Convention against Doping in Sport” (2009), the Georgian side has taken significant steps towards implementation of the obligations under these instruments, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Georgian Anti-Doping Agency was established and is currently operating with a state support (Georgian Anti-Doping Agency, GADA). World Anti-Doping Agency recognizes GADA’s authority to plan, develop and implement anti-doping policy at national level. GADA is obliged to undertake actions necessary for implementation of World Anti-Doping Code; ○ Doping control tests (competition and non-competition) are conducted at national level; ○ Educational activities are implemented in order to raise doping awareness; ○ GADA and the Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs are actively cooperating with respective agencies of Council of Europe and UN, as well as with World Anti-Doping Agency. <p>In 2015 Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs of Georgia established an experts working group for development anti-doping policy in Georgia and promotion of drafting and establishing relevant legal mechanisms.</p> <p>In February 2015, the Government of Georgia established interagency commission for the purposes of accession to the Council of Europe Convention on the Manipulation of Sports Competitions and subsequent implementation of the Convention requirement (Convention was signed</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>by Georgia on 18 September, 2014). The Commission is a national coordination platform with the primary aim to develop strategies and approaches to prevent, detect and combat manipulation in sport.</p> <p>Starting from January 2015, Children and Youth National Center (subordinated body of the Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs of Georgia) has been implementing training programmes – Rights’ Compass for students. One of the main aims of the programmes is to raise awareness of students on human rights through non-formal education. The training is based on the Council of Europe’s manual on human rights education for children.</p> <p>For further information see response to recommendation 106.19 and 105.7.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
14.	Do not impede access to detention centers by other national or international oversight mechanisms different from the national preventive mechanism established by the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture; and adopt legislation defining and clarifying the role and responsibilities of the Special Prevention Group in respect to the Office of the Ombudsman	Spain 105.9		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>The Code of Ethics was elaborated by the Ministry of Corrections (MoC) and Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA).</p> <p>Public Defender of Georgia, representatives of the Public Defender's Office (PDO) (on the basis of the power of attorney issued by the Public Defender) and representatives of the Red Cross have the right to freely access Temporary Detention Isolators (TDI) under the Ministry of Internal Affairs without any authorization and prior notification, while representatives of all other national and international independent oversight bodies require the authorization/prior notification, as part of the procedural requirements which cannot be considered as an impediment to the free access.</p> <p>Since November 2012, more than 130 visits by representatives of the Public Defender's Office, consular representatives, EU experts, and representatives of the Red Cross etc. were conducted to TDIs, thus high level of transparency is ensured.</p> <p>Besides the systematic monitoring carried out by the PDO, places of deprivation of liberty are periodically visited by the Council of Europe's Committee for the Prevention of Torture, special rapporteurs of Human Rights committee, CoE Human Rights Commissioner and other officials from various international organizations in order to evaluate how the detainees are treated.</p> <p>CPT conducted <i>ad hoc</i> visit in 2012 and regular visit in December, 2014. Delegation of CPT enjoyed an unrestricted right to access and movement in the places of detention. They personally talked to the prisoners without witnesses and enjoyed freely contact with any person who can provide information. As the result of the visit of the Committee, a final</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>report is in the process of preparation. As the delegation pointed out in the final report of 2010: "The co-operation received during the visit, both from the national authorities and from staff at the establishments visited, was generally excellent. The delegation enjoyed rapid access to the places visited (including ones not notified in advance) and was able to speak in private with persons deprived of their liberty.</p> <p>The Imprisonment Code mentions NPM as the oversight body.</p> <p>Article 32 of the Imprisonment Code states that, the NPM, in accordance with the rules envisaged in the Organic law of Georgia on the Public Defender shall exercise supervision over activities of the department, pre-trial detention and custodial establishments aimed at combating and prevention of torture, inhuman treatment and punishment.</p> <p>There to, according to the legislative changes to the Imprisonment Code of May 2015, points 7 and 8 were added to the Article 60.3 concerning the right of Public Defender and the members of National Preventive Mechanism to conduct photo shooting during the monitoring of the penitentiary establishments.</p> <p>The Ministry of Corrections (MoC) attaches particular importance to civil society participation in the monitoring of penitentiary establishments and, therefore, facilitate monitoring of penitentiary establishments by diplomatic missions, national or international organizations with relevant experience.</p> <p>The MoC has been also granting access to prisons to interested NGOs and other public organizations who conduct various surveys and psycho-rehabilitation activities for inmates. Between December 2013 - February 2014, and in the frames of the project proposed by the Open Society</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>Georgia Foundation to prepare a comprehensive public report on ill-treatment in prisons, 7 NGOs have been granted access to conduct surveys in 9 penitentiary institutions. The report was based on a survey carried out throughout Georgia with the participation of 1200 prisoners.</p> <p>The last legislative changes to Imprisonment Code contain the creation of Special Consultative Board under the supervision of Minister. Experts and the representatives of civil organizations will participate in the working process of the board and elaborate concrete criterias for external monitoring of closed institutions.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
15.	Strengthen capacity, including that of the Prosecutor-General's Office, to examine allegations of torture and ill-treatment as recommended by the Committee against Torture	Denmark 105.10		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>In order to strengthen institutional independence of the prosecution service, ensuring that prosecutors can carry out their professional functions impartially and objectively and ensuring the protection of human rights in criminal proceedings, in June 2013, amendments were introduced in the Law of Georgia on the Prosecution Service. The Parliament of Georgia adopted two separate packages of legislation that stripped the Minister of Justice off her prosecutorial powers by transferring all prosecutorial powers to the Chief Prosecutor of Georgia and made individual investigations and prosecutions immune from interference from the Minister of Justice and the wider executive authority. Thereby, the Chief Prosecutor's Office (the CPO) became immune from the interference from the Minister of Justice and the rest of the executive authorities in individual prosecutions and investigations. The Minister of Justice only retained the power to define general criminal justice policy.</p> <p>In late December 2014, the Government of Georgia started working on the institutional reform of the Prosecutor Service within the framework of the CJRC. Based on the large-scale comprehensive research on general prosecutors' offices of 20 European nations and the United States, draft amendments to the law on Prosecution Service were prepared, approved and submitted to the Parliament for adoption. The draft amendments were also sent to the Venice Commission, to the OSCE/Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights and to the Directorate General for Human Rights and Rule of Law for expertise. At the same time, furthermore, the CPO is currently working on the manual which will define the procedures for the appointment, promotion, disciplining and dismissal of the staff of the Prosecution Service of Georgia.</p> <p>On 13 February 2015, Department to Investigate Offenses Committed in</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>the Course of Legal Proceedings was created. The necessity of its creation was conditioned by extensive analysis which included systematization of complaints lodged before the Prosecutor's Office from 01 October 2012 to 01 January 2015.</p> <p>The number of complaints in the indicated period totaled to 52.530, 10.379 out of which concerned complaints with the requirement to launch investigation. 2090 complaints relate to alleged crimes committed by law enforcement officers and staff of correctional establishments; in 1405 complaints the authors of the complaints request revision of final court decisions and 697 complaints relate to alleged facts of unlawful deprivation of property.</p> <p>All these complaints were assembled in the new department from different structural units of prosecutor's office.</p> <p>The main purpose of the unit is to investigate crimes committed in the course of investigation, prosecution and execution of sentence. The department focuses on investigation of those offences whereby citizens suffered physical or financial damages as a result of criminal actions of public officials.</p> <p>Taking into consideration requirements of the public, the department is staffed with individuals concerning whom no legal complaints were raised.</p> <p>4 prosecutors and 10 investigators, head of department and deputy head are employed in the department. Due to the high public interest it was decided to hire victim coordinators who provide interested victims with information concerning investigation on regular basis. Additionally, the coordinators will provide victims with legal advice. 4 coordinators are employed in the department.</p>

Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
			<p>In addition a hotline operates 24 hours a day through which victims can receive information they are interested in.</p> <p>The department first of all focuses on investigating crimes committed before 01 October 2012. Namely, the department investigates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Acts of violence including torture, inhuman and degrading treatment, violent acts committed in exchange for procedural benefits or for any other purpose; - Unlawful deprivation of property including deprivation of legally obtained property using threat force; - Any other crimes committed by public servant. <p>During three months intensive work up to 1000 complaints were studied and investigation has been conducted into 118 criminal cases. Due to the fact that some offences were committed long time ago which hinders the process of obtaining evidence, also taking into account the high number of complaints, up to now 5 public servants have been identified who were employed at the prosecutor's office by that time. One person was charged in absentia for exceeding official power. The rights of 4 victims have been restored. They received their vehicles unlawfully deprived by public servants.</p> <p>Functions and the role of the MIA General Inspection, which is responsible for revealing human rights violations and other wrongdoings by police, have been enhanced. As a part of the recent reform, new methods and forms for disciplinary proceedings were elaborated, complaints handling procedure was improved and <u>hotline 126</u> for individual complaints against law enforcement officers was introduced.</p> <p>General Inspection actively cooperates with the civilians, different</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>governmental and non-governmental organizations and the Public Defenders' Office. Statistical information is regularly published on web-page: www.police.ge</p> <p>During the reporting period the High School of Justice has organized 2 trainings for sitting judges on Inhuman Treatment.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
16.	Establish institutional structures to ensure birth registration throughout the country, including of the IDP population	Austria 105.11		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>In April 2011 LEPL Civil Registry Agency of Georgia and medical establishments were connected by electronic system and Public Service Development Agency (renamed as such in July 2012) now receives electronic notification regarding the birth fact from medical institutions. Since medical institutions are legally obliged to send the above-mentioned notifications to the Agency due to this mechanism enforced parents do not have to apply the Agency for registering birth of their children.</p> <p>Furthermore, the Public Service Development Agency in tight cooperation with partner NGOs and by means of mobility groups, at its own initiative, runs meetings with the population in the regions, where the home given birthrate is high and consequently the registration improper. Through the inquiry of population the Agency's authorized representatives are identifying the legal facts on the birth and on the basis of decisions taken the birth acts are registered and respective certificates issued. The above activities are being applied to the persons enjoying the refugee status in Georgia.</p> <p>Since 2011 the NGO - Innovations and Reforms Center is implementing the projects "Prevention and Reduction of Statelessness in Georgia" and "Naturalization and Registration of Refugees" through close cooperation with Public Service Development Agency and financial support of UNHCR. Within the framework of these projects 4166 beneficiaries were identified in total in eight regions of Georgia, who experience a problem of birth registration absence. In 2012-2013 195 field meetings were held with the Prevention and Reduction of Statelessness project beneficiaries in regions and 394 birth/birth registration facts were established accordingly (including, ethnic minorities, Roma and refugees living in</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>Georgia). In addition 36 people have been granted status of stateless person which included providing them with residence permit and travel document, whereas Georgian citizenship was granted/established/re-established to 325 persons. In sum 1540 persons were provided with free legal consultations on the citizenship/birth registration issue. Within the framework of the other project (Naturalization and Registration of Refugees) out of 593 beneficiaries 508 have been granted Georgian citizenship.</p> <p>As for the birth registration of IDP population, it is noteworthy that a unified system for registration and recording of civil status acts is regulated by the Law on “Civil Status Acts”, which entered into force in 2011. The law determines the types of civil status acts, the basic conditions for their registration, for registration of birth etc. The Law also identifies the bodies authorized in the sphere of civil status acts. Registration rules and procedures of the above civil status acts are prescribed in normative acts. In this regard, it is notable that birth registration of any person is carried out according to the rules prescribed by the legislation.</p> <p>According to the rules on granting IDP status approved by the Minister of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Accommodation and Refugees of Georgia, application on granting IDP status for juvenile must be accompanied by the certificate of birth registration certificate.</p> <p>After the Parliamentary elections in 2012, the Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Accommodation and Refugees of Georgia has carried out general census/registration of the IDPs. As a result of the registration of IDPs, the current number of registered IDPs is 263 664 people (86 935 IDP families). During the</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>registration procedure all IDPs were obliged to submit required documentation, among them identity card and in case of juvenile a birth certificate. The above mentioned registration provided that all the IDPs who are registered in the data base of the Ministry are holding the identity documentation (identity card and in case of juveniles, birth certificate).</p> <p>In addition, under the established regulation IDPs shall submit an application for allowance with identity documentation, namely identity card and in case of juvenile a birth certificate. Accordingly, the above mentioned regulation also provided perfection of data base of IDPs in terms of identity documentations.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
	Policy Measures			

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
17.	Promote at the social, economic, legislative and judicial levels the development of a general environment that ensures the protection of the fundamental freedoms of all citizens. In particular, adopt and implement a national strategy to guarantee freedom of the press and ensure that complaints of violations of these rights are investigated promptly and impartially	Belgium 106.20.	Partially: The first part of the recommendation enjoys Georgia's support insofar as it calls for the promotion "of a general environment that ensures the protection of the fundamental freedoms of all citizens". Georgia cannot support the second part of the recommendation to the extent that it asks specifically for the adoption of a national strategy on press freedom. Georgia believes that the existing legislative and policy framework, including its Law on Broadcasting,	<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>The Georgian Parliament adopted the National Human Rights Strategy of Georgia (2014-2020) on 30 April 2014. The Government approved the Action Plan (2014-2015) on 9 July 2014. The Strategy and the Action Plan identify human rights priorities and streamline the activities of various government agencies. The Strategy lays down general principles, whereas concrete actions are specified in the Action Plan.</p> <p>Establishment of high standards for protection of the right to peaceful assembly/the right to freedom of association and freedom of expression one of the priority areas identified in Strategy. Namely, one of the objectives of the Strategy is: to ensure the protection of the international recognized and constitutionally guaranteed rights of freedom of expression, freedom of peaceful assembly and freedom of association; to ensure the freedom and independence of the media and limit any interferences in the professional activities of journalists; to ensure protection of all persons exercising their freedoms of peaceful assembly and association and the fulfillment of the positive and negative duties of the government in this respect.</p> <p>In accordance with the above objectives, Strategy identifies the following tasks: Prevent and eliminate all factors contributing to any limitations of the freedom of expression; Ensure access to and the freedom of information; Ensure appropriate legal response and prevention of any violations of the freedoms of peaceful assembly and association; Regular training and enhancement of the professional qualification of law enforcement agents in response to violations of the freedoms of assembly and association; fulfillment of the positive duties of the state in this regard.</p> <p>The action plan provides the following in details (Structure): Goals</p>

Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
		<p>Law on Freedom of Speech and Expression and the Code of Conduct for Broadcasters, guarantees freedom of the press. Georgia intends to continue to ensure this protection through measures that it considers necessary.</p>	<p>(e.g. Promotion of freedom and integrity of the media); Objectives (e.g. Elimination and prevention of intervention in the professional activities of journalists); Activity (e.g. effective investigation of the intervention cases in the professional activities of journalists by investigative agencies); Responsible Agency (e.g. Ministry of Interior Affairs of Georgia, General Prosecutor's office); Timeframe (e.g. 2014-2015); Indicator (e.g. PDO assessments, statistics, etc).</p> <p>The Inter-agency council established under the Government and chaired personally by the Prime Minister monitors the process of implementation of the Action Plan. The Council has nine working groups (on the level of deputy ministers and heads of departments) focusing on different chapters of the Action Plan. The nine inter-council working groups unite and cover all 23 chapters of the action plan, including working group on Right to Privacy, Freedom of Expression, Freedom of Assembly and Association.</p> <p>The Prosecutor's office of Georgia carries out full prosecutorial supervision on the facts of violence against journalists and illegal interference into their professional activity. In total, in 2012-2014 under Article 154 of the Criminal Code of Georgia an investigation was initiated on 17 cases, among which 12 facts took place in 2012. In the above period, prosecution was initiated towards 4 persons under Article 154 of the Criminal Code of Georgia. Guilty judgment was rendered towards all of them. In the same period, on the fact of battery, prosecution was initiated and guilty judgment was rendered towards one person under Article 125 of the Criminal Code of Georgia. One accused person was identified on the fact of damage of the journalist's property and judgment of guilty was rendered under Article 187 of the Criminal Code of Georgia. At present, investigation has been cancelled on 6 cases because of lacking of an action prescribed by the Criminal Code of Georgia.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>In 2014, investigation was initiated on three cases under Article 154 of the Criminal Code of Georgia. According to the conducted investigation the fact of illegal interference into journalist's professional activity was not found. However, in 2014 violence and persecution for professional activity took place against journalist Zaza Davitaia. Guilty judgment was rendered towards one person, nevertheless at present substantive hearing against two accused is underway in the court. <i>See Appendices II and III.</i></p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
18.	Step up relevant measures in order to protect and promote the rights of the socially vulnerable, <i>inter alia</i> through an enhancement of the legal system pertaining to this area	Japan 105.12		<p>Status: In the process of implementation</p> <p>The Georgian Parliament adopted the National Human Rights Strategy of Georgia (2014-2020) on 30 April 2014. The Government approved the Action Plan (2014-2015) on 9 July 2014. The Strategy lays down general principles, whereas concrete actions are specified in the Action Plan. Among the main objectives of the Strategy are: Developing of a juvenile justice system in compliance with international standards that will foresee the needs and the best interests of all children, including those in conflict with law, victims and witnesses, as well as children in civil and administrative procedures; Realization of the rights of the children by improving protection and assistance systems, development of social services, reduction of children's poverty and mortality rate and ensuring adequate education Ensuring gender equality, protection of women's rights and prevention of domestic violence; Provision of equal rights for the persons with disabilities by adhering to the principle of reasonable adjustment; Protection of the rights of internally displaced persons and persons living alongside the occupied territories; To take all possible measures for protection of the rights of persons living on occupied territories of Georgia using bilateral and multilateral international legal instruments; Protection of labour rights in accordance with international standards; Taking effective measures for ensuring enjoyment of the right to health, especially for vulnerable groups; Discharging the obligations stemming from the right to adequate housing; Ensuring the rights of migrants and those awarded with shelter.</p> <p>In 2014, the Government of Georgia adopted the Socio-Economic Development Strategy, Georgia 2020. One of the main directions of the Strategy is protection of human rights on health which ensures the availability of high-quality healthcare. Activities oriented on poverty reduction, are implemented in order to eradicate extreme forms of poverty and social risks in the country. The main principle of the Georgian</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>social security policy is orientation on the needs of the socially vulnerable. State resources are provided to people who are revealed to be the poorest, according to an evaluation system registered in the united database of socially vulnerable households. The State social programmes budget in 2015 was increased by 9, 920, 000 GEL in comparison to the year 2011.</p> <p>One of the leading healthcare reforms - the Universal Health Care Programme (the UHC), launched in February 2013 - was recognized as a roadmap of the country's health system development. Georgia is among those countries, which follow the WHO's major recommendations and goals for the post 2015 development agenda of the UHC. Currently, every citizen of Georgia is secured with a basic package of routine and emergency in- and out-patient clinical care, including oncology and maternity services. The USAID report on Universal Healthcare Programme Evaluation (April 2014) shows that the introduction of the UHC Programme increased the affordability of the healthcare services. The survey demonstrates that an absolute majority of beneficiaries (96.4%) are satisfied or very satisfied with the programme.</p> <p>With support of UNICEF, new assessment methodology of socio-economic conditions of socially vulnerable families has been elaborated and adopted on December 31 2014 by Decree №758 of the Government of Georgia. According to the new methodology, subsistence allowance may be given to the family, which has no income or any source of it. Social agent's subjective evaluation will not alter while defining ranking scores of long term household items, moreover the methodology considers the family needs, the family members special status (person with disabilities, person with chronic diseases, minors, pensioners etc.).</p> <p>In 2014, within the framework of a state social programme, the Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia launched the Emergency</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>Assistance Sub-programme for Families with Children in a Critical Situation in order to satisfy their urgent needs. The programme budget amounts to 1,000,000 GEL which enables the state to give material support food, hygienic materials, and home appliances to the value of 1000 GEL to each family in need.</p> <p>Since 2012, the Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs of Georgia has developed and been implementing target programmes in order to support socially disadvantaged youth and promote their integration to society. These aims are reached through development of personal skills, raising awareness on active citizenship of the beneficiaries.</p> <p>In 2014, LEPL Children and Youth National Center implemented a programme - "Changes for Equality" aimed to raise awareness and develop skills of students on communications with people belonging to vulnerable groups, mainly people with disadvantages.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
19.	Increase international cooperation devoted to protecting the rights of the child, of women and of migrants workers	Philippines 105.13		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>On the information on the protection of the rights of the child and women see the response to recommendation 106.19.</p> <p>For the purposes of regulation of the issues related to the migrant workers, the Parliament of Georgia adopted the law on Labour Migration. This law will serve as a legal framework for effective implementation of migration management, including provisions of administrative structures with clear competencies for all aspects of labour migration, as well as effective cooperation between relevant agencies.</p> <p>In collaboration with UNICEF draft Law on Preschool Education and Development has been elaborated; In collaboration with OSGF drafts of strategic and action plans for pre-school education and development have been elaborated. All documents are based on the child protection and holistic development principles. Draft documents are in the process towards official adoption.</p> <p>Working towards the revision and development of the instructions and instruments on Inclusive education for all is ongoing and will be finalized by the end of 2015.</p> <p>Programme of social inclusion is working in the Ministry of Education and Science (MoES) since 2005. Programme aims to support vulnerable children to be included in formal education through social inclusion programme. Programme beneficiaries children with special educational needs (Roma, Meskhetians, children without citizenship and others) who have problems to be integrated into formal education system.</p> <p>MoES is permanently conducting trainings for different groups for inclusive and quality education and child centered approaches in</p>

	Recommendation Scope international obligation	Country of	Scope Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				education.

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
20.	Continue measures in the field of women and child's rights protection	Azerbaijan 105.14		<p>Status: In the process of implementation</p> <p>The Gender Equality Council, established in 2009 and chaired by the Deputy Chairperson of the Parliament, elaborated the National Action Plan on Gender Equality for 2011-2013, which was adopted on 5 May 2011. Later, on 24 January 2014, the National Action Plan on Gender Equality for 2014-2016 was adopted by the Parliament, in compliance with the Council of Europe's Gender Equality Strategy 2014-2016 and seeks to combat gender stereotypes, violence against women, integrate gender into all programmes and policies, abolish negative traditional gender stereotypes, guarantee equal access to justice and balance the participation of women in decision-making positions.</p> <p>In addition, on 27 December 2011, the Parliament of Georgia approved the 2012-2015 National Action Plan for the implementation of the UN Security Council Resolutions 1325, 1820, 1888, 1889 and 1960 on "Women, Peace and Security".</p> <p>In December, 2012 the Georgian Government started a systemic and conceptual review of the Labour Code of Georgia with the aim of bringing its labour laws in full compliance with the international labour conventions and to incorporate the best international practices, thus significantly enhancing the protection of women's rights. Maternity leave policy has been improved, both in terms of remuneration (from GEL 600 to 1000) and lengths (from 4 to 6 months). In addition, the Labour Code guarantees that the working overtime of pregnant women or of women having recently given birth is prohibited. Furthermore, the Labour Code ensures maternity child care, newborn adoption and extra maternity or child care leave of absence. In addition, terminating labour relations shall be inadmissible during the period after notifying her employer of her pregnancy by a female employee.</p>

Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
			<p>In order to promote women participation in politics/political parties the Organic law of Georgia on Political Unions of Citizens was re-amended on 29 July 2013. Pursuant to the recent amendment the mentioned election subject will receive supplementary funding to the amount of 30% if, in the submitted party list, among 10 candidates the gender difference is presented by at least 30%. The recent amendment entered into force in 2014 after the local elections.</p> <p>Within the framework of the Action Plan on Welfare and Protection of Children for 2012-2015, in order to protect the rights of children, following measures are planned and implemented:</p> <p>a) Completion of the process of deinstitutionalization and extension of alternative services by the end of 2013; by December, 2013, only 3 Children Houses operated under the funding of the central budget. At the current stage 1 large institution for children with disabilities has already been closed and only 2 large institutions for children with disabilities continue functioning (55 and 29 children per institution). Replacement of large Children's Houses with alternative services (small group homes, palliative care services, specialized foster care) is in progress. For the reporting period, fostering activities are carried out in 47 small group homes and 51 Day Care Centres (including children with severe and profound mental development retardation disabilities);</p> <p>b) Improvement and development of a mechanism of reintegration in biological families of children accommodated in 24 hours service, in 2012-2015;</p> <p>c) "Reintegration assistance allowance, suspension, resumption and termination rules and conditions" is elaborated and approved by the Order N01-20/n of the Minister of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia of 20 March, 2014;</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>d) Development of various forms of foster care in 2012-2015; The following foster care forms are active in the country: relative, non-relative (including for children with disabilities), urgent foster care;</p> <p>e) Increase/extension of possibilities of shelters for mothers and infants in 2012-2015; In 2012-2013, 2 mother's and children's shelters tailored to their needs were opened in Tbilisi and Kutaisi, The third shelter was opened in Tbilisi in 2014. Capacities of the shelters are increasing by years. According to the data of 2015, 63 beneficiaries are able to use services simultaneously in the frames of state programme. (mother with child/children under the age of 10, also woman no less than 26 weeks of pregnancy (among them mother with child/children under the age of 10);</p> <p>f) Creation/development of palliative and specialized care services for children in 2012-2015. Palliative care State programme includes Ambulatory and in-patient palliative services and provision of medication for pain management for incurable patients;</p> <p>g) Implementation of improvement of child protection mechanisms will be carried out in 2013, including legislative amendments For the promotion of child protection from all forms of violence within the family and outside, the Joint (N152/n-N496-N45/n) Order of the Minister of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia, Minister of Internal Affairs of Georgia and the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia (May 31, 2010) on Establishment of Referral Procedures for Child's Protection has been adopted. This regulation needs further improvement by introducing necessary amendments. The draft resolution on "Child Care Referral Procedures" has been elaborated by the working group with representatives of UNICEF, government and nongovernmental organizations. According to the new project and draft amendments, the involved parties will be expanded, and social worker's as an authorized</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>person's - power will be increased. In urgent cases, social workers will be authorized to make decisions about separation of the children from the biological family.</p> <p>h) Since 2013 supervision over the quality of services will be strengthened. In 2013, by the request of the Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia, pilot project - Monitoring of Child Care services (32 <i>small group homes for children</i>, 20 day care centers, 36 foster care families) was carried out jointly by the government and NGOs. Service monitoring instrument has been elaborated and the instrument's examination/testing has been conducted within the project. Compliance of the provided services with the child care standards was evaluated in the process of the monitoring and recommendations have been provided for each provider. The new structural subdivision of the Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia - the Programme Monitoring Division has been created in January 2014 to ensure the monitoring of state social programmes/services;</p> <p>i) New standards for child care were adopted in August 2012, which will be binding for all children 24-hours services. By the Decree №66 of the Government of Georgia of January 15, 2014 on Child Care Standards has been adopted, which is obligatory for all child care institutions regardless their organizational, legal and ownership form, which carries out 24-hour service for children (except foster care, licensed inpatient facilities, authorized educational organizations (secondary/primary/pre-schools), boarding schools and such services, which operates no more than 3 months in a year). From January 1, 2013, also for children's day care centers without disability status in the frames of state programme. In 2011 service standards for day care centers for persons with disabilities were elaborated and adopted.</p> <p>The Government of Georgia each year adopts Social Rehabilitation and</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>Child Care State Programme, which includes following sub-programmes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) child rehabilitation/habilitation subprogramme; b) community based organizations subprogramme; c) day care centers subprogramme; d) Early child development subprogramme; e) Foster care subprogramme; f) Small group homes subprogramme; g) Mother and child shelter provision subprogramme; h) Child nutrition subprogramme under the risk of abandonment; i) shelter provision subprogrammes for children without parental care (street children); j) Support for the communication of the deaf subprogramme; k) war veterans rehabilitation subprogramme; l) Provision of supportive devices subprogramme (wheelchairs, prosthesis-orthopedic devices, hearing devices, cochlear implant, blind persons walking sticks, crutches, sticks for disabled), m) Emergency assistance subprogramme for the families with children in critical situation <p>In order to ensure access to adequate healthcare service to children, starting from September 2012 till September 2014 country provided health insurance to all children aged 0-6, as well as children with disabilities up to age of 18. Meanwhile, in order to improve financial accessibility to healthcare services, in February 2013, Universal Healthcare Programme (UHC) has been launched and from September 2014, abovementioned categories became the beneficiaries of UHC. Currently, every citizen of Georgia is secured with the basic package of routine and emergency in- and out-patient clinical care, including oncology and maternity services.</p> <p>In November, 2014 on the occasion of 25th anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, LEPL Children and Youth</p>

	Recommendation Scope international obligation	Country of	Scope Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>National Center (legal entity of the Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs of Georgia) organized Conference on Children's Rights with participation of students representing regions of Georgia.</p> <p>Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs of Georgia together with UNICEF, "Bemoni" and "Gydea" implemented Anti-drug campaign during June-January, 2013. Main aim of the campaign was promotion of healthy lifestyle and safe behavior among youth. The mentioned project included peer education trainings and sports activities as well.</p> <p>Annually, every November LEPL National Youth and Children Palace of Georgia hosts Children's Rights Week.</p> <p>Georgian National Rugby Team, the UN Women partner, has been supporting the Secretary General's UNiTE to end violence against women campaign since 2011. In the framework of this campaign the rugby players dedicated several international matches to the fight against violence against women;</p> <p>See further the response to recommendation 106.19 and 105.07.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
21.	Ensure the rights of the child, with attention to the Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children	Brazil 106.22.	Accepts: Georgia directs broad efforts to protect and promote rights of the child in line with Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children, irrespective of their religious or ethnic origin, at the policy level and in practice. Georgia will continue to work diligently towards these ends as called for in these recommendations.	<p>Status: In the process of implementation</p> <p>See response to recommendation 105.14.</p> <p>The Government of Georgia continues the deinstitutionalization course in the field of child welfare, through replacement of the large institutions with alternative, family type services and promotes development services for homeless children and children with disabilities. Since 2013, the Government of Georgia has increased a financial aid package for children with disabilities and survivors. Access to the social care programs has been significantly increased.</p> <p>In order to develop child care alternative services, with financial support of USAID and UNICEF, in 2011-2012, 25 facilities (property attached to the land) were purchased in 6 regions of Georgia. The purchased property was equipped and rehabilitated. The abovementioned facilities in 2011 and 2012 were transferred to the selected 7 organizations - non-profit entities of public law with management rights. With the assistance from Donor partners (Every Child, Our Home), the staff selected on the position of educator in these new small group homes was trained and the service provision has been started in the frames of state programme According to the conditions of the competition, provider organizations of the homes in order to ensure the quality of service, add financial resources to the subsidy allocated for each child by the state.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
22.	Incorporate the principle of the best interest of the child in all programmes and policies	Hungary 105.15		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>Juvenile crime prevention is a principal component of criminal justice policy of the Government. The objective of the Juvenile Crime Prevention Strategy is to develop unified national policy for juvenile crime prevention, provide basis for effective crime prevention measures and interventions in order to reduce juvenile offending in Georgia, to rehabilitate and reintegrate into the society juveniles in conflict with the law. The Strategy provides a national framework for preventing offending among juveniles in Georgia. It reflects principles and provisions of UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC).</p> <p>In addition, it is based on international standards and principles of juvenile crime prevention enshrined, inter alia, in United Nations Guidelines for Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency, UN Guidelines for the Prevention of Crime as well as international experiences and good practices of different countries. It should be noted that Criminal Justice Coordination Council closely cooperates with UNICEF on the abovementioned issues, considers the recommendations/proposals of UNICEF in order to ensure the rights and interests of minors.</p> <p>Juvenile justice policy of Georgia is guided by principles of best interest of child, non-discrimination, promotion of alternatives to criminal prosecution, protection of privacy and avoidance of stigmatization.</p> <p>Furthermore, in April 2012, the Government of Georgia amended the Law of Georgia on Combating Trafficking and added a new chapter on child victims of trafficking in human beings, including individual risk assessment on the basis of the child's best interests. Within the current set up of the Inter-agency council to combat trafficking in persons system in Georgia not only children who are victims of trafficking, but also</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>children accompanying their parents who have been trafficked, are entitled and when such a need arises, receive the appropriate accommodation, age specific education and support programs tailored to the needs of the child. With this amendments Georgian legislation fully regulates issues regarding children in trafficking in line with international standards.</p> <p>In the reforming process, great attention is attached to the participation of children in activities and measures that will promote sharing opinions and views of children and decision- making/elaboration of policy relevant to the best interests of children. This is defined in legislation in force, as well as in child care standards. Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA) devotes respective attention to the principle of the best interest of the child; in this regard the Ministry Strategy for 2013 addresses the issue of juvenile delinquency, and especially focuses on its prevention, avoiding its recurrence and reducing the number of juveniles being in conflict with the law, as well as carefully addressing the issue of juvenile offenders' re-socialization and re- integration. On the other hand, the MIA 2013 Strategy pays due attention to the problem of child victims, especially in domestic violence cases and children's involvement in educational and sports activities, raising their awareness and trust towards the police.</p> <p>Furthermore, MIA is actively involved in the work of the Juvenile Justice Reform group under the Criminal Justice Reform Programme. Under the JJ Reform group activities, MIA carries out relevant trainings and qualification awareness campaigns for police officers, conducts effective investigation and prevention in this regard. More precisely, MIA adopted Instructions for police officers on the basis of the Juvenile Protection Referral System, taught at the MIA Academy as a basic curriculum subject; police officers regularly participate in <i>ad hoc</i> trainings held by international and local NGOs, international organizations and donor</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>countries, as well as in working groups with the representatives of other public and private bodies. Moreover, investigation of juvenile cases is conducted only by the investigators who have undergone a special course at MIA Academy and were granted a certificate in the subject of "Pedagogical Psychology", in line with the obligations of Criminal Code of Georgia.</p> <p>Principle of the best interest of the child and individual approach for each juvenile are one of the core principles incorporated into the draft of the Juvenile Justice Code that is planned to be adopted by the Parliament of Georgia in nearest future in 2015.</p> <p>See response to recommendation 106.19 for the detailed information on Juvenile Justice Policy.</p> <p>The High School of Justice in cooperation with the UNICEF has developed the curriculum on Juvenile Justice with the involvement of Georgian judges and foreign experts.</p> <p>The curriculum considers the best interests of a child and it includes international legislation and standards as well as psychological aspects and special skills related to juvenile justice.</p> <p>During reporting period the High School of Justice organized 3 trainings for sitting judges based on the above-mentioned new curriculum.</p> <p>The Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia is responsible to provide the child friendly educational policy at its utmost, in order to envisage the principles of the best interests of the children and raise them as the full-fledged citizens. For this MoES is working into several main directions, especially challenging pre-school, general and vocational education sectors. National Curriculum, which is the main policy</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>document for schools in Georgia focuses its major educational concept on child's personal development. Its underlying principle is a modern and outcome-based teaching, the main goal of which is to equip students with solid, dynamic and functional knowledge relevant to modern world's challenges and demands.</p> <p>Revision of National Curriculum is cycled process and is ongoing now with wide involvement of local and international partners (Estonian Foundation Innove, UNICEF, UN agencies, Local and International NGOs, teachers and academia) to ensure that children receive all the important knowledge and skills they need for further development. New revised curriculum will strengthen such a subject as civic education starting from primary level of education with emphasis on human rights, gender equality, personal development, active citizenship and etc.</p> <p>Besides, MoES together with partners has elaborated draft legislation on Preschool Education and Care, Strategy and Action Plans for Preschool Education and Care, National Standards of School Readiness, School readiness curriculum and other legislative and educational materials to support early and preschool development in the country.</p> <p>MoES has expanded its number of multi-disciplinary groups across the country to reach every child and support their inclusion in formal education. Inclusive Vocational Education, by the Support of Norwegian Ministry of Education and Research is ongoing to create foundation for lifelong learning for all.</p> <p>See also the response to recommendation 105.13.</p> <p>Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia elaborated Healthcare System State Concept 2014-2020 "Universal Healthcare and Quality Management for Protection of Patient Rights". One of the main priorities of the concept is Support of Maternal and Child Health in</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>Georgia, which ensures improvement of quality of perinatal services through evaluation of perinatal services, support of effective perinatal service practices, and development of service regionalization.</p> <p>Maternal and child health promotion and development issues are also depicted in “Social-Economic Development Strategy, Georgia 2020”.</p> <p>A high-level conference “Investing in Georgia’s Future - A National Agenda for Early Child Survival and Development” was organized in June 2013 by the Government and the Parliament of Georgia, with the support of UNICEF. It has resulted in commitment to prioritize Early Childhood Development within Georgia’s National Development Strategy – Georgia 2020.</p> <p>From 2013, Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection of Georgia (MoC) supported: “Folk Craft Summer School”, the summer schools have been opened in 6 regions of Georgia, where young people learn various craft technologies: wood carving, making “Svanuri” hats, felt making and tapestry, knitting; “Meskhuri” carpets and “Otia Ioseliani Weekend School” in Tskhaltubo, aiming to create non-formal education capacity in the field of art for young generation in Tskhaltubo municipality has been implemented. Along with this N(N)LE writers’ creative union of Georgia’s project “Library on the wheels”, meetings with well-known writers were carried out in the regions, young writers were discovered and popularized, new editions of Georgian writers’. Books were given to public school libraries in the regions.</p> <p>Moreover concerning youth education and development, LEPL “Georgian National Museum” which incorporates the most important museums, scientific centers, archeological bases and repositories in Tbilisi and in the regions is actively involved and carries out multiple activities in informal education. Museum learning, through entertaining games,</p>

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				<p>considering age groups and teaching in an understandable language for children complements and reinforces the knowledge gained in schools. At the same time it evokes curiosity and interest among young people, and supports their personal development. Besides gaining the general knowledge, museum education promotes the development of creative skills among young people, such as attention, concentration and imagination, independent reasoning, critical thinking and communication skills. Museum education programme promotes development of empathy and tolerance among children and youth, as well as stirs sense of patriotism in the process of national art perception.</p> <p>The museum regularly hosts young people with poor socio-economic backgrounds and national minorities. The museum carries out special tours and events, such as summer camps, summer schools and etc, particularly for them for free.</p> <p>Elaboration and implementation of educational programmes for children are also provided by the LEPL "National Agency for Cultural Heritage and Preservation of Georgia" which aim is the development of young generation and evoking a sense of respect towards their culture.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
23.	Undertake effective measures to protect children, particularly those belonging to religious minorities	Ecuador 106.23.	Accepts: Georgia directs broad efforts to protect and promote rights of the child in line with Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children, irrespective of their religious or ethnic origin, at the policy level and in practice. Georgia will continue to work diligently towards these ends as called for in these recommendations.	<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>National legislation in education guaranties that educational institutions are religious neutral and nobody is discriminated according to religion, race and others.</p> <p>Educational Institutions are open for all children regardless their race, skin color, religion, language, national and ethnic and social belonging. Moreover, National Curriculum underlines such a themes as non-discrimination, tolerance, cultural diversity among others.</p> <p>All programmes, whose target group is a child, are without any discrimination and equally accessible to all juvenile's.</p> <p>State Agency for Religious Issues discusses together with the perspective of rights of religious minorities. However, Agency emphasizes attention to pupils in closed religious boarding schools. It is planned to start monitoring of all similar institutions of any religious boarding schools, in 2015. Agency, with various religious minorities, supports Inter-religious camps for children.</p> <p>Georgia will continue to work diligently towards these ends as called for in these recommendations.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
24.	Continue efforts in the field of protection of the rights of persons with disabilities	Azerbaijan 105.16		<p>Status: In the process of implementation</p> <p>State Coordination Council on the Issues of People with Disabilities.</p> <p>After the launching of the Universal HealthCare Programme in February 2013, all disabled people, including children became beneficiaries of the UHC since September 2014.</p> <p>In order to implement the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), the Georgian Government together with non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders, considering the decision of the Coordination Council on the Issues of People with Disabilities, elaborated and adopted the “Governmental Action Plan for 2014-2016 - Providing Equal Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities”, which covers the basic requirements of the Convention on the Right of the Persons with Disabilities, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - development and adoption of anti-discrimination legislation, in consideration of the aspects related to persons with disabilities; (on May 2, 2014 the Law of Georgian “on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination” was enforced); - ensuring participation of the persons with disabilities and/or their representative organizations in the process of elaboration of strategies, plans, programmes and activities for providing equal opportunities for persons with disabilities; <p>(all interested organizations and persons with disabilities participated in developing action plans and programmes. The good example of the abovementioned is Coordination Council on the Issues of People with Disabilities . The members of the council are the senior officials of the ministries, Chairman of the Committee of Health and Social Affairs of the Parliament of Georgia and Deputy Chairman, 10 representatives of persons with disabilities rights defender NGOs and the council is headed by the Prime Minister);</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - increase public awareness on issues related to persons with disabilities; - public facilities and services, including, public institutions providing access to the physical environment, public transport vehicles, promoting and providing equal access for travel; - access to information and freedom of opinion and expression; - determine the legal framework for the education of persons with special needs; - providing equal access to health services on the basis of disability emerged without discrimination, habilitation and rehabilitation services and programmes, to promote social rehabilitation; (Persons with disabilities have equal access to health care services across the country. Special approaches are considered for persons with disabilities, in terms of their safe movement, as shown by the Regulation documents. Persons with disabilities, as well as other citizens of Georgia are involved in all health care state programmes (including insurance). The financial accessibility, number of service providers, number of financed courses and programme's service providers geographical area are increased within child rehabilitation sub-programme of Social rehabilitation and child care state programme. The quality and efficiency of the subprogramme for targeted group have been improved and increased); - equal rights of people with disabilities in labour and employment; (The draft laws are elaborated about protection of labor rights and employment promotion and social integration for persons with disabilities: „Social Integration of Persons with Disabilities“; „On Employment“; „Occupational Safety and Health Protection“; „Labour Inspection“ according to the “Government plan for 2014-2016 to ensure equal opportunities of persons with disabilities”. The abovementioned draft laws will be initiated in the Parliament of Georgia in 2015); - provision of social rights of the persons with disabilities without

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>discrimination and considering their individual needs; (According to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) in the format of working group and together with non-governmental organizations new law on rights of the persons with disabilities was elaborated, which is currently being discussed in various state agencies. From September 2013, the amount of social assistance for persons with severe disabilities has increased from 100 to 150 GEL, for persons with significant disabilities and children with disabilities - from 70 GEL to 100 GEL.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The funding and capacities of social services (day care centers, community organizations, early development services) have increased. More persons with disabilities in the country is provided with a high-quality, appropriate services.) - ensuring participation of persons with disabilities in political and public life; - Ensuring equal participation of persons with disabilities in the cultural and sport life of the society. <p>In accordance with the UN convention article 33, the Interagency Council on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities was identified as an implementation mechanism at the executive branch chaired by the Prime Minister. The members of the council are the senior officials of the ministries, Chairman of the Committee of Health and Social Affairs of the Parliament of Georgia and Deputy Chairman, as well as 10 representatives of persons with disabilities rights defender NGOs. At this moment the council is working on new amendments needed for the effective implementation of the Convention.</p> <p>The human rights secretariat responsible for the monitoring of the implementation process of the Human Rights Action Plan of the Government of Georgia, is also coordinating implementation process of the UN convention. As for the monitoring body the public defender's office</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>will take lead on that regard. The center on the protection of rights of persons with disabilities in the public defender office was transformed into department on the protection of rights of persons with disabilities. The department was equipped with adequate resources to effectively implement the new obligations.</p> <p>MIA pays special attention to ensuring the protection of disabled persons' rights and the accessibility of information and services, considering their individual needs. For disabled persons special sound version on website of MIA (voice.police.ge) was developed. Information posted on the official website of the Ministry is automatically transferred to voice.police.ge</p> <p>The emergency hotline 112 of the MIA Georgia has launched a new service of SMS and video call connection for people with hearing and speech disabilities since March 2015. The new service has been supported by the UNDP and Government of Sweden, thus in line with the European Union standards and fully complies with the stated priorities of the Georgian Government and recommendations of the Public Defender of Georgia.</p> <p>Public Service Development agency of the Ministry of Justice of Georgia devotes respective attention to the protection of the rights of persons with disabilities; in this regard the agency is planning to provide access to remote services for people with disabilities, in particular, for hearing and speaking impairments.</p> <p>See also the response to the recommendations 106.19.</p> <p>Since 2013, in order to support and promote equal opportunities of the youth with disabilities, Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs has been implementing the following projects and programmes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion of sport and healthy lifestyle activities among people with disabilities;

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Art and cultural-creative activities for people with disabilities; • Non-formal education, specialized trainings and cognitive activities; <p>Since 2014 (February-May; September-December), LEPL Children and Youth National Center has been implementing a project “Strengthen and Change”, which covers the following topics and themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human rights and its protection mechanisms on national and international level; • Rights of people with disabilities and UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities; • Advocacy strategies for rights of persons with disabilities; • Existed and desired services for children with disabilities; • Peer education and its implementation strategy. <p>Since 2014 (February-May; September-December), LEPL Children and Youth National Center’s is implementing programme “Changes for Equality” aimed at raising awareness and developing basic skills among students on communications with, behaviors and attitudes towards people with special needs or disadvantages.</p> <p>“Childhood for every child” – was the first project implemented by the Children and Youth Development Fund (under MSY) in 2013-2014, supported by international donor organization East-West Management Institute. Partners of the project were non-governmental organization “Step Forward” and Caucasus Social Photography Network. The aim of the project was to demonstrate and advocate the problems regarding the issues of pre-school education of children with hearing and speech difficulties.</p> <p>In the field of protection of the rights of people with disabilities the</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs of Georgia in 2015 signed the memorandum of cooperation with the Center for Access to the Football in Europe (CAFE) concerning cooperation on disabled supporters' issues.</p> <p>Ministry of Education and Science is fully dedicated to inclusive education. Inclusive education philosophy is the part of National Curriculum.</p> <p>The main principle of inclusive education is to support Special education needs children to be integrated fully in formal education. For this all directions are covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • educational resources: textbooks, computer educational games, teacher guidelines, targeted projects; • Human resources: teacher trainings, strengthening multi-disciplinary groups of the Ministry, supporting schools to have special education teachers and staff members; • MoES has elaborated special guideline for Sports and Physical Education teachers to include children with special need into the lessons; • MoES has elaborated inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction in education concepts; • MoES has elaborated alternative curriculum for children with severe and profound mental disabilities; • Along with many programmes, MoES introduced Universal Design Principles for rehabilitation and construction of schools and VET institutions; • MoES is working with partners towards inclusive preschool, general and vocational education in many directions. <p>National compulsory exams are also adopted for those who have special educational needs.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>The installation of 82 outpatient buildings was completed throughout Georgia. All of them are fully adopted for serving to people with disabilities. The project cost GEL 2 500 000.</p> <p>A dormitory of modern standards for 300 students to be constructed on the area adjacent to the Lisi Lake was designed. The complex will be fully adapted to the needs of the people with disabilities. A contract of GEL 5 250 000 has already been negotiated with the construction company. The complex will have a yard with sports fields and other infrastructure.</p> <p>Significant amendments have been made in the legislation of Georgia in regard to the realization of the rights of persons with disabilities. Particularly, the term "person with psycho-social needs" has been introduced instead of - "legally incapable person". According to which, a person with psycho-social needs is considered to be legally capable, to whom, on the basis of the individual assessment, the court might appoint guardianship, a person who will assist him/her in realization and protection of his/her rights. Only, after the individual assessment will be determined in which field is mandatory of the appointment of supporter.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
25.	Continue with its efforts to protect and integrate in the society all persons with disabilities	Ecuador 105.17		<p>Status: In the process of implementation</p> <p>See also the response to the recommendations: 105.2, 105.16 and 106.19.</p> <p>Under the supervision of the State Fund, 3 boarding houses for persons with disabilities are functioning on state funding;</p> <p>Service providers are registered and services for persons with disabilities are financed in the frames of social rehabilitation and child care programme. 13 community organizations are service providers as of January 2015, which give service to 180 beneficiaries.</p> <p>In order to ensure quality of provided service and create the decent living conditions the state has developed and approved in 2014 "minimum standards of the services for people with disabilities and elderly services in daily specialized institutions.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
26.	Increase the support to children with disabilities so that they can live in the community and avoid their institutionalization	Canada 105.18		<p>Status: In the process of implementation</p> <p>On 20 of January 2014 the Government of Georgia adopted „the Government Action Plan for 2014-2016, to Ensure Equal Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities“.</p> <p>According to the data of February, 2015, 2 large institutions for 24hour service are functioning under the supervision of the State Fund, where 84 (55+29) children with more or less serious health problems are placed.</p> <p>The service includes: 24-hour services provision; feeding minimum four times a day; protection of personal hygiene; support of the formal education such as preparation of the lessons and informal education - interactive games, discussions, literary reading, acting games and etc.; professional skills development; teaching healthy lifestyle and developing living skills; developing the necessary skills to lead an independent life; involvement in cultural-sport activities; provision of urgent medical assistance and medical-rehabilitative procedures; organizing ambulatory and stationary medical service, in case of necessity; provision of psychological assistance; carrying out activities established by the individual service plans; all the other activities that promote beneficiaries' complete development.</p> <p>In order to support children with disabilities and to prevent institutionalization, the priority for the Government of Georgia is to strengthen families (including, allowances) and, in case of necessity, provide annual inclusion of children in various social programmes:</p> <p>a) provide children with disabilities with day centers - At the current stage 31 center for children with disabilities are functioning, for 684 children.</p> <p>b) Foster Care Services - 166 children with disabilities live in foster families (by January of 2015);</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>c) rehabilitation of children with disabilities- specific rehabilitation, habilitation, improving physical health, adaptive capacity and social integration. The number of persons using the service increases every year.</p> <p>d) Early development of children - stimulate the development of children with development retardation or disabilities and social integration, strengthening the child and the family.</p> <p>e) provision with subsidiary means;</p> <p>f) provision mothers and children with shelters;</p> <p>g) emergency assistance to families in crisis - 1000 GEL worth of material assistance - food, equipment, hygiene products, small household appliances;</p> <p>h) Provision of children at risk of abandonment with food – support of the vulnerable families with children under the age of 1.5 with artificial food.</p> <p>In 2011, the Ministry of Justice announced the internship application call for people with disabilities, 2 interns were selected for 3 months. Besides, 20 people with disabilities are employed in different departments/LEPL of MOJ.</p> <p>The charity action was organized in April 2012 in cooperation with the “Coalition for Independence Living” to support people with disabilities. The the Ministry of Justice in cooperation with NGOs organized photo exhibition. The persons with disabilities working in the Ministry of Justice were also involved in the event.</p> <p>See also the response to the recommendation 105.16.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
27.	Increase support to children with disabilities to live in the community to avoid institutionalization	Denmark 105.19		<p>Status: In the process of implementation</p> <p>See the responses to the recommendations 105.18, 105.16, 106.19 and also responses to the recommendations 105.2 and 105.17.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
28.	Strengthen support to children with disabilities	Bangladesh 105.20		<p>Status: In the process of implementation</p> <p>See the responses to the recommendations 105.18, 105.16, 106.19 and also responses to the recommendations 105.2 and 105.17.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
29.	Accelerate efforts to achieve the remaining millennium development goal targets, including goal 2 on universal primary education and goal 4 on reducing infant and under-5 mortality rates	Malaysia 106.21.	Accepts: Georgia is working actively to meet all Millennium Development Goals including those on universal primary education and reduction of infant and under-5 mortality rates. Georgia will remain firmly committed to these efforts.	<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>The right to education is officially enshrined in Georgian legislation. Georgian law on General Education (approved on 8 April, 2005 by the Parliament of Georgia) ensures free general education for students at all public schools in Georgia. According to the same law, everyone has equal right to get full general education, in order to fully develop his/her personality and acquire those knowledge and skills necessary for achieving equal success in private and social life (article 9th, section 1st).</p> <p>Full general education covers three levels and includes grades from I to XII. The levels of full general education are primary (I-VI), basic (VII-IX) and secondary (X-XII). Primary and basic education levels are compulsory and free for all at public schools. Secondary education is also free for all at public sector, but not compulsory.</p> <p>General Education is universal, based on National Curriculum, which guarantees that all children have the possibility to access the same quality education despite their religion, sex, social belongings and others.</p> <p>MoES is fully dedicated to the inclusive education, supporting children with special educational needs to be integrated into the mainstream schools and develop all the necessary knowledge and skills. MoES is implementing child tailored diverse programmes to cover as many SEN children as possible.</p> <p>Under the decision of the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia (MOES), since the academic years 2013-2014 all public school students are provided with free textbooks in order to back up their constitutional right of getting free full general education. There are no exam fees for school leaving exams and school children in a number of small and highland areas are supported with free school buses.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>In order to ensure access to adequate healthcare services to children, from February 2013 country had launched Universal Healthcare Programme.</p> <p>Other state (vertical) programmes are functioning to target achievement of MDGs in relation to infant and under-5 mortality reduction. Those programmes include: immunization, antenatal care (including screening for HIV/AIDS, Syphilis and Hepatitis B) and management of complicated pregnancies, prenatal and infant screening programmes, rare diseases and services targeted at early detection of child development problems.</p> <p>For better monitoring of maternal and child mortality cases emergency notification system has been started in 1 February, 2013, which ensures urgent provision of information on maternal mortality, 0-5 years infant mortality and stillbirth cases. Each medical organization is obliged to notify MoLHSA by phone call within an hour in case of maternal or 0-5 child mortality and stillbirths and in the next 24 hours confirm the call by the written notification.</p> <p>Information is accumulated in the database and qualitative and quantitative analyzes are conducted. Monthly data is being compared and presented to the MCH Board of the MoLHSA with the data received by the routine statistics and that of unified information system of disease control.</p> <p>In order to decrease number of mortality of mothers and children, also number of perinatal death from iron deficiency anemia, and number of early delivery and inborn anomalies, from June 2014 all pregnant population is provided with folic acid up to 13th week of pregnancy and in case of iron deficiency anemia –with, iron deficiency anemia medication from 26th week of pregnancy.</p> <p>There are ongoing arrangements to improve quality of perinatal services,</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>which means evaluation of perinatal services, supporting practice of effective perinatal services and creation of the plan of regionalization (division into levels) (with support of USAID/Sustain piloting of the plan will be initialized in Imereti and Racha-Lechkhumi regions).</p> <p>Guidelines for cesarean section and safe abortion have been elaborated. Also, legislative amendments have been prepared which aims to decrease number of abortions in Georgia and prohibition of sex-selective abortion.</p> <p>In the reports about child mortality rates, made by World Health Organization, World Bank and UNDP, statistical data from Georgia was used for the first time and in this point of view, Georgia is the first country in the post-soviet union region.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope Obligation	of Measures Undertaken by 2015
	Cooperation with human rights mechanisms			

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
30.	Effectively address the recommendations of human rights treaty bodies and special procedures with respect to its human rights legislation, particularly on minorities, women and children, in order to bring them in line with international human rights law	Jordan 105.21		<p>Status: In the process of implementation</p> <p>One of the aims of the National Human Rights Strategy is to guarantee equal rights and the protection of the rights of minorities, focus on the rights of children, especially through: improving existing protection and assistance mechanisms, developing social services, reducing child poverty and mortality rates, and guaranteeing the provision of high standards of education and Promotion of gender equality, protection of women's rights and prevention of domestic violence. Derived from that Human Rights Action Plan includes different mechanisms to ensure harmonization of national legislation with the international Human Rights Standards. Revision of civil and administrative regulatory legislation and identification of shortcomings in child rights protection, establishment and development of institutional mechanisms for gender equality; drafting of legislation which takes gender issues into account.</p> <p>See response to recommendation 106.19.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
31.	Provide regular updates to the Human Rights Council on the implementation of the recommendations adopted during the review	Hungary 106.25	Accepts: Georgia is committed to constructive cooperation with the Human Rights Council and will submit, on a voluntary basis, a midterm report on follow-up to accepted UPR recommendations, in accordance with the Human Rights Council resolution A/HRC/16/L.39	<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>In 2011, during the 1st cycle of the UPR Georgia undertook voluntary commitment to submit mid-term Report on the implementation of the recommendations accepted by the State.</p> <p>On December 23, 2015, Georgia submitted the Mid-term Progress Report on Implementation of Recommendations. The Report was prepared under coordination of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In process of preparation of the Report were participating all relevant agencies, the Parliament and judiciary.</p> <p>The mentioned Report contained information on measures undertaken by the State in order to implement recommendation. Most of recommendations have been addressed.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
32.	Involve civil society representatives in the follow-up implementation of the universal periodic review recommendations	Kyrgyzstan 105.22		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>There are different format of consultations and involvement of civil society representatives in the process of implementation of recommendations stemming from international human rights treaties reflected in the UPR process outcome. Implementation of the Human Rights Strategy (2014-20), and subsequent Action Plan (2014-15) which has been elaborated in line with the international human rights treaty obligations, is monitored by the Human Rights Secretariat and the Human Rights Inter-Agency Council under the Prime Minister establishing effective consultation mechanism with the civil society sector. The Council consists of the ministers as well as civil society representatives and international organizations with the permission of vote. The Council is accountable to the Parliament by annual reporting. The updates on its implementation are regularly presented to the civil society organizations through once-a-month series of meetings between the representatives of the government and the NGOs.</p> <p>The Ambassador at Large on Human Rights within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is in charge at the national level to systematically follow up on the implementation of HRC resolutions, recommendations by Special Rapporteurs and Independent Experts and outcomes of the UPR Process. In the process of implementation the Ministry regularly consults with the civil society sector.</p> <p>Georgia attached paramount importance to the wider engagement of the national human rights institution, NGOs and civil society representatives in the process of preparing the 2nd Cycle UPR report. Consultation process started as early as June 2012. Specifically, round table for “strengthening cooperation and involvement in the framework of the Universal Periodic Review process” with participation from relevant stakeholders, was organized by the Office of the Public Defender of Georgia in cooperation</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>with and the support from the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). In 2015, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia, in cooperation with various line ministries, hosted or participated in various consultation meetings related to the UPR with the participation of NGOs, the Office of the Public Defender of Georgia and the OHCHR. In addition, upon request of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia, the OHCHR organized a round table with the participation of government representatives and the non-governmental sector which offered a very good platform to discuss and share views on the UPR process. For the purpose of considering stakeholder feedback and comments, the final draft of the report was uploaded on the web page of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia and before submitting to the HRC, the report was presented to the OHCHR, the UNDP, the Office of the Public Defender and NGOs. All comments and suggestions were considered in the course of the finalization of the report.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
	Equality and non-discrimination			

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
33.	Pay further attention to women's rights and gender equality issues at the policymaking level	Sri Lanka 105.23		<p>Status: In the process of implementation</p> <p>Promotion of gender equality and promotion of women's rights are among the priority areas of the National Human Rights Strategy of Georgia (2014-2020) and its Action Plan (2014-2015) adopted in 2014.</p> <p>New position of Human Rights and Gender Equality Advisor of the Prime-Minister was created in 2013. The Advisor is also the chairperson of the Interagency Coordination Council for Prevention of Domestic Violence.</p> <p>The Gender Equality Council, established in 2009 and chaired by the Deputy Chairperson of the Parliament, elaborated the National Action Plan on Gender Equality for 2011-2013, which was adopted on 5 May 2011. Afterwards, on 24 January 2014 the National Action Plan on Gender Equality for 2014-2016 was adopted by the Parliament, in compliance with the Council of Europe's Gender Equality Strategy 2014-2016 and seeks to combat gender stereotypes, violence against women, integrate gender into all programs and policies, abolish negative traditional gender stereotypes, guarantee equal access to justice and balance the participation of women in decision-making positions. The Action Plan also envisages gender analyses to the draft of legal acts/amendments.</p> <p>In addition, on 27 December 2011 the Parliament of Georgia approved the 2012-2015 National Action Plan for the implementation of the UN Security Council Resolutions 1325, 1820, 1888, 1889 and 1960 on "Women, Peace and Security". The National Action Plan is built on four pillars: increasing the participation of women in the peace process and the security sector; preventing all forms of violence against women, especially those related to sex or gender; protecting women against all kinds of threats, and safeguarding their physical, mental and economic security; and addressing the specific needs of women during and after conflict periods.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>A working group addressing women's political participation with the Gender Equality Council of the Parliament have been lobbying for gender quotas since June 2014, as a temporary special measure, which obliges political parties and electoral blocs to reserve every second place on their electoral lists for female candidates. The initiative is narrowly tailored to the current election system, where 77 members are to be elected under a proportional representation system and 73 - under a majoritarian electoral system. The proposed mechanism of quotas applies only to a proportional representation system and is subject to review in case of changes to the existing electoral system. Under the existed system of parliamentary elections, the proposed quotas will provide for the following representation of women parliamentarians: 38 women members of parliament out of the total 77 members elected under a proportional representation system, accounting for 25 percent of the total composition of the parliament.</p> <p>It is planned to further strengthen the existing institutional mechanism for gender equality already established under the Prime-Minister Office with consultation of UN family organizations. The draft Concept on public service reform also envisages a chapter on gender and equality in public service.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
34.	Develop legislation and measures to implement it to better protect rights of women and ensuring gender equality	Lithuania 106.27	Accepts: Georgia fully shares the recommendations that aim at strengthening the protection of women against discrimination and the promotion of gender equality, and directs significant efforts towards gender mainstreaming.	<p>Status: In the process of implementation</p> <p>The National Human Rights Strategy (2014-2020) adopted on April 30, 2014 by Parliament of Georgia, prioritizes areas of gender equality, protection of women's Rights, combating violence against women (girls) and domestic violence. Moreover, National Action Plan for Implementation of Human Rights Strategy for 2014-15 was approved by Government on June 6, 2014, which devotes specific chapter to gender equality and women's right issues.</p> <p>On December 27, 2011, in accordance with the National Action Plan on Gender Equality for 2011-2013, the Parliament of Georgia approved the 2012-2015 Georgian National Action Plan for the implementation of the relevant UN Security Council Resolutions (NN 1325, 1820, 1888, 1889 and 1960) on "Women, Peace and Security".</p> <p>Gender Equality Council monitors the implementation of the Action Plan. Relevant ministries in every 3 months represent the reports in terms of the implementation of their obligations.</p> <p>On January 24, 2014 National Action Plan on Gender Equality for 2014-2016 was adopted by the Parliament, which is in compliance with Council of Europe Gender Equality Strategy 2014-2017 and seeks to combat gender stereotypes, violence against women, integrate gender into all programs and policies, abolish negative traditional gender stereotypes, guarantee equal access to justice and balance participation of women in decision-making positions. Action Plan also envisages the gender analyses to the draft of legal acts.</p> <p>On March 2012, the Criminal Code of Georgia was amended and any action based on gender identity constitutes a crime committed in aggravating circumstances.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>On December 28, 2011, in order to enhance women participation in politics, Organic law on Political Unions of Citizens was amended.</p> <p>In order to promote women participation in politics/political parties, Organic law on Political Unions of Citizens was amended on December 28, 2011. According to the amendment, an election subject, who receives funding according to the Georgian legislation, will receive the supplementary funding with the amount of 10% if in the submitted party list (in all party list - for the local government elections) among every 10 candidate gender differences is represented by at least 20%. The present Law was re-amended on July 29, 2013. Pursuant to the recent amendments the mentioned election subject will receive supplementary funding with the amount of 30% if in the submitted party list among 10 candidate gender differences is presented by at least 30%. The recent amendment entered into force in 2014 after the self-governmental elections.</p> <p>Furthermore, on June 27, 2014 Georgia signed an Association Agreement with the European Union, which inter alia directly addresses the question of anti-discrimination and gender equality.</p> <p>In 1995, at the Fourth World Conference on Women, Georgia was among the 189 Member States of the United Nations who adopted the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (BPfA). Georgia is expected to fulfill obligations endorsed by the UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on women, Peace and Security for increasing women's role in peace-building and conflict transformation and the Millennium Development Goal #3 (MDG) on Promoting Equality and Empowering Women by 2015.</p> <p>December, 2012 the Georgian Government started a systemic and conceptual review of the Labour Code of Georgia with the aim of bringing</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>its labour laws in full compliance with the international labour conventions and to incorporate the best international practices, thus significantly enhancing the protection of women's rights. Maternity leave policy has been improved, both in terms of remuneration (from GEL 600 to 1000) and lengths (from 4 to 6 months). In addition, the Labour Code guarantees that the working overtime of pregnant women or of women having recently given birth is prohibited. Furthermore, the Labour Code ensures maternity child care, newborn adoption and extra maternity or child care leave of absence. In addition, terminating labour relations shall be inadmissible during the period after notifying her employer of her pregnancy by a female employee.</p> <p>Improving the health conditions of mothers and infants continues to be the key priority of the Government. In line with this, the government continues increasing the quality of prenatal services that implies service evaluation, promotion of effective practices and developing the service regionalization plan.</p> <p>Gender issues have been addressed in all projects implemented in the agricultural sector and rural development. For example, in support of a cooperative establishment in the agro sector, special attention is given to the issue of female involvement in cooperatives, especially to the promotion of women as managers and decision makers.</p> <p>With the support of the UN joint program "For the Promotion of Gender Equality in Georgia" and under the initiative of the Inter-Agency Council on implementing measures for elimination of domestic violence, in order to eliminate existing omissions in Georgian legislation concerning domestic violence issues, to strengthen legal mechanisms for the protection rights of the victims of domestic violence, also to reflect in Georgian legislation the principles and norms declared by the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>Women and Domestic Violence, a package of amendments has been prepared which is already initiated in the Parliament of Georgia.</p> <p>According to the draft law, the Law of Georgia on Combating Domestic Violence, Protection and Assistance of Victims of Domestic Violence will be supplemented by norms concerning the additional definition of the rights of the victims of domestic violence which will more effectively guarantee their protection. The amendments were adopted in October 2014.</p> <p>In collaboration with the Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs of Georgia, NGO Center for Civil Engagement organized 4-days workshop on gender issues for the high school students living in Marneuli (South Georgia). The workshop took place in 2013, and aimed at promotion of integration of ethnic minorities into society. Girls aged from 14 to 18 were the main target group of the project. The following topics were discussed during the event - women's role in society, women in politics, women violence and trafficking.</p> <p>The network of the shelters for victims of domestic violence was expanded in the frames of LEPL State Fund for Protection and Assistance of Statutory Victims of Human Trafficking (Hereinafter - the Fund), in particular, in Spring of 2013 the shelter for victims of domestic violence was opened in Kutaisi, in 2015 a new shelter in Kakheti region will be opened.</p> <p>In 2014, the Gender Equality Strategy of the Ministry of Defense was adopted, According to which Gender Equality Strategy of the Ministry of Defense of Georgia aims to encourage the state policy implementation and integration in this direction in the system of defense. More specifically it strives to provide the conditions guaranteeing equal rights, freedoms and opportunities of men and women; to prevent and eradicate all forms of</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				discrimination and resist all forms of gender violence.

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
35.	Enhance measures to promote gender equality and gender mainstreaming in public institutions, policies and programs	Philippines 106.30.	Accepts: Georgia fully shares the recommendations that aim at strengthening the protection of women against discrimination and the promotion of gender equality, and directs significant efforts towards gender mainstreaming.	<p>Status: In the Process of implementation</p> <p>See replies to recommendations 105.23, 106.27 and 106.30.</p> <p>On May 2, 2014 the Parliament of Georgia adopted a comprehensive anti-discrimination law covering different areas. New anti-discrimination Law explicitly prohibits discrimination on the ground of gender identity. It also prohibits discrimination in both the public and private sector and imposes responsibilities not only on public institutions, but also on any legal entity or individual. The law envisages empowerment of Public Defender's Office. It will be authorized entity to monitor the implementation of law.</p> <p>One of the priorities emphasized in the Human Rights Strategy (2014-20120) adopted by the Parliament in 2014, is ensuring gender equality, protection of women's rights and prevention of domestic violence. Strategy requires the Government to apply gender mainstreaming as the principle in the drafting of its policies and programs and in their monitoring and assessment. 2014-2015 National Action Plan for the Implementation of Human Rights Strategy was approved by Government of Georgia on June 6, 2014.</p> <p>For the implementation of gender equality policy, the Law on Gender Equality as well as Gender Equality Strategy and Action Plan 2011-2013 were adopted. Furthermore, on December 27, 2011, the Parliament of Georgia approved the 2012-2015 Georgian National Action Plan for implementation of the UN Security Council Resolutions 1325, 1820, 1888, 1889 and 1960 on "Women, Peace and Security".</p> <p>On January 24, 2014 National Action Plan on Gender Equality for 2014-2016 was adopted by the Parliament, which is in compliance with Council of Europe Gender Equality Strategy 2014-2017 and seeks to combat gender stereotypes, violence against women, integrate gender into all</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>programs and policies, abolish negative traditional gender stereotypes, guarantee equal access to justice and balance participation of women in decision-making positions. Action Plan also envisages the gender analyses to the draft of legal acts/amendments.</p> <p>Georgian Law on Gender Equality establishes the fundamental guarantees of equal rights, freedoms and opportunities of women and men granted by the Constitution, defines legal mechanisms and conditions for their implementation in relevant sectors of social life. It is worth to be mentioned that the Law prohibits domestic violence and violence from the society.</p> <p>The Gender Equality Council coordinates and exercises oversight over the ministries and sub- agencies activities in the field of gender equality protection and implementation, and provides recommendations for ensuring gender equality, as required. The Council annually submits a report on gender equality in Georgia to the Parliament of Georgia, and prepares reports on the fulfillment of obligations in terms of ensuring gender equality under international agreements.</p> <p>The representatives of governmental agencies and civil society are actively involved in the consultation meetings and trainings held by the UN Women in Georgia in cooperation with the Center for Security, Development and a Rule of Law (hereinafter DCAF). Furthermore, in July 2012 DCAF organized the Workshop on the Integration of Gender in the Security Sector for high level governmental officials. Furthermore, on 17-18 September, 2012 the Experts' meeting was held on mainstreaming a Gender perspective into Security Sector Reform. NATO delegation arrived to introduce the efforts and developments of Georgia on Gender issues in security sector.</p> <p>In addition, representatives of the Government of Georgia, as well as the</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>members of local NGOs regularly participate in International training program on the “Implementation of UNSCR 1325 on Women, Peace and Security” organized by Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA).</p> <p>In July 2013, Training – “Gender Analysis of the Legislation” was held for the lawyers of the committees of the Parliament of Georgia.</p> <p>Representatives of the government were actively involved in trainings on Gender Equality and Implementation of UNSCR 1325, organized by local NGO-s and UN Women in 2014, October- November.</p> <p>In the National Curriculum (2011-2016) approved by the decree N36 by the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia in 2011 issues of gender equality, fighting against all forms of discrimination, trafficking, human rights, violence against children, racism and xenophobia are reflected. These topics are mostly represented in the subject programs of Social Sciences (History, Geography, Civics).</p> <p>At this stage National Curriculum in force is under revision and in the renewed Curriculum the social science group subjects are offered in more intensive manner at public schools, where the issues of civic education, especially gender issues and combating violence against women are highly represented. Also teaching about human rights, raising tolerance and respect to all kinds of minorities are more highlighted and promoted.</p> <p>According to the revised National Curriculum teaching social science group subjects will start from the III grade and the students from this age group will get familiar with the concept of gender. The topics - peers (or friends), issues of violence, respect to one another, diversity and equality are also envisaged.</p> <p>In the grades V-VI the topics of gender and related issues are more</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>highlighted. The students will study about gender problems, gender distribution according to professions and gender peculiarities itself, as the actual challenges.</p> <p>In order to enhance the role of women in police, since 2012 annual regional “Women in Police Conference” is jointly organized by the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs of the US Embassy and the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia. Each time the event is attended by 150--200 female law enforcers from various countries.</p> <p>In aim to promote gender equality and strengthen capacity building of police in the field of Gender based violence, UN Women and the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia, in 2013 signed MOU with the aim to support trainings of police and conduct Gender Audit in the Ministry of Internal Affairs. Gender Audit finished the work and represented recommendations to the Ministry in April of 2015.</p> <p>Within National defense academy special training on Gender equality and UNSCR 1325 and its follow-up resolutions where introduced, special training of 40 Gender Advisers was conducted. In order to promote gender equality and raise awareness within the Ministry of Defense several training where conducted for officers, for students and for high level managers.</p> <p>It should be emphasized that measures to promote gender equality are envisaged in the the 2014-2021 Strategies for the Regional Development of the 7 regions of Georgia and also in the draft 2015-2021 Strategies for the Regional Development of the 2 remaining regions of Georgia (1. Imereti and 2. Mtskheta-Mtianeti).</p> <p>In 2014 the High School of Justice (HSoJ) in cooperation with donor organizations (USAID/JILEP, UN Women, UNDP) and with the</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>involvement of foreign and Georgian experts elaborated curriculum on Gender Equality issues.</p> <p>Based on the curriculum the High School of Justice organized 2 Training of Trainers and 3 trainings for sitting judges during the reporting period.</p> <p>Using the mentioned curriculum the HSoJ aims to provide trainings on Gender Equality for all the sitting judges.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
36.	Further efforts to promulgate and implement focused legislation, action-oriented strategies and implementation in accordance with the adopted international standards as regards gender equality and non-discrimination, advancement of persons with disabilities and fully fledged opportunities for ethnic minorities	Serbia 106.31	Partially: Georgia agrees that no one should face discrimination based on gender, ethnic origin or a disability and has taken significant steps to prevent such discrimination. Georgia will continue to ensure that its legislation and policies are in line with adopted international standards in these areas. Georgia, however, cannot accept the part of the recommendation asking to “promulgate” legislation to this end, because such decisions will be made based	Status: Implemented One of the most recent and important developments in the legislation of Georgia is the adoption of the comprehensive anti-discrimination law on May 2, 2014 by the Parliament of Georgia. See replies to recommendations: 105.2, 105.16, 105.17, 105.18, 105.23, 106.19, 106.23, 106.27 106.30.

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
			on continued legislative analysis and in the event of a gap between adopted international standards and national laws.	

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
37.	Further implement policies to advance women's role in society and combat gender-based discrimination and violence	Brazil 105.24		<p>Status: In the process of implementation</p> <p>See replies to recommendations: 105.8, 105.14, 105.23, 106.19, 106.27, 106.28, 106.30.</p> <p>In order to promote the prevention of domestic violence, advertising campaigns have been carried out by the Fund in the frames of "Action Plan on the Measures to be implemented for Combating Domestic Violence and Protection and Assistance to the Victims of Domestic Violence for 2013-2015".</p> <p>Professional trainings and open discussions have been provided with participation of the Fund in order to implement the National Referral Mechanism and raise awareness about domestic violence specificity. The adequate activities were undertaken in connection with the Fund services for the protection and assistance of (statutory) Victims of Human Trafficking: preparation of News-media advertising and video production, printed media and distribution of informative brochures; participation in the working groups for the legal basis fulfillment on domestic violence and human trafficking (trafficking) issues.</p> <p>In the reporting period the fund conducted all necessary activities for the qualified service provision and sustainability of the shelters for victims of domestic violence and trafficking in persons.</p> <p>Comprehensive research and analysis has been carried out by the Prosecutor's office of Georgia regarding the causes of domestic violence. About 3000 cases have been analyzed with regard to issues concerning the domestic violence.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
38.	Adopt specific legislation prohibiting discrimination against women on the basis of gender or marital status	Bulgaria 106.28.	Partially: Georgia is devoted to combating discrimination based on gender or marital status, However, no further amendment of legislation is envisaged, since current legislative acts are in full compliance with international standards in the field of discrimination against women.	<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>In 2012 the Government of Georgia started elaboration of a new anti-discrimination law. As a result of this initiative derived from the recommendations of the UN and Council of Europe monitoring bodies. Elaboration process was quite inclusive since the all line ministries, local and international CSOs actively participated in the drafting process of the law. The draft law was sent to the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI), OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) and the Officer of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). In addition, the draft was examined by the Swedish expert, Mr Hans Ytterberg, selected with the assistance of the EU delegation in Georgia. Feedbacks and recommendations provided by the international organizations and experts have been reflected in the text of the draft law.</p> <p>On May 2, 2014 the Parliament of Georgia adopted a comprehensive anti-discrimination law covering all types and areas of discrimination.</p> <p>New anti-discrimination Law explicitly prohibits discrimination on the ground of gender identity. It also prohibits discrimination in both the public and private sector and imposes responsibilities not only on public institutions, but also on any legal entity or individual. The law envisages empowerment of Public Defender's Office. It will be authorized entity to monitor the implementation of law. PDO has gained extensive chunk of experience in the field of combating discrimination and equality since the Tolerance center have been an integral part of the Office for 9 years. By empowerment of PDO additional financial and human resources were saved since the Office staff do not require additional trainings and shall double-job the antidiscrimination law's implementation with its main functions.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>Apart from this, Pursuant to the amendment to Criminal Code of Georgia introduced in March 27, 2012 any crime based on gender identity constitutes aggravating circumstance. Also according to the recent amendments in Criminal Code of Georgia, forced marriage is criminalized, including non-registered marriage. This crime against minor is considered as an aggravating circumstance.</p> <p>On December 18, 2014 the rule of victim identification and determining the status by the victim, identification group, operating with Interagency Council for the prevention of domestic violence was approved by the Decree N 684 of the Government of Georgia.</p> <p>Georgia signed the Council of Europe’s Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence on June 19, 2014.</p> <p>Changes and amendments have been made to the legislation on prevention of domestic violence and protection of victims of DV for harmonization with “Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence”.</p> <p>“The rule of composition and work organization, submission and exclusion from Interagency Council for the elimination of domestic violence” was adopted by the decree N 630 of the Government of Georgia on November 25, 2014.</p> <p>Also, in the reporting period “uniform standards/requirements necessary for the identification of the victims of human trafficking” was adopted by the Decree N 284 of the Government of Georgia on April 11, 2014.</p> <p>“The rule of providing compensation to the victims of human trafficking” has been approved by the meeting protocol of November 14, 2014 of</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>Interagency Coordination Council for implementation of measures against human trafficking. "Regulation and composition of the Interagency Coordination Council for Carrying out Measures against Human Trafficking" was adopted by the April 10, f 2014 Decree N 281 of the Government of Georgia.</p> <p>In addition, in the reporting period amendments were introduced in the Georgian legislative acts in the sphere of fighting against Human Trafficking.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
39.	Continue efforts to eliminate all forms of discrimination and violence against women, particularly in the labour market	Ecuador 105.25		<p>Status: In the process of implementation</p> <p>See replies to recommendations: 105.8, 105.14, 105.23, 105.39-105.41 (on violence), 106.19, 106.27, 106.28, 106.30.</p> <p><i>Amendments of Labour Code</i></p> <p>The amendments to the Labour Code with its balanced approach and clear regulations represent a major step forward in the way of regulating labour relations in Georgia. At the same time, the Government of Georgia continues to work on the legislative level and plans to introduce other amendments to address the specific areas of labour law not covered by the adopted amendments.</p> <p>According to the State Strategy on Labour Market Formation 2015-2018, for the purposes of supporting effective employment it is important to approximate the labour norms with international standards.</p> <p>Accordingly, the first objective is a substantial improvement of labour legislation of Georgia, which should be developed in the framework of the social dialogue through the assessment of the legal basis, recommendations and changes, which should incorporate requirements of the European regulatory Directives given in the appendix of the EU-Georgia Association Agreement.</p> <p>In December, 2012 the Government of Georgia started systemic and conceptual review of the Labour Code of Georgia with the aim to bring its labour law in full compliance with the international labour conventions and incorporate best international practices. A special working group was set up within the Ministry of Justice and the representatives of different stakeholders as well as the experts of ILO to participate in the working process.</p>

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				<p>The public presentation of the Draft Law was held on January 22, 2013. Draft Law was disseminated and was uploaded on the Ministry of Justice's official legislative web-page in order to collect feedback. The draft amendments were approved by the Government of Georgia in the beginning of March 2013 and presented to the Parliament of Georgia for consideration and adoption. The amendments entered into force on July 4, 2013.</p> <p>The amendments to the Labour Code with its balanced approach and clear regulations represent a major step forward in the way of regulating labour relations in Georgia. At the same time, the Government of Georgia wishes to continue the work on the legislative level and introduce another wave of amendments to address the specific areas of labour law not covered by the adopted amendments.</p> <p>According to the amendments Maternity leave policy has been improved, both in terms of remuneration (from GEL 600 to 1000) and the lengths (from 4 to 6 months).</p> <p>In addition, Labour Code guarantees that working overtime of pregnant women or women having recently given birth is prohibited.</p> <p>Furthermore, Labour Code ensures maternity child care, newborn adoption and extra Maternity or child care leaves of absence.</p> <p>Apart from this, terminating labour relations shall be inadmissible during the period from notifying the employer by a female employee about her pregnancy.</p> <p>According to the draft of amendments the status and definition of single mother will be introduced to the Civil Code of Georgia. They will enjoy additional benefits in accordance with the draft of amendments to the</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>Labour Code and Law on Social Assistance.</p> <p>Georgian Labour Code prohibits: concluding labour agreement with pregnant or nursing woman for performance of hard, hazardous and dangerous work; employment of pregnant or nursing woman for night work (22 pm to 6 am); employment of woman, who takes care of a child less than 3 years-old for night work without her consent.</p> <p>The employer is also obliged to ensure the protection of pregnant women from work that threatens her or fetal well-being, physical and mental health.</p> <p>In terms of an improved protection of women’s social-economic rights the Livelihood State Strategy and Action Plan was worked out by the Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Accommodation and Refugees of Georgia which encourages special support of female-headed families and single mothers through improved livelihood opportunities, including the women in the ABL zone.</p> <p><i>2. Anti-Trafficking efforts</i></p> <p>Combating Trafficking in Persons is one of the key priorities for the Government of Georgia (GoG). In this regard governmental policy is entirely focused on so called 4 Ps and GoG is committed to adopt efficient measures in order to enhance Prevention, Protection, Prosecution and Partnership.</p> <p>Effective Coordination</p> <p>Combating trafficking requires concerted interagency policy in implementation of the law. In this respect the role of the Interagency Council on Combating Trafficking in Human Beings (THB Council) set up</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>in 2006 remains indispensable in adopting serious and sustainable measures and coordinating inter agency policy in combating THB. The Council chaired by the Minister of Justice of Georgia is inclusive and includes representatives from all line ministries and agencies. Furthermore, NGOs and international organizations are actively involved in the activities of the council.</p> <p>The council conducted two meetings in 2014, with the participation of all relevant agencies and international and non-governmental organizations. On 14 November, 2014 the Council adopted a National Action Plan for 2015-2016 which entered in effect in January, 2015.</p> <p>Monitoring of the implementation of National Action Plan</p> <p>The secretariat of Inter-Agency Coordinating Council, regularly requests information from relevant agencies regarding the implementation of the action plan. Based on the obtained information yearly reports are prepared and disseminated. The final report of the 2013-2014 Action Plan was prepared at the end of January, 2015.</p> <p>Prevention</p> <p>Government of Georgia considers public awareness raising campaigns on trafficking as one of the essential preventing measures. For the effective implementation of the preventive measures, THB Council elaborated Common Information Strategy on combating trafficking with specially identified vulnerable target groups, regions and implementation means. The strategy was approved by THB Council on February 12, 2014. It should be underlined that such information strategy and action plan is quite unique in our region.</p> <p>Within the framework of the Strategy, information meetings were</p>

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				<p>organized on the risks of THB with different target groups such as pupils, students, street children, minorities, IDPs and rural population in all regions of Georgia. Information leaflets on Georgian and other languages (English, Turkish, and Russian) are largely disseminated in big cities and rural areas, at state borders, airports and consular units. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia distributes information brochures on the threats of trafficking, irregular migration and basic human rights. In the framework of the project "Raising awareness through education on the threats of Trafficking" information brochures (Advisory for travelers abroad) were produced in cooperation with the International Organization for Migration. The brochures contained information on subsequent consular assistance and on the threats of trafficking, along with the contact information of Diplomatic representations/Consular Units of Georgia abroad. With the Support of Consular Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia the abovementioned brochures were distributed at the border-crossing points of Georgia, in the Diplomatic Representations/Consular Posts of Georgia abroad, also, in the Embassies and Consular Units to Georgia and at the Reception Hall of the Consular Department of Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia. Embassies of Bulgaria, Italy, Switzerland and Lithuania have already accepted the distribution of THB brochures in the Embassies. Additionally starting from the fourth quarter of 2013, Georgian National Tourism Administration (GNTA) in close cooperation with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and with the support of U.S. Department of State Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL), Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia and Atipfund Georgia have worked on anti-trafficking information flyer. The flyer explains the main essence of trafficking and provides a passage from the relevant Article of the Criminal Code of Georgia. It also warns of the treats concerning involvement in trafficking.</p> <p>In addition, TV and radio shows and advertisements are frequently</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>devoted to THB issues on central and regional TV stations. Public discussions are taking place within different state and public institutions on the question.</p> <p>At the MIA, 24 hour “hot line” is functioning, where all citizens are able to take professional consultations from qualified operators. Ministry of Internal Affairs permanently publishes informative brochures and leaflets for distribution.</p> <p>Information on combating trafficking is published and regularly updated on the websites of the Ministry of Internal Affairs – www.police.ge and Prosecutors’ Office of Georgia – www.pog.gov.ge. Website contains detailed information for population on how to identify possible trafficking threat, how to protect themselves from deceit and fraud, who to consult and how and to whom to report. The statistical information about crime of TIP is published on the official website of the MIA as well.</p> <p>Particular attention is paid to raise awareness of children and youngsters in order to prevent THB against them:</p> <p>On March - May, 2014, Ministry of Justice of Georgia in close cooperation with EU Delegation to Georgia, LEPL Training Center of Justice, LEPL State Fund for the Protection and Assistance of (Statutory) Victims of Trafficking in Persons, Public Defender’s Office and Georgian Young Lawyers Association and NGO Civil Development Agency (CIDA) organized Moot Court Competition on Human Trafficking. Information was disseminated through webpages of MOJ (http://www.justice.gov.ge/Ministry/Department/364), Training Center of Justice (http://tcj.gov.ge/?p=1252) and Universities. Also, information posters were disseminated in Tbilisi and regional universities. 40 students from different universities throughout Georgia (Tbilisi, Gori, Kutaisi)</p>

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				<p>participated in competition;</p> <p>Apart from this, Government of Georgia prioritizes prevention of trafficking through enhancement of education in secondary and high schools. In this regard, issues related to human trafficking is largely covered by the national educational plan for 2011-2016 years. In this regard, issues related to domestic violence, human trafficking are largely covered subjects of social sciences – Civic Education (IX and X classes) and History (including „Our Georgia” V-VI classes, also VII, VIII, XII classes).</p> <p>Additionally, Memorandum of Understanding was concluded between Tbilisi State University (TSU) and Migration Commission headed by the Minister of Justice of Georgia with the aim of cooperation on the issues of migration which also covers THB. TSU is biggest research institute in Georgia, and provides master program in public international law, that includes two semester practical and theoretical course on THB.</p> <p>Government pays particular attention to the prevention of trafficking in the most vulnerable group of children such as “street children” through the special programs aiming envelopment of street children in formal education system. The special Working Group composed of the representatives of all relevant ministries, international organisations and NGOs working on problems of children was established by the Inter-agency Council in November, 2014. The purpose of working group is to elaborate strategy on trafficking threats faced by children working and living in the streets and to propose effective measures to tackle with these threats. Additionally, mobile Groups composed of the social workers, psychologists and former “street children” systematically meet with street children and inform them with different means about THB issues.</p> <p>In order to strengthen cooperation with local NGOs and implement effective information campaign in 2012 Ministry of Justice issued 2 grants</p>

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			<p>for civil society. In addition, Ministry of Justice announced the Grant contest on March 27, 2014. Local NGO "Migration Center" won the grant project which was mainly of educational character aiming at awareness rising of the community on nature of trafficking, related threats and mechanisms combating of THB.</p> <p>The special activities targeted at increasing awareness, including of high risk groups, is also planned under the THB action plan for 2015-2016 which was adopted by the THB Council on 14 November 2014.</p> <p>Protection of Victims</p> <p>State fund</p> <p>The State Fund for Protection of and Assistance to (Statutory) Victims of Trafficking in Persons²⁰ (hereinafter – State Fund) established on the basis of the Law²¹, in June 2006 ensures the protection of the victims and statutory victims of trafficking, including minor victims, whose protection is guaranteed by separate chapter of the law. The State Fund functions under the supervision of the Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs. The State Fund protects the rights and interests of trafficking victims (statutory victims), who are provided with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shelters; • Legal aid; • Physiological and medical assistance; • Rehabilitation and reintegration measures; • Compensation.

²⁰ <http://www.atipfund.gov.ge>;

²¹ Article 9 (5) of the Law on Combating against Trafficking;

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>The victims of trafficking as well as statutory victims were beneficiaries of the services of State Fund. They may stay in shelter for 3 months; however, this term might be extended in certain circumstances based on the will of victim and order of the Director of the State Fund.</p> <p>State Fund provides separate services for victims (statutory victims) of trafficking, including the shelters in Batumi and Tbilisi. Also, it should be noted that both shelters are equipped to respond the needs of minor victims/statutory victims of trafficking and accompanied minors.</p> <p>Within the current set up of the State Fund system in Georgia not only children who are victims of human trafficking but also children accompanying their parents who had been trafficked are entitled and when such a need arises, receive the appropriate accommodation, age specific education and support programs tailored to the needs of the child. With this amendments Georgian legislation fully regulates issues regarding children in trafficking in line with international standards.</p> <p>It should be underlined that, foreign victims and statutory victims of human trafficking have the same access to State Fund services as domestic victims and statutory victims of trafficking.</p> <p>Protection of TIP victims abroad</p> <p>Government of Georgia pays particular attention to the protection of THB victims abroad through the consular units. The main competence of Diplomatic Representations/Consular posts of Georgia abroad in terms of protecting and assisting victims of trafficking abroad is to ensure their safe return on the territory of Georgia, provide them with the travel document for return to Georgia.</p> <p>In 2013 two cases were identified in Qatar and Italy, when the Georgian</p>

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				<p>citizens became the alleged victims of forced labour. The Consular Units of Georgia in Qatar and Italy were involved to support the citizens of Georgia. The deprived passports were returned to Georgian citizens. Georgians from Qatar and Italy are already returned to Georgia.</p> <p>Foreign victims and statutory victims of trafficking are given the reflection period of 30 days to decide whether they want to cooperate with law enforcements. During the reflection period foreign victims (statutory) are granted the residence permit to stay in Georgia if there is reasonable doubt that the person is victim or statutory victim of trafficking. Temporary residence permit is issued by the Ministry of Justice of Georgia based on a motion of a Service Agency for the Victims of Human Trafficking (Shelter) or a body in charge of proceedings. Pursuant to the Law on Combating Trafficking in Human Beings identity-related information given in the motion constitutes confidential information disclosure of which is punishable under law.</p> <p>Furthermore, a foreign victim and statutory victim of trafficking may, at his/her request, be granted asylum on the territory of Georgia if there is reasonable ground to believe that his/her life, health or personal liberty will be under threat in case of returning back to the country of origin. In addition, foreign victims and statutory victims of trafficking enjoy the right to work during the trial proceedings.</p> <p>Protection of minor victims:</p> <p>When it comes to the protection of child victims of human trafficking it should be noted that the child victims or children accompanied to victims placed at shelters of State Fund are provided by different services in order to ensure their well-being and provide proper education through the special programs. The specific services provided are:</p>

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				<p>a) a safe place to live, suitable for normal existence; b) nutrition and clothes; c) participation in the programs of integration into families and society; d) support minors to access to formal and non-formal education; e) all the other activities that promote beneficiaries' complete development, the beneficiaries' personal data and shelter coordinates are kept confidential; f) other measures defined by the legislation of Georgia.</p> <p>Also it should be noted that Pursuant to the recommendations of Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings (GRETA) in April 2012 the Government of Georgia amended the Law on Combating against Trafficking and added a new chapter to the Law on child victims of trafficking in persons, including individual risk assessment on the basis of the child's best interests. Within the current set up of the State Fund system in Georgia not only children who are victims of THB but also children accompanying their parents who had been trafficked are entitled and when such a need arises, receive the appropriate accommodation, age specific education and support programs tailored to the needs of the child. With this amendments the Georgian legislation fully regulates issues regarding children in trafficking in line with international standards.</p> <p>In 2013, one minor victim and one dependent minor were provided with services by the State Fund, the number was 2 in 2014, and both were dependent minors.</p> <p>According to the Guidelines for the Law Enforcements on the Investigation and Prosecution of Trafficking Cases and Treatment with Victims and Statutory Victims of Trafficking in Persons, that was adopted by THB Council on February 12, 2014, the law enforcement must take special measures while interrogating the minors, in order to provide best</p>

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				<p>protection to the child and to take into account their vulnerability.</p> <p>Special measures are contained in the draft Special Operative Procedures, by THB council, to be undertaken by the investigators and operatives while interviewing the possible minor victim of THB. Namely, they are recommended to take into account the specific conditions relevant for identification of child victims.</p> <p>National Referral Mechanism:</p> <p>The Basic Structure of the Referral Mechanism is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identification of the Victims of Trafficking: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. preliminary identification; b. special social worker who has right to conduct identification questioning; c. identification questionnaire; d. organ taking final decision as to the persons status as a victim; - Protection of the Victim of Trafficking: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. legal aid; b. medical aid; c. social aid d. protective measures; - Rehabilitation of the Victim of Trafficking: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. social programs;

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				<p>b. Reintegration process</p> <p>Georgian legislation ensures the protection and assistance of witness/prospective victims or statutory victims of trafficking in persons. Law enforcement bodies immediately explain to the victim/statutory victim of trafficking that he/she has the right to address a Service Agency for the Victims of Human Trafficking (Shelter). Law enforcement bodies and a Service Agency for the Victims of Trafficking (Shelter) provide the victims/statutory victim of trafficking with full information on Georgian legislation on human trafficking. The investigator, prosecutor and judge inform the statutory victim of trafficking, in his/her native language or in a language he/she understands, of his/her rights and legal status as well as information on matters relating to the investigation and judicial proceedings. In the criminal proceedings, the Government of Georgia provides the statutory victim of trafficking with the service of a lawyer and an interpreter as well as servicing documents and materials related to the proceedings in his/her native language or a language understandable for him/her. Victim/statutory victim of trafficking may receive free legal aid and in-court representation from Service Agency for the Victims of Human Trafficking (Shelter) or other natural person or legal entity having relevant authorization, in accordance with procedures established by the Georgian legislation. The statutory victim and witness as well as persons providing legal services and assistance to them have the right to request protection of their own security and security of their family members at any time, in accordance with procedures established by the Georgian legislation. Identity, address and other personal data of (statutory) victims and witnesses of trafficking is confidential and its disclosure is prohibited except in cases envisaged by law. At the request of statutory victim, witness or their legal representative, special protection measures may be applied in accordance with procedures established by the Criminal Procedure Code of Georgia.</p>

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				<p>Proactive investigation and effective prosecutions:</p> <p>The law enforcement authorities of Georgia are carrying out coordinated effort for criminal justice response to human trafficking. In Georgian criminal justice system, police is in charge of investigating criminal offences under close supervision of the Prosecutors Office of Georgia. Certain investigative activities, which involve restriction of human rights, are to be carried out with the authorisation of judiciary.</p> <p>Within the MIA, Division for Combating Illicit Trafficking of Drugs, Human Trafficking and Illegal Migration of Central criminal police department has been established. The division's main tasks includes detection and investigation of trafficking offences, detection and apprehension of criminals and/or organized criminal groups, despatch and respond to requests of international cooperation within its competence, as well as continuous preventive activities.</p> <p>Apart from special anti-trafficking division, all the relevant structural units of the Ministry are involved in detection and response to trafficking offences within their respective competences. If a criminal offence that is investigated by relevant structural unit of the Ministry, reveals signs of human trafficking, the case is referred to the anti-trafficking unit. At various stages, Central Criminal Police Department, Border Police Department, Patrol Police Department, and Neighborhood Police could be involved in the investigation. Patrol police plays crucial role in detecting and apprehending cases of trans-border trafficking at the border check points. Patrol Police officers and Border guards receive specific training on detecting signs of trans-border trafficking and identification of possible trafficking victims and suspected offenders. Border Police and patrol Police, alongside with other departments of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, are the key structures, which puts "National Referral Mechanism" into operation: when an assumed trafficking victim is identified, he/she is</p>

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				<p>relocated to specific area awaiting the arrival of legal and psychological counselors; If the suspicion of trafficking is confirmed, assumed victims are transferred to specially allocated shelters for trafficking victims, where they are provided with financial, psychological and legal support.</p> <p>Reinforcing proactive identification of the victims is one of top priorities for Georgian Government. Therefore, in March, 2013, Georgia adopted new National Action Plan (NAP) focused on proactive methods of victim identification and developing efficient tools in order to increase number of prosecutions. For the effective implementation of NAP, 3 THB inspection mobile groups composed of representatives of law enforcements agencies were created under Ministry of Internal Affairs, which regularly operate in the high risk areas (hotels, bars, bathes, casinos, etc.). From December, 2014 additional mobile group started functioning.</p> <p>Mobile groups of the Division of Fight against Trafficking and Illegal Migration of the Central Criminal Police Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia detect and record trafficking risk-bearing areas, and check and study persons, including persons engaged in prostitution, working in organizations that have suspicious reputation. In order to proactively reveal the facts of labour trafficking, staff working in the organizations (hotels, bars night clubs, baths etc.) are interviewed on a regular basis. The aim of the interview is to ensure, that each worker has identity cards, they exercised their right to freedom of movement, they have been receiving the full remuneration for their work, and they were engaged in work voluntarily.</p> <p>For the purposes of prevention, the mobile groups also identify and put on record foreign nationals involved in prostitution. The mobile groups also check organizations with vague job offers in Georgia and abroad.</p> <p>Law enforcements regularly interview the Georgian nationals deported</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>from Turkey and European countries with a view to revealing potential THB cases.</p> <p>In addition, on February 27, 2014 Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Chief Prosecutor's Office and the International Organization for Migration on the principles of cooperation in the area of capacity building of law enforcement agencies in combating trafficking of human beings. The signatories to this memorandum will do their best to act against trafficking in persons in an effective, active, united and coordinated manner. On the base of the memorandum, the Task Force has been established in Adjara region. The Task Force, consisting of 12 acting investigators (7) and prosecutors (5), will jointly reveal facts of trafficking primarily focused on the Adjara region (which is at the Turkish border and is a high risk area).</p> <p>Apart from this, in order to strengthen fight against trafficking, in January, 2014 special Division for Combatting Human Trafficking was established in Adjara Region within the MoIA. The main functions of the division are to conduct effective investigation and implement proactive measures in order to identify THB cases in the Western part of Georgia. To that end, deported the Georgian nationals are regularly (24/7) interviewed at Sarpi border crossing point by the staff of this division.</p> <p>In addition, Working Group composed of prosecutors, investigators and representatives of the secretariat of the Council elaborated guidelines for law enforcements. Guidelines focus on the following issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • legal aspects of trafficking, including the definition of means, actions and purpose of trafficking; • trafficking related articles of CCG, namely involving someone in prostitution, giving the venue for the prostitution, involving minor in anti-social activity;

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • standards of TIP investigation: compulsory, comprehensive and effective investigation; • standards of the interrogation of TIP victims, including minors; • standards of evidence. <p>The guidelines were approved in February 2014.</p> <p>Furthermore, Working Group of THB Council has drafted the Standard Operation Procedures (S.O.P.s) for the investigators and members of the mobile groups, which will help them to identify potential THB victims and collect all relevant information related to TIP case. The drafted S.O.Ps was evaluated by international expert, who provided recommendations, in order to reflect international best practice in the document. Comments and recommendations were reflected into final version of the document approved by Minister of Internal Affairs.</p> <p>Moreover, law enforcements are permanently trained in order to develop their skills build their capacity with regard to TIP. All these efforts brought tangible outcomes and the number of investigations, prosecutions and convictions have significantly raised (<i>please refer to the charts below</i>). Particular attention is also paid to expanding international cooperation in combating cross-border trafficking and the extradition of the perpetrator to Turkey in 2013 is the case in point. In 2014, one perpetrator with Dutch nationality was extradited to the Netherlands.</p> <p>Trainings</p> <p>Government of Georgia pays particular attention to the capacity building trainings for the officials working on THB issues. For that aim, numbers of professional trainings were organized in cooperation with different stakeholders, including international organizations and local NGOs trainings were organized for law enforcement, staff of State Fund for</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>protection of victims of human trafficking and consular staff.</p> <p>International legal assistance</p> <p>The Government of Georgia pays particular attention to expanding international cooperation in combating cross-border trafficking. In 2013, 3 legal requests on mutual legal assistance on THB cases were sent to Turkey (2) and Israel (1). The Government of Georgia also closely cooperates with the US and Austrian law enforcements and general secretariat of Interpol. In 2014, 3 legal requests on mutual legal assistance on THB cases were received from Turkey. Two of them is already finished, one is pending.</p> <p>In addition, on August 30, 2013 one alleged THB perpetrator was extradited to Turkey and in December one THB perpetrator was extradited to the Netherlands. There are still 1 pending extradition case.</p> <p>In November, 2013 meeting was held between the representatives of Ministry of Justice of Georgia, Chief Prosecutor's Office of Georgia and the Ministry of Justice of Turkey in Turkey. The participants of the meeting came up to establish working groups on particular terms to promote the inter-governmental cooperation which fall within their competence. Also, in April 2014, the Training Center of Justice of Georgia and Training Center of Justice of Turkey concluded the Memorandum of Understanding to train the staff of the ministries.</p> <p>On 22 December, 2014, delegation of the Department of Migration of the Republic of Turkey visited the Ministry of Justice of Georgia. In the framework of the meeting information on experience regarding the anti-THB policy implementation was exchanged between the parties.</p> <p>Amendments were introduced, after which, labour and pre-contractual</p>

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				<p>relations shall prohibit any type of discrimination due to race, skin color, language, ethnicity or social status, nationality, origin, material status or position, place of residence, age, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, handicap, religious, public, political or other affiliation, including affiliation to trade unions, political or other opinions.</p> <p>The Code defines the idea of the discrimination and introduces, that “discrimination is direct or indirect harassment of a person aimed at or resulting in creating an intimidating, hostile, humiliating, degrading, or abusive environment for that person, or creating the circumstances for a person directly or indirectly causing her/his condition to deteriorate as compared to other persons in similar circumstances”.</p>

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40.	Ensure prevention of discrimination against women and adopt initiatives to ensure gender-sensitive poverty eradication programmes and strategies	Bangladesh 106.29.	Partially: Georgia works diligently to ensure inadmissibility of gender based discrimination and has a comprehensive legal framework for this end. Nevertheless, Georgia cannot support the part of this recommendation asking specifically for the development of "gender-sensitive poverty eradication programmers and strategies", since poverty-reduction efforts are needs-based and non-discriminatory on any ground, including gender	<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>Existing social protection system in Georgia includes provision of special groups with both monetary and non-monetary social assistance. Distribution of monetary social assistance is based on household necessities, regardless race, skin color, language, sex, religion, political and other views, national and ethnic belonging. Quantity of monetary assistance is equal for men and women. Services stipulated by the legislation are equally accessible for men and women. It should be noted, that one of the purposes of the "Implementing Action Plan Ensuring Gender Equality for 2011-2013" adopted by the Parliament of Georgia is an analysis of legislation regulating social protection sphere and, accordingly, in collaboration with Gender Equality Council, line ministries, local self-government organs, interested international, donor and non- governmental organizations, evaluation of the legislation regulating social protection sphere on a gender ground and, if necessary, elaboration of recommendations.</p> <p>Nearly all agreements related to loan financing of investment projects in public sectors include Gender Component. This in some cases envisages preparation of Gender Action Plan for Investment program/project.</p> <p>In 2013 and 2014 the new government prioritized social expenditures over other objectives and increased its social obligations. We have already increased public spending on healthcare, education, and pensions. In 2012 expenditures directed to social sector amounted to 7.1% of GDP, in 2013 it was 8.6% of GDP and in 2014 it is estimated 9.6% of GDP.</p> <p>The Action Plan for 2014-2015 on Measures on Implementation of Gender Equality Policy envisages Gender Equality aspects during formation of the State Budget. It means, that the spending institution shall foresee gender aspects during planning of its budget for implementation of the specific</p>

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				<p>programme.</p> <p>It should be noted, that by the Resolution №1945 of the Parliament of Georgia of January 24, 2014 has been adopted “Action Plan on Implementing Gender Equality Policy Activities for 2014-2016” which covers gender equality aspects in the fields of social and healthcare.</p> <p>The issue of women’s involvement in the agriculture is an area which is actively discussed nowadays all over the world and which has strong repercussions on the socioeconomic development of a country.</p> <p>Policy, carried out by the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia, is non-discriminatory in terms of gender and aims at ensuring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women’s equal access to full and productive employment and decent work, and equal pay for work of equal value • Women’s equal access to, control and ownership of assets and natural and other productive resources, as well as non-discriminatory access to essential services and infrastructure, including financial services • Full, equal and effective participation and leadership of women at all levels of decision-making in the public and private spheres <p>In 2015, Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia has developed “Strategy of Agricultural Development in Georgia 2015 – 2020”. During the Strategy implementation process, the gender-disaggregated information will be collected for the purpose of its substantive analysis and subsequent inclusion in the policy measures targeted at promotion of female participation in agriculture and agribusiness, to set objectives and a road map in order to mainstream gender in agriculture through different practical actions and to present key experiences, best practices and</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>recommendations to the different stakeholders and targeted audience.</p> <p>Ministry of Agriculture is addressing gender issues in all projects implemented in agricultural sector and rural development. For example, in supporting of cooperative establishment in agro sector, special attention is given to the issue of female involvement in cooperatives, especially to promotion of women as managers and decision makers. Preferential Agro Credit program implies enabling women entrepreneurs, alongside with men, to have a better access to formal financing means.</p> <p>Regional Information Consultation Centers of the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia, in accordance with the Resolution of the Parliament of Georgia of January 24, 2014, - "2014-2016 Action Plan for Implementation of Gender Equality Policy in Georgia", are in charge of implementation of educational – consultative programs for women engaged agricultural activities and their provision with relevant informational materials, conduct trainings and working meetings to increase women awareness on accessibility to modern technologies, on cheap agro credit program, on the benefits of cooperation and their role in functioning of cooperatives; etc.</p> <p>See also reply to recommendation: 106.30.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
41.	Intensify efforts on gender equality	Spain 105.26		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>See replies to recommendations: 105.24, 105.25, 106.19, 106.27, 106.28, 106.29, 106.30.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
42.	Adopt new measures to strengthen the participation of women in the decision-making process	Algeria 106.33.	Accepts: Georgia fully shares the recommendations that aim at strengthening the protection of women against discrimination and the promotion of gender equality, and directs significant efforts towards gender mainstreaming.	<p>Status: In the process of implementation</p> <p>Implementing effective measures for encouraging women’s involvement in political life and decision-making process, is one of the main objectives of the National Human Rights Strategy (2014-2020) adopted by the Parliament in 2014 and National Action Plan on Gender Equality for 2014-2016.</p> <p>Furthermore, in order to promote women participation in politics/political parties, Organic law on Political Unions of Citizens was amended on December 28, 2011. According to the amendment, an election subject, who receives funding according to the Georgian legislation, will receive the supplementary funding with the amount of 10% if in the submitted party list (in all party list – for the local government elections) among every 10 candidate gender differences is represented by at least 20%. The present Law was re-amended on July 29, 2013. Pursuant to the recent amendments the mentioned election subject will receive supplementary funding with the amount of 30% if in the submitted party list among 10 candidate gender differences is presented by at least 30%. The recent amendment entered into force in 2014 after the self-governmental elections.</p> <p>One of the main pillars of the 2012-2015 Georgian National Action Plan for implementation of the UN Security Council Resolutions 1325, 1820, 1888, 1889 and 1960 on “Women, Peace and Security” is increasing the participation of women in the peace process and the security sector.</p> <p>Currently, several key high-level positions are held by women: namely, the Ministers of Defence, of Justice, of Education, of Foreign Affairs, the Secretary of the National Security Council, and the Chairperson of the Central Election Commission of Georgia. In 2015 a woman was elected as</p>

Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
			<p>the chairperson of the Supreme Court of Georgia for the first time in Georgian history. However, as noted in CEDAW recommendations, women remain underrepresented in senior and decision-making positions in the legislative and executive branches. In order to address this issue, the President and the Speaker of the Parliament have openly declared their support for the introduction of mandatory political quotas to increase women participation in politics and respective legal changes will be debated in Parliament before the end of 2015.</p> <p>On November 24-25, 2011, training/information tour on “Strengthening importance of women in political and public life” was organized by the Training Center of the Ministry of Justice (MOJ) in collaboration with Civil International Development Agency. Women from different regions of Georgia were involved in the tour. The main aim of the project was to strengthen the active participation of women in political and public life and empower the cooperation between women with different background and possibilities. Apart from this on December 27-29, 2011 Conference on Gender Equality was organized by MOJ, the Higher Council of Justice and the UN Association Georgia. 24 participants from 5 regions of Georgia were involved in the conference.</p> <p><i>Proactive Programs carried out by MOJ:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Training on the “strengthening importance of women in political and public life”; 2. Training on Gender Equality; 3. Fulfillment of the national legislation to provide women’s participation in political life; 4. Promotion of equal participation of men and women in political

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>life;</p> <p>5. Facilitation of women's participation in official peaceful negotiations.</p> <p>Gender Equality Council works with the group of CSO members and representatives of the Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure of Georgia on amendment in Law of Georgia on Gender Equality. The Project envisages establishment of municipal gender equality councils by relevant municipal bodies for the purpose of addressing gender equality as a systemic issue at the level of local self-government, which will work in coordination with the Gender Equality Council of the Parliament of Georgia, introduction of the position of the adviser on the issues of Gender Equality, and implementation of appropriate changes in order to ensure timely and effective use of measures to address the acts of discrimination at the local level.</p> <p>The Assistant to the Prime Minister on Human Rights and Gender Equality issues met with the members of all interested groups and informed the Prime Minister about their legislative initiative in order to strengthen the participation of women in the decision-making process. The issue was discussed on political council, but the consensus was not reached due to the different opinions and positions inside the parties. The Prime Minister himself welcomes the temporary mechanism-binding quota and plans to raise the issue again on political council.</p> <p>Also some special measures are adopted in some agencies for example in accordance to Gender Equality strategy of Ministry of Defence Women play significant role in Georgian society and their participation in the sphere so important as state defence is inevitable precondition for the armed forces which is based on democratic and European values.</p> <p>In order to ensure women participation in decision making process</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>according to above-mentioned strategy LEPLs in the MOD of Georgia and structural subdivisions of General Staff will support women participation in decision-making process via their involvement in deliberative bodies, commissions and working groups.</p> <p>The first National Action Plan sets out some very important objectives, such as supporting the increase of participation of women in decision making at all levels; considering women's issues in conflict prevention mechanisms; eliminating gender based violence and sexual violence; promoting zero tolerance towards sexual violence against women and girls; ensuring political, economic, social and physical safety of conflict affected women and many more. Government of Georgia is taking appropriate steps to exclude any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life.</p> <p>See also replies to recommendations: 105.24, 105.25, 106.19, 106.27, 106.28, 106.29, 106.30.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
43.	Adopt measures to increase the level of representation of women in the legislative and executive bodies	Bulgaria 106.34.	Partially: Georgia accepts the spirit of these recommendations insofar as they call for increased participation of women in public life and has directed significant efforts to promote the rights of women as described in its responses to recommendations 106.27 and 106.30. Georgia cannot, however, support the recommendations to the extent that they may entail the introduction of legislative quotas because political parties across the spectrum expressed opposition to this system	Status: In the process of implementation See the response to recommendation 106.33.

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
			throughout the recent drafting of the Gender Equality	

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
44.	Take steps to promote intercultural and inter-religious dialogue and cooperation to strengthen non-discrimination campaigns and to enhance participation of minorities in public life to promote an inclusive society	Philippines 105.27		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>The highest legislative guarantee for protection of the religious minorities' rights and their integration is the Constitution of Georgia (art.38).</p> <p>The Georgian State draws appropriate attention to the problem of discrimination based on a religion or belief. In this direction, with the international support a very important step was taken, namely, in 2014 a law on "Elimination of all forms of discrimination" was adopted, which represents an additional instrument for elimination of discrimination based on religion or belief.</p> <p>The Office of the State Minister for Reconciliation and Civic Equality coordinates the process of the implementation of state policy towards civil integration. The National Concept for Tolerance and Civic Integration and respective Action Plan for 2009-2014 expired in 2014; therefore, the Office of the State Minister elaborated a new Civic Equality and Integration Strategy and Action Plan for 2015-2010. The new civic integration strategy is based on a more diverse, and more integrated approach and aims at: contributing to the provision of equality; ensuring ethnic minorities' full-fledged participation in all spheres of public life; and providing social and regional integration and preservation of the culture of national minorities and their identity. Each of these directives implies a state language component and also a gender approach. The new strategy will be especially special focused on the protection of the culture of small minorities as well as on the socio-economic integration of Roma and their access to education. Prior to the submission for the adoption of the document to the Georgian government, it was actively considered and discussed by different actors, including target groups.</p> <p>The civil integration policy is implemented in six key areas: the rule of law, education and the state language, the media and access to</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>information, political integration and civic participation, social and regional integration, and culture and identity maintenance. According to 2013 data, there are 213 non-Georgian language schools and 77 non-Georgian language sectors functioning in Georgia. The “4+1 programme” envisages the introduction of the mitigation system; the so-called quota system, for national minority students has been implemented and will be continued. At the same time the Ministry of Education and Science continued the implementation of programmes at non-Georgian schools that aim at improving instruction in the state language and the civic integration of ethnic minorities. The programmes cover 91% of non-Georgian and schools nationwide. Representatives of ethnic minorities public servants, and school administration staff also have the possibility to attend free Georgian language classes at the Z. Zhvania School of Public Administration’s regional branches. Television and radio news programmes in five national minority languages are daily aired on the Georgian Public Broadcaster and Public Radio. Printed media in Azerbaijani, Armenian and Russian languages is also supported by the state. During the 2012 Parliamentary, the 2013 Presidential and the 2014 local Government elections representatives of national minorities were provided with equal electoral rights. The Central Election Commission provided them with all the necessary information and documents in Armenian, Azerbaijani and Russian languages. The Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs has developed various information campaigns for providing national minorities with information on state healthcare programs and social benefits in their native language. Infrastructural projects were also implemented in the regions compactly populated by ethnic minorities. The Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection of Georgia has been implementing the program on “Supporting the Culture of National Minorities”. The Georgian government supports museums, theatres and cultural centers of ethnic minorities. Various programs and activities aimed at encouraging and supporting intercultural dialogue and tolerance in society were organized. With the help of the program</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>“Supporting the Culture of National Minorities” Ministry of Culture annually supports project of Azeri tapestry and carpet weaving technology, which has been revived in the communities of Kvemo Kartli densely populated by Azeri nationalities and master classes for women, this project increased self-employment perspectives.</p> <p>Non-discrimination and protection of the rights of the minorities is one of the priority directions of the National Human Rights Strategy (2014-2020).</p> <p>In line with the best European practice, the State Agency for Religious Issues was established in 2014. The Agency implements research, analytical and advisory activities for the Government, the Prime Minister and other authorized bodies of the Georgian state.</p> <p>Currently, the Agency is working on the legislative amendments, which will equalize taxation advantages for all religious organizations. Also, the Agency has recommended the Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection, to prioritize by the need of restoration of the monument of cultural heritage and not its confessional belonging. Besides above-mentioned, the Agency has addressed the local Municipalities to act under the principles of neutrality and equality, when treating the issues of religious entities.</p> <p>In direction of elimination discrimination based on religion and strengthening of equality, the Agency is carrying out studies considering individual, as well as collective rights.</p> <p>The Agency considers the religious diversity in Georgia as a main base of state’s religious policy. The policy of religious minority rights protection and their integration lines with two main aspects, protection of their identity and their full civil involvement. Accordingly, the Agency systematically applies interreligious and multicultural dialogues (joint</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>declarations and statements of religious entities) and activities (park of tolerance, festival of tolerance) as an instrument of integration of Religious Minorities.</p> <p>With the aim of promotion of integration of ethnic minorities into society, the Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs of Georgia since 2011 has been implementing the following activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excursions to the regions of Georgia, exploring culture and traditions; • Competition in fast printing and logical thinking; • Learning Georgian language online – This online program is developed by the Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs of Georgia and aims at promotion learning of Georgian language online via user friendly interface. • Trainings on development of interpersonal skills and communication management; • Training on project planning and management. <p>As part of continues process, Government will carry on to undertake measures in order to promote intercultural and inter-religious dialogue and cooperation to strengthen non-discrimination campaigns and to enhance participation of minorities in public life to promote an inclusive society.</p> <p>See also response to recommendation 105.75.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
45.	Adopt political, legislative and administrative measures guaranteeing a higher representation of women in decision-making, as well as in senior positions in all areas of the public administration	Spain 106.32.	Partially: Georgia accepts the spirit of these recommendations insofar as they call for increased participation of women in public life and has directed significant efforts to promote the rights of women as described in its responses to recommendations 106.27 and 106.30. Georgia cannot, however, support the recommendations to the extent that they may entail the introduction of legislative quotas because political parties across the spectrum expressed opposition to this system	Status: In the process of implementation See the response to recommendation 106.33.

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
			throughout the recent drafting of the Gender Equality Law.	

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
	Right to life, liberty and security of the person			

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
46.	Implement the national plan of action against ill-treatment 2011-2013	Republic of Moldova 105.28		<p>Status: In the process of implementation</p> <p>An Inter-agency Coordinating Council against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment established by the Decree of the President in 2007.</p> <p>In 2010, the Council adopted a new Strategy on Fight against Ill-treatment and its respective Action Plan.</p> <p>The above mentioned Strategy prioritizes development of effective complaint procedure for persons deprived of liberty, development of prompt, impartial and effective investigation of all allegations of ill-treatment, protection, compensation and rehabilitation of victims of ill-treatment, improvement of internal and external monitoring systems for early detection, prevention of ill-treatment in detention facilities and capacity building of relevant state and other institutions.</p> <p>The Council prepared evaluation report implementation of action plan for 2010-2011. According to the report, following activities have carried out falling in scope of implementation of Strategy Action Plan:</p> <p>(a) New Criminal Procedure Code and Code of Imprisonment both came into force in October 2010. These legal instruments brought guarantees to avoid ill-treatment of participants of criminal proceedings.</p> <p>(b) Human Rights Unit of Chief Prosecutor's Office (<i>hereinafter</i>: Prosecution HRU) systematically records the facts of ill-treatment committed by public officials and visits to the places of deprivation of liberty in order to prevent ill treatment, and in cases where inhuman treatment exists.</p> <p>(c) Increased funding for Psycho-social rehabilitation for victims</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>of ill-treatment.</p> <p>(d) Internal monitoring mechanisms are established and functioning within the Ministry of Corrections and Legal Assistance and Ministry of Internal Affairs.</p> <p>(e) Appropriate sanitary, hygienic conditions are established in the detention centers of Tbilisi International Airport with proper registration of people who were denied to grant a visa and placed in a detention.</p> <p>(f) An electronic recording system has been implemented within penitentiary establishments for further improvement of placement, registration and recording of the detainees.</p> <p>(g) External Monitoring Mechanisms: PDO NPM, CPT and SPT all have unimpeded access to places where liberty deprived people are allocated.</p> <p>(h) On the initiative of the Ministry of Corrections and Legal Assistance special envelopes have been prepared and made available to the prisoners.</p> <p>(i) From 2011 the Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs has started the process of fundamental reform in the sphere of mental health. One of the main directions of the reform is the creation of long term and short term residences for persons with mental disabilities. By June 2011, the rehabilitation/reconstruction of 3 multi-profile (among them 1 private), 1 specialized clinics in Tbilisi and 3 specialized clinics in the regions has been completed.</p> <p>(j) New Penitentiary establishments have opened, new block in different penitentiary establishments were open, and some repair has been conducted in different penitentiary establishments.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>(K) Due to the incompilance with international standards, some of temporary detention isolators were abolished and many were renovated.</p> <p>(l) Funding allocated for the nutrition of each prisoner per month has significantly increased. The quality of the nutrition has increased in the entire system since the private food company was contracted by penitentiary establishments. In 2010 26 723 669,33 GEL was spent on the nutrition of the prisoners, in 2011, 28 066 000,00 GEL was allocated for the nutrition, and 13 385351,42 GEL was spent by July.</p> <p>(m) Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA) Academy dedicates considerable attention to training and retraining of police officers on legal aspects of use of force. The course on use of force is part of basic and continuous course and it is mandatory for all police officers. A curriculum has been designed by joint effort of police academy and international organizations and covers intensive course of tactical training, overview of national legislation and issues of human rights.</p> <p>(n) The students of the MIA academy also undergo a course on the use of special means. The course covers theoretical overview, as well as role play and simulations of use of minimal force in the process of search and arrest. By the end of the course, there is a practical examination, and failure to pass it shall result in the exclusion of the student from the academy.</p> <p>(o) In January- February 2011, MIA organized training in external examination for all employees of Temporary Detention Isolators (TDIs) throughout Georgia. The training was attended by competent officers of all TDIs. The training covered: external examination of persons placed in TDIs, also implementation of unified standard of terminology of the record.</p> <p>(p) On June 26 - 27, 2010 training on ill-treatment was held for the</p>

Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
			<p>judges. It was attended by 22 judges. In the reporting period of 2011, namely in March 26-27, the training was conducted for 9 judges.</p> <p>Majority of the activities prescribed by the 2011-2013 action plan against ill-treatment have been fulfilled. Those of the activities that are of continuous nature and require constant implementation, such as perfection of legislative basis, improving of prison condition or cooperation with international and domestic monitoring bodies were transferred to the new 2015-2016 action plan against torture and ill-treatment.</p> <p>The Interagency Council on Combating Torture and Other Forms of Degrading and Inhuman Treatment or Punishment has been functioning under the chairmanship of the Minister of Justice of Georgia (MoJ) since 2007. On 7 May 2014 by the Decree of Government №341 the composition of the Council was updated. According to the Decree the Council is responsible for drafting National Strategy and Action Plan against torture and ill-treatment.</p> <p>On the Council's meeting held on 16 June 2014 the following priorities were identified and corresponding working groups composed of representatives of different governmental agencies, ombudsman's office, international organizations (including CoE and EU) and local NGOs were formed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Strengthening National Preventive Mechanism under the Public Defender's Office; 2) Establishing a mechanism in order to ensure a thorough, transparent, independent investigation into any allegation of the use of torture and ill treatment; 3) Improving rights/conditions of the inmates in the penitentiary system and other closed facilities.

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>The working groups have already convened to discuss and identify topic themes and problems for each of them. The 2015-2016 Action Plan Against Torture and Ill-treatment has been elaborated within the framework of the Interagency Council on Combating Torture and Other Forms of Degrading and Inhuman Treatment or Punishment and was approved on 18 May 2015. In contrast to the six-page Action Plan for 2011-2013, the newly adopted Action Plan consists of 25 pages and includes 4 chapters: 1) strengthening of procedural, legislative and institutional mechanisms of fight against ill-treatment; 2) ensuring effective investigation of all cases of ill-treatment; 3) ensuring defense, rehabilitation of and compensation for victims of ill-treatment; 4) trainings, awareness-rising and capacity building as integral part of the fight against ill-treatment.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
47.	Approve the plan of action 2011-2013 against torture and ill-treatment in the context of comprehensive measures to combat torture	Kazakhstan an 105.29		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>In 2010, the Council adopted a new Strategy on Fight against Ill-treatment and its respective Action Plan for 2011-2013.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
48.	Implement the recommendations made by the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment in its September 2010 report, to improve the conditions of detention in its prisons	Canada 105.30		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>In response to the CPT September 2010 Report Recommendations, the following steps have been taken by the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The process of renovation and refurbishment of Temporary Detention Isolators (TDI) is ongoing. Since January 2011: 9 new isolators have been built. The process of refurbishment and renovation is ongoing on regular basis. According to Order №108 of the Minister of Internal Affairs of Georgia "On Approval of the Typical Regulation, Routine of Temporary Detention Isolators of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia and Additional Instruction Regulating the Activity of Isolators", the occupancy of cells for a person comply with the 4 m² cell occupancy standards. • Adequate lighting is ensured in all TDIs. Also all TDIs have a central heating system and appropriate conditions are provided for detainees. • In order to safeguard that human rights standards are fully protected and respected at the isolators, the MIA ensured video monitoring in corridors in all TDIs, the new anti-vandal lightning was installed in all cells, beds, tables and bathrooms were renovated. • According to the Ministerial Order №108, a person, against whom the court used administrative detention as a measure of administrative punishment enjoys special rights like a possibility to take shower on a daily basis as well as outdoor exercise, also right to meet relatives, make phone calls etc. • Worth to mention is the reduction of the maximum period for administrative custody - Amendments to the Code of Administrative Offences of Georgia was initiated by the MIA and Human Rights and Civil Integration Committee of the Parliament in June 2014. Parliament of Georgia adopted proposed changes in august and the amendments are already in force. According to the changes, the maximum period of

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>administrative custody for all violations entailing administrative custody is set for 15 days instead of 90 days.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TDI administration provides detainees with essential personal hygiene products such as soap, hygienic paper, napkins. Also administrative detainees may receive one-time razor, toothbrush and tooth paste through the means of a parcel. • In all TDIs detainees are offered books and magazines; their supply is also permissible via a parcel. <p>In addition, the Ministry of Corrections (MoC) has given a full account of actions taken to implement the recommendations made by the CPT in its report of September 2010, as well recommendations provided in the report of <i>ad hoc</i> visit 2012.</p> <p>See the response of the Georgian Government to the report of the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or punishment (CPT).</p> <p>Response of the Georgian Government to the report of the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT) on its visit to Georgia from 5 to 15 February 2010, p. 13-17 (CONDITIONS OF DETENTION), CPT/Inf (2011) 19.</p> <p>Response of the Georgian Government to the report of the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT) on its visit to Georgia from 19 to 23 November 2012, para.12-15; CPT/Inf (2013) 19.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
49.	Intensify efforts to eliminate excessive use of force by law enforcement officials and protect women in detention, and ensure that relevant allegations are investigated, in order to strengthen accountability and prevent future violations	Cyprus 106.35.		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>According to the Code on Imprisonment, degrading treatment are considered as a special case and shall be reviewed immediately with due respect of confidentiality. A complains box has been placed at every penitentiary establishment where prisoners can file anonymous complaints and since 2013, the 24 hour hot-line for complains has started to function. The complaints addressed to the minister or deputy ministers are reviewed by the Human Rights Unit under the General Inspections Department of the Ministry of Corrections (MoC) and are forwarded to the appropriate institutions for further consideration. Complaints handling and guarantees for complaining has been improved. Increase in number of complaints and statistics on reacting to them demonstrate that safeguards over the complaining mechanisms are more effective;</p> <p>Trainings for the regular prison staff are ongoing and prohibition of torture and inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment is an essential part of the training plan.</p> <p>In 2010 and 2011, the Penitentiary Department of MoC proactively published and distributed 40 000 and 50 000 complain forms and envelopes for the prisoners that also included information about their rights and procedure for filing a complaint.</p> <p>Human Rights Monitoring Unit of the Penitentiary Department of the MoC serves as deterrent to human rights violations in the penitentiary system. The Statute of the Human Rights Monitoring Unit expanded its mandate and clearly defined its functions. Human Rights Monitoring Unit receives complaints and refers them to relevant institutions for consideration. Monitoring Unit is not only reactive but is proactive in its activities. It conducts regular as well as <i>ad hoc</i></p>

Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
			<p>visits to all penitentiary establishments, receives applications/complaints and produces quarterly reports which are accessible to public. During the 2014 Human Rights Monitoring Unit has received up to 653 applications/complaints which were forwarded accordingly to various institutions for further consideration (General Inspection and Investigation departments of the MoC, Public Defender's office, Medical Department of the MoC, Prosecutor's office, etc). During 2014 the representatives of Monitoring Unit have met to 132 pre-trial/convicted inmates.</p> <p>In addition, the Ministry through the Penitentiary and Probation Training Centre (<i>hereinafter</i> "PPTC") regularly trains/retrains prison staff on human rights (including a prohibition of torture, inhuman and degrading treatment).</p> <p>Mandate and operation of the General Inspection Department has been strengthened. Disciplinary sanctions have been applied in 232 cases in 2013 and in 126 cases in 2014 (to compare: 7 cases in 2010; 13 cases in 2011; 7 cases in 2012); See <i>Appendix V</i>.</p> <p>Over 35-40% of the prison staff has been replaced in 2013-14. Administrative layers of all institutions have been replaced and trained in human rights standards and absolute prohibition of torture and inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;</p> <p>The order of the Minister of Corrections №145, September 12, 2014 on approving "the types of special means, the rules and conditions for the use, storage and carrying of special means in the penitentiary establishments, as well as the rule of determination of the person entitled to use special means in the penitentiary establishment" specifically defined types of special means in the armament of the penitentiary establishments, the rule of their storage, carrying and use.</p>

Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
			<p>The above mentioned order also regulates the rule of determination of the person entitled to use special means in the penitentiary establishments. The use of special means except the handcuffs is prohibited against the juveniles and women inmates.</p> <p>Relevant amendments were made to the Imprisonment Code. Incorporation of all the important issues related to special means in the one order, accurate and strict regulations and procedures that are in full compliance with international standards, is a step forward in the field of combating pre-trials/convicts ill-treatment and reduces risks of excessive use of force and personnel's arbitrariness.</p> <p>Independence of prison medical personnel has been improved considerably and the role of doctors in documenting of and reacting on physical abuse and possible ill-treatment has been increased.</p> <p>The Public Defender and members of his staff along with the National Preventive Mechanism under the office of the Public Defender, enjoy unrestricted access to all MoC establishments of the deprivation of liberty. Since October 2012 the MoC has also been granting access to prisons to the human rights defender and service provider NGOs who have conducted various surveys and psycho-rehabilitation activities for inmates.</p> <p>Women deprived of liberty are protected from gender-based discrimination in the Georgian penitentiary system. Both, pre-trial and convicted prisoners are located in a separate from male penitentiary institution of a mix – semi-open and closed type regime. All female inmates are entitled to 4 m² and those in pre-trial detentions to 3 m², similar to the entitlement provided to male prison population. Female inmates are entitled to the higher number of short-term visits and phone calls than male inmates.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>Since May 2014, a separate Local Council for Early Conditional Release for Women Inmates was established. The applications of convicted women juveniles are reviewed by the Juvenile Local Council. At least one member of the Women Local Council is specially trained or/and has working experience in gender issues and on the women prisoners rights. Individual Sentence Planning Methodology was piloted after being successfully tested in Juvenile establishment. The comprehensive rehabilitation and re-socialization programs are implemented within the Establishment №5 for women inmates.</p> <p>The training on the UN Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules) has been under way at the Penitentiary and Probation Training Centre. The training covers special needs of women prisoners during serving the sentence and the issues related to their preparation for release in line the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;</p> <p>In a penitentiary system a consultant physicians (psychologist, psychiatrist) provide psychological and psychiatric services which is available for every women inmates (a need of being provided by psychologist and/or psychiatrist treatment is prescribed by a physician).</p> <p>As for the TDIs Necessary safeguards have been inserted in the TDIs Staff Instruction, <i>inter alia</i> envisaging: the prohibition of discrimination based on sex; the duty of respecting the rights and special status of women; restricting the entry of male staff into the cells designed for female detainees, except for exceptional circumstances;</p> <p>The number of female personnel was increased in TDIs in order to better ensure the protection of the rights of women in detention;</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>Trainings of TDIs personnel on human rights protection are periodically conducted;</p> <p>In light with the transparency concept, video surveillance system has been installed in all TDI corridors guaranteeing the safety of detainees, preventing both ill-treatment of detainees by TDI staff and violence by detainees against the staff, conducting overall monitoring while respecting the privacy of detainees and better ensuring the protection of their human rights;</p> <p>For the purposes of ensuring accountability of the police and due fulfilment of their duties, especially in interaction with the society, it is a positive novelty that each police officer (Patrol Police) carries portable cameras attached to their uniform, in order to guarantee that no procedural or human rights violations take place. In this regard it is also noteworthy that each police officer carries easily an identifiable badge with his/her name and surname engraved on it.</p> <p>The role of the MIA General Inspection has been strengthened and its effectiveness raised through structural changes conducted therein. More precisely, new model of Disciplinary Persecution Division enables General Inspection to monitor and cover all structural units of the Ministry and to have a clear picture about the existing situation at the MIA, thus ensuring effective functioning of the integrated internal oversight mechanism. Furthermore, Main Division for Monitoring, Analysis and Coordination has been established within General Inspection, being responsible for centralized analysis of all data and information collected by divisions of the General Inspection.</p> <p>With regard to the investigations <i>See Appendix IV.</i></p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
50.	Study meticulously the report of the Public Defender's Office and enact the recommendations made therein to ensure that the human rights of all people deprived of their liberty are effectively protected	Netherlands 105.31		<p>Status: In the process of implementation</p> <p>Working Group has been created at the Ministry of Corrections in order to collect, consider and analyze Public Defender's reports and recommendations case by case. Comprehensive and complete progress reports are regularly sent to the PDO describing the status of PDO recommendations fulfillment.</p> <p>As a result of PDO recommendations on penitentiary healthcare in 2014 the following were implemented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infection control mechanism improved; • A new standard of data collection and analyses was developed and introduced in all penitentiary establishments; • In order to evaluate performance of the penitentiary healthcare services, a new set of indicators was developed in 2014; • A new form was developed in accordance with the Istanbul Protocol to record injuries in an adequate manner; • First adapted unit for accommodating disabled prisoners for 57 patients was opened in 2014 at the Correctional Central Hospital, where long term medical services were delivered to 91 prisoners during 2014. <p>During the reporting period, several relevant ministries undertook necessary steps for the purposes of implementation of PDO's recommendation. Working Group has been created at the Ministry of Corrections in order to collect, consider and analyze Public Defender's</p>

Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
			<p>reports and recommendations case by case. Comprehensive and complete progress reports are regularly sent to the PDO describing the status of PDO recommendations fulfillment. As for the Recommendations of Public Defender's Office related to conditions in Temporary Detention Isolators (TDIs), which have continues character and thus remained in reports from 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014 it is notable that they have been gradually addressed during these years and absolute majority is fulfilled already.</p> <p>The following measures have been undertaken by the Ministry of Corrections, by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Justice:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As a result of PDO recommendations on penitentiary healthcare in 2014 the following were implemented: Infection control mechanism improved; A new standard of data collection and analyses was developed and introduced in all penitentiary establishments; In order to evaluate performance of the penitentiary healthcare services, a new set of indicators was developed in 2014; A new form was developed in accordance with the Istanbul Protocol to record injuries in an adequate manner; First adapted unit for accommodating disabled prisoners for 57 patients was opened in 2014 at the Correctional Central Hospital, where long term medical services were delivered to 91 prisoners during 2014. • As a result of PDO recommendations concerning TDIs the following were implemented: Wooden platforms remain only in 3 isolators (Tsalka, Akhalkalaki and Rustavi). Rustavi TDI will be renovated later this year and relevant steps are planned to be taken in two other TDIs; TDIs are equipped with proper ventilation, lightning and warming systems. Sometimes there are cases when some of the systems fail due the technical problems; however they are solved in the shortest period and none of the

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>detainees are at the site during that period; Since 2012 the several TDIs which were not able to guarantee the proper leaving conditions for detainees, were closed down; In 2013 two new temporary detention isolators were open in Zestafoni and Poti. Also since 2012 full renovation was carried out in 5 TDIs; In TDIs heated food is provided to detainees three times a day. It is planned to take necessary steps to increase the diversity of the menu; All detainees are provided with necessary means of hygiene daily, which are guaranteed by the Ministerial Order №108. They have unlimited access to water; In November of 2014 amendments took place in the Ministerial Order №108 concerning access to shower and everyday exercise, also cell occupancy. Person who stay in TDIs for more than 24 hours are provided with shower and outdoor exercise on daily basis. There is 4² meters space guaranteed in every cell for a detainee in TDI; Concerning the right of notification of the fact of arrest or detention to family members or other persons by the accused person, enshrined in Article 38(10) of the Criminal Code of Georgia, police officers are adequately trained in this regard in order to ensure its proper implementation, regular monitoring is conducted over police actions and detainees' complaints are systematically reviewed; All persons who are sentenced with administrative custody are placed in TDIs and no special institution has been established for administrative prisoners as recommended. The reason for this is significant decrease of maximum detention period which since 2014 is 15 days instead of 90 days. Thus conditions in TDI meet all requirements necessary for the 15 days long imprisonment. The staff of the temporary detention isolators is obliged to draw up all necessary documentation, fully and without mistakes according to the article 5 of the annex N3 of the MIA Ministerial Order №108. The fulfillment of this requirement is strictly monitored</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>by the Monitoring Division of the Human Rights protection and monitoring Main division; Concerning the right of notification of the fact of arrest or detention to family members or other persons by the accused person, enshrined in Article 177 of the Criminal Procedure Code of Georgia, police officers are adequately trained in this regard in order to ensure its proper implementation. The same procedure is established for the persons arrested under administrative legislation; To inform the Prosecutors office about possible facts of ill-treatment is requirement for the temporary detention isolator's staff ascertained by the Annex 4 of the Ministerial Order №999. All facts are immediately transferred to the prosecutor's office despite the person, has claim against police officers or not; Video surveillance cameras are located in temporary detention isolators across the whole perimeter beside cells, investigation rooms and sanitary annexes. The Monitoring division is carrying out video monitoring with the signal live stream and no records are made at this point; The MIA has taken fundamental changes to improve medical care of the detained persons. It was decided to employ 114 medical staff members across the county who will work in temporary detention isolators. At this point the ministry is selecting the candidates for the given positions; the process will be completed in the near future.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As a result of PDO recommendations the following additional steps have been undertaken: Detailed statistics on the facts of ill-treatment exercised by the civil servants in order to facilitate thorough and comprehensive monitoring of the situation in the field of fight against torture is kept by the Chief Prosecutors office; Chief Prosecutor exercises personal control over investigations into all the facts of ill- treatment during the detention and in the penitentiary establishment to ensure quick and efficient investigation; the principle of summing up of

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>sentences in Criminal Code was altered with the principle of absorption; The number of employment of alternative measures to deprivation of liberty as well as of imposing less severe punishments has increased.</p> <p>In addition, 2011-2013 National Action Plan and Strategy on Ill-treatment was adopted on May 10, 2011 under the Presidential Decree 250.</p> <p>Criminal Justice Reform – Strategy, Action Plans aimed at the protection of the human rights of detained persons. (Strategy, action plan and periodic reports on the implementation of action plans are publicly available).</p> <p>On December 13, 2008, by the Presidential Decree No591, the Criminal Justice Reform Inter-Agency Coordinating Council (<i>hereinafter</i> - ICC) was established with overarching objective of developing Georgia’s criminal justice policy. In 2014 the Composition of the ICC was renewed and approved by Decree of the Government N316. As an initiative it aims at strengthening the rule of law and developing secure environment for the community as a whole by: reducing the incidence of crime and delivering justice for all in line with the international human rights standards; increasing access to justice and assistance to victims of the crime; ensuring fair, speedy and equal procedure for persons charged with the crime; punishing guilty, while preventing them from re-offending; reducing prison overcrowding through use of pre and post-trial alternatives and addressing the causes of the crime and providing appropriate community supervision, rehabilitation and reintegration of persons who committed the crime. ICC has broad membership including State institutions, donors/international organizations and national NGO. The invited membership is open to the representatives of the international organizations, NGOs and experts</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>specializing in criminal justice issues. ICC's Secretariat has been established at the Ministry of Justice with responsibility for day to day management, coordination and monitoring of the processes and reforms. In 2010, ICC has adopted revised Criminal Justice Reform, Strategy and Action Plan through respective working groups in areas of Criminal Legislation (Criminal Code and Criminal Procedural Code), Juvenile Justice, Penitentiary, Probation, Legal Aid, Prosecution and Judiciary. All relevant documents along with Progress Reports are publicly available at ICC's website in Georgian and English.²²</p>

²² <http://www.justice.gov.ge/Ministry/Department/293>.

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
51.	Continue to pursue appropriate policies to improve conditions in its detention facilities	Slovakia 105.32		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>In addition to the improvements mentioned in response to recommendation 105.30 and 105.31, the MIA Main Division of Human Rights Protection and Monitoring has conducted the following developments:</p> <p>Since 2011 the renovation process of isolators' equipment is ongoing, wooden beds have been removed and instead, individual beds have been installed.</p> <p>Since January 2011: 7 new temporary detention isolators (TDI) (in Lanchkhuti, Zestafoni, Samtredia, Khvareli, Baghdati, Photi and Marneuli) have been built; 5 isolators have been refurbished (Tbilisi №1 TDI, isolators in Telavi, Akhaltsikhe and Mestia, Tbilisi and Mtskheta-Mtianeti TDI); 3 isolators (in Kaspi, Khazbegi and Bolnisi) have been closed.</p> <p>In 2013 two new temporary detention isolators were constructed in Poti and Zestafoni.</p> <p>Full renovation was carried out in 5 temporary detention isolators during 2013-2015 period (Tbilisi and MtskeTa-Mtianeti, KaKheti regional, Shida Qartli and Samtskhe-Javakheti Regional, MtskeTa-Mtianeti regional and Tetrtskaro temporary detention isolators).</p> <p>With the funding of European Union all cells across the country were equipped with new dimmable lightning which provides different levels of light, so that detainees have better sleeping conditions. All cells were also equipped with new tables, chairs and beds.</p> <p>Fundamental changes were made in the Ministerial Order №108 concerning access to shower, occupancy of the cells (increased up to 42</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>per detainee), daily outdoor exercise, nutrition and etc.</p> <p>After October 2012, 8 establishments with very poor conditions had been closed: penitentiary Establishments №1 in Tbilisi, №3 in Batumi, №4 in Zugdidi, №6 in Rustavi, N11 Rehabilitation establishment for Juveniles, N16 in Rustavi, N18 Central Correctional Hospital, №19 in Ksani (for TB inmates). Two of them (N1 and N4) are closed permanently.</p> <p>During 2013-2014 fully reconstructed and opened penitentiary establishments N3, N11, N18, and N19. N6 and N16 establishments will be opened in 2015. New Smart Reception Unit has been constructed and opened in Gldani №8, instead of the cubicle type of cells (so called “fuksi” and “quarantine”) used for initial intake and temporary holding purposes have been closed and abolished. Infrastructure for long term family visits in Kutaisi №2 has been constructed and put into operation.</p> <p>Current conditions in the penitentiary establishments are in accordance with the terms of international standards. Cells have windows, which provide natural lighting and ventilation. Toilets are isolated from the living area.</p> <p>A new target oriented food standard was introduced. The food standard with 12 various types of ratio corresponds to the needs of different category prisoners with different physical activities and health condition.</p> <p>Reconstruction of special establishment for juvenile inmates has been finalized and a new school building was put into service.</p> <p>A New campus for temporary detention has been constructed in Ksani №15. New public receptions have been constructed and opened in №2 Kutaisi, №5 female and №6 in Rustavi prisons. Workshop and sporting</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>facilities have been constructed and opened in №5 female prison. Infrastructure for long term family visits and kitchen has been added to №12 Tbilisi. A "Half-Way House" - open type institution in Tbilisi has been constructed, equipped and opened.</p> <p>A Halfway house which was opened in February 2014 accommodates 75-100 half-way house inmates. Individuals, who are willing to participate in rehabilitation/educational programs, are transferred to the halfway house based on the decision of the local parole boards, altering their sentences on deprivation of liberty with the restriction of liberty. Infrastructure of the halfway house includes a living block, rehabilitation centre, multifunctional workshop facility, sports facilities and a gym, open yard (walking tracks, area for visits), meeting room, dining room, conference hall, a shop, pool, computer class, medical center, restroom and a library.</p> <p>Persons placed in the halfway house are not restricted from communicating with each other or from free movement within the territory of the facility. Individuals are allowed to leave the halfway house and return to families for weekends based on the results of individual assessment. They also have possibility to be employed and remunerated at various small local factories functioning on the territory of the halfway house. Persons restricted of their liberty are gaining various professions at the multi-profile education centre; they also have right for long and short term visits.</p> <p>The low risk penitentiary establishment №16 with the capacity of up to 1200 inmates is ready to be opened in nearest future. The institution will focus on rehabilitative and re-socialization programs for inmates. The factory, education centre and other related facilities will function on its territory. With the assistance of the US Government the institution and its staff will receive comprehensive methodological guidance and</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>training in the nearest future. A high security type prison for 574 inmates is planned to be opened in Laituri, West Georgia by the end of 2016.</p> <p>According to the May 2014 legislative changes to the Imprisonment Code of Georgia all sentenced prisoners in Georgian penitentiary establishments are entitled to 4 m2 and those in pre-trial to 3 m2. The latter provision is implemented with the current number of inmates in penitentiary establishments that became possible partly due to the dramatic decrease in number of prison population since October 2012 and gradual improvement of the penitentiary infrastructure.</p> <p>As for other measures, since 2012, the Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs of Georgia is implementing a program for supporting socialization and rehabilitation of under aged and young convicts. In the scope of the program, the following activities have been implementing: Participation in sport activities (training programs and lessons in football and rugby; tournament in arm wrestling); Training-seminars; Career trainings (wood carving and enamel trainings); intellectual, creative and cultural events.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
52.	Adopt measures to fight overcrowding in places of detention, by, for example, more frequently applying alternative sentences to the deprivation of liberty	Switzerl and 105.33		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>Within the framework of the Criminal Justice reform the Prison Overcrowding Concept was adopted. Penitentiary Reform Strategy as well as Concept on Addressing Prison Overcrowding stresses importance to increase use of pre and post-trial alternatives such as diversion among adult and juveniles, use of non-custodial measures and community service as a sanction.</p> <p>Amnesty Act was adopted by the Parliament on 21 December 2012 which came into force on 12 January 2013. The Act envisaged several forms of amnesty such as release, halving of prison sentence or reducing it either by one-third or by one-fourth (according to the category of offence and characteristics of the prisoners). As a result number of inmates has significantly decreased in penitentiary establishments of Georgia.</p> <p>Principle of consecutive (cumulative) sentencing was removed from the Criminal Code of Georgia by law of 17 April 2013 and principle of absorption of sentences was introduced with having retroactive effect. As a result many prisoners were released. Conditional release mechanisms were employed more often.</p> <p>Compassionate release was employed more often by relevant commissions of MCLA.</p> <p>According to the statistics provided by MoC Georgia, prison population has decreased from 21420 (in October 2012) to 10 327 (15 June 2015).</p> <p>Derivation mechanisms for adults were implemented in Criminal Procedure Code in 2011. Adult diversion program was launched on 25 October, 2011.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>Adult Diversion Program operates throughout the whole territory of Georgia. In 2011, 77 adults were diverted from criminal liability, whereas in 2012, 1247 adults were diverted.</p> <p>Prosecutors are entitled to employ extensively non-custodial measures regarding the juveniles under the guidelines adopted for them. Custody as protective measure must be employed as a last resort and as extreme necessity.</p> <p>Prosecutors were trained regarding the above-mentioned principles in Training Center of Ministry of Justice in 2011.</p> <p>Derivation mechanisms for adults were implemented in Criminal Procedure Code in 2011. Adult diversion program was launched on 25 October, 2011. Adult Diversion Program operates throughout the whole territory of Georgia. In 2011, 77 adults were diverted from criminal liability, in 2012, 1247 adults were diverted. In 2013-2014 total number of adults diverted from criminal liability was 3665.</p> <p>In 2014, Prosecutors' office drafted /elaborated recommendations on contemporary standards of preventive measures. All prosecutors were provided with the documents for inner application</p> <p>Number of imposing community service as punishment has increased.</p> <p>Juvenile Diversion and Mediation Program was launched on 15 November, 2010. By the end of 2014 743 juveniles have been diverted from criminal responsibility.</p> <p>Alongside with the liberalization of the Criminal policy and the introduction of the law on Amnesty, due to the efficient work of the</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>revised parole boards and the renewed Joint Permanent Commission of the Ministry of Corrections (MoC) and the Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia (MOH), prison overcrowding issue was effectively addressed. The effective work of the parole boards made possible to guarantee 4m² living space for convicts and minimum 3m² for pre-trial inmates, as provided by European standards. The dorm type spaces were gradually replaced by cell type spaces in all penitentiary establishments.</p> <p>Currently 5 parole boards (3 for adult male, 1 for juveniles and 1 - for women since May 2014) review on monthly basis cases for early conditional release and commutation of remaining term of a sentence into a less grave punishment. All early conditional release mechanisms have a diverse membership, which in addition to the ministry officials include representatives of relevant NGOs, Judicial organs and local universities. The original plan of the Ministry of Corrections is to link in the future the early conditional release criteria with the results of the individual sentence planning. <i>(See Appendix VI)</i>.</p> <p>A halfway house functioning under the National Probation Agency accommodates inmates who are willing to participate in rehabilitation/educational programs, are transferred to the halfway house based on the decision of the local parole boards, altering their sentences on deprivation of liberty with the restriction of liberty. This mechanism is an alternative measure to deprivation of liberty.</p> <p>Persons placed in the halfway house are not restricted from communicating with each other or from free movement within the territory of the facility. Individuals are allowed to leave the halfway house and return to families for weekends based on the results of individual assessment.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
53.	Further address overcrowding in prisons and ensure that minimum standards are met	Austria 105.34		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>A number of reforms were carried out in the corrections system to address prison overcrowding.</p> <p>See the replies to recommendations: 105.33 and 105.32.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
54.	Increase efforts, in a result-oriented manner, so as to combat prison overcrowding and to improve the human rights situation of the people detained	Greece 105.35		Status: Implemented See replies to recommendations: 105.32 and 105.33.

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
55.	Improve conditions in Georgian prisons, including in relation to overcrowding and inadequate health care	Australia 105.36		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>See replies to recommendations: 105.32 and 105.33.</p> <p>2013-2014 Strategy and Action plan for Prison Healthcare Reform (so called 18 months reform) completed in 2014. The representatives of the European Union and the Council of Europe appraised this progress positively.</p> <p>Penitentiary Healthcare development 2014-2017 strategy was developed with the support of the CoE experts.</p> <p>According to the 18 months Prison Healthcare Strategy 2013-2014 the main purpose of penitentiary healthcare reform was to provide inmates with timely and adequate medical service by qualified medical personnel, who regularly were trained, retrained and were working nonstop in the medical units of each penitentiary establishment.</p> <p>In 2013 penitentiary healthcare budget was increased by 40% compared to the previous years. As a result annual healthcare expense per inmate was increased from 181 US dollars to 760 US dollars.</p> <p>Along with Primary Healthcare Service which is accessible in all penitentiary establishments inmates are provided with a possibility to be transferred to a civilian medical institution for further medical assistance. During 2014, 3658 inmates have been transferred to civilian hospitals (In 200-2012 this indicator was from 400 to 1280 inmates). 1122 referral conducted in central Correctional Hospital. The ratio period of staying at the hospital is 5.6 days, which is the equal to European standard.</p> <p>Electronic Queue Management System and Prison Electronic Health</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>Record have been developed and put into operation. Electronic Queue Management ensures transparent, equal and effective handling of planned medical care.</p> <p>A new Rehabilitation Center for treating inmates infected with tuberculosis was opened, where three main criteria have been met, such as separation of patients with different forms of TB infection (MDR, XDR, Sensitive), independent regulation of airflows between the cells and departments, as well as inward and outward ventilation system and the special food ratio for TB infected inmates.</p> <p>National program for Prevention, Diagnostics and Treatment of Hepatitis C has been adopted and has been functioning successfully. Within the program conducted screening for 8711 inmates in 2014. 2400 inmates have been examined diagnostically. 289 prisoners involved in other treatments. 180 patients completed C hepatitis course and recovered in 2014.</p> <p>Active prevention and control campaign against H1N1 infection resulted in zero cases of infection spreading among inmates. Massive vaccination and preventive activities for inmates and prison staff against measles has been also implemented.</p> <p>Suicide Prevention Program has been designed and launched in 6 establishments. Suicide inclined persons have been identified by using this program. During 2014 up to 99 prisoners recovered from suicidal crisis.</p> <p>Special medical services for women prisoners have been improved. In December 2014 the screening diagnostics were conducted to detect presumably the risk groups of breast, womb and rectal cancer.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>A penitentiary healthcare drug standard has been adopted according to the WHO recommendations, which regulates the process of drugs classification, prescription, purchase and delivery. A supply of medications improved three times. Annual expenditure per inmate in terms of medication was increased from 64 GEL to 184 GEL.</p> <p>Access to antidrug services has been improved:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. New department of addictology has been opened; 2. Anti-dependency campaign against psychotropic drugs has been started ; 3. drug clinic has been contracted in the civilian healthcare sector; 4. Coverage for methadone detox has been expanded to female institution; 5. Decision to initiate methadone maintenance therapy from 2015 for all problem drug users incarcerated, has been made 6. Condoms are provided. <p>Salaries of medical staff increased by 60%. The proportional rate of medical staff to prisoners is almost the same as in Western European countries and average index of prisoners/doctors is 45:1, average index of prisoners/nurses is 38:1.</p> <p>The dental cabinets with adequate equipments for therapeutic, surgery and orthopedic manipulations throughout all penitentiary establishments have been refurbished. Working hours have been regulated by the internal regulations. Dentists working hours are the same to other medics.</p> <p>Primary healthcare examination of prisoners from 2010 to 2014 increased considerably (from 45 % to 114 %) and is conducted for new prisoners as well after escorting.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>Prisoners' mortality rate has decreased significantly. Total number of deaths among prisoners has been reduced significantly as a results of the reform: in absolute numbers it has been decreased from 144 cases per year to 25 cases between years 2010-2014 and Standard Mortality Rate (SMR adjusted per 10 000 prisoner) has been decreased from 63 to 25 in the same period.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
56.	Take effective measures to safeguard the rights of prisoners and to improve the living conditions, including medical and health services, for detainees	Sweden 105.37		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>In 2014, the Ministry of Corrections (MoC) has initiated a broad package of legislative amendments to the Code of Imprisonment, which entered into force on 3 May, 2014. These amendments included introduction of a new classification system of prisons (4 types of prisons including low risk, half-open, closed and maximum security prisons) with the distribution of inmates based on their behavior based risk assessment methodology.</p> <p>Based on legislative amendments the MoC plans to introduce objective classification system, including a personal assessment of risks and needs. While the respective methodology will certainly consider sentence information, it will equally take into account an inmate's behavior, criminal, institutional and personal history. Accordingly, inmates will be sent to relevant institutions, where individual sentence plan will be developed, implemented by the multidisciplinary board consisting of a security officer, social worker and psychologist. Inmates' classification will help prison administrations to maintain better control over population, create secure prison environment and facilitate to the rehabilitation of the inmates.</p> <p>For further details see replies to recommendations 105.32 and 105.36.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
57.	Reinforce mechanisms for monitoring violence and sexual abuse within the family	Bulgaria 105.38		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia is a member of the Governmental Council on Combating Domestic Violence; the Council operates under its Action Plan and the MIA is actively involved in the fulfillment of its obligations in the following directions: development of internal regulation on domestic violence, rapid and effective response activities, qualification of personnel, awareness raising campaigns.</p> <p>In 2011, active work was undertaken to include the crime of domestic violence in the Criminal Code of Georgia. The respective legislative process commenced at the end of 2011 in the Parliament of Georgia. The work on inclusion of a new Article on crime of domestic violence was finalized in June 2012.</p> <p>In 2012 a working group was set up aimed at elaboration of the monitoring system for execution of issues envisaged by the protective and restrictive orders. Currently, the Ministry of Internal Affairs is elaborating an instruction on effective monitoring of executing issues envisaged by restrictive and protective orders.</p> <p>In aim to better monitor and coordinate activities of the police on DV facts, special commission "prevention of domestic violence and effective response" has been created within the Ministry of Internal Affairs. Composition of the commission was adopted by the Ministerial order in 2014. Commission is headed by deputy minister and comprises managers of relevant departments. The commission focuses on the development of the monitoring mechanism, identification of the gaps and elaboration of appropriate recommendations and legislations. Along of this, commission actively cooperates with the NGOs and international organizations working on the human rights and apparently on domestic violence issues. In 2014, four meeting were organized by the MIA with the representatives</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>of civil society.</p> <p>Along this, 2 law enforcers (male and female) have been identified in each regions in order to report the secretary of the above-mentioned commission regarding the duty implementations in the zone of their responsibilities. In 2014, they went through special trainings, which were conducted with the cooperation of Office of the Public Defender of Georgia and the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia.</p> <p>The Ministry of Internal Affairs ensures 24/7 operation of the hot line - 112 - across the territory of Georgia. Operators having specific skills and expertise work on that line duly reacting on the received information. The hotline is free of charge throughout Georgia.</p> <p>On measures on combating violence, see replies to recommendations: 105.39 - 105.41.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
58.	Intensify efforts to combat domestic violence and violence against women	Norway 105.39		<p>Combating domestic violence is one of the top priorities of the government of Georgia. During the reporting period the government of Georgia intensified efforts to combat domestic violence and violence against women.</p> <p><i>Criminalization of Domestic Violence</i></p> <p>The Government of Georgia criminalized domestic violence in June 2012. See the details about the criminalization of domestic violence in recommendation 11.</p> <p>In addition, Government of Georgia signed the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence which will be ratified by the end of 2015. In this regard, special Working Group was established under the DV Council in close cooperation with UN Women, UNICEF and other local NGOs, which has elaborated the amendments to the national legislation related to domestic violence. The representatives from all relevant ministries and governmental entities actively participated in this process. In 2014, legislative amendments were approved by the Parliament in 12 legal acts in order to eradicate domestic violence and harmonize Georgian legislation with Istanbul Convention.</p> <p>As a result of these amendments, a new article has been incorporated in the Criminal Code of Georgia: Article 150¹ - Forced Marriage. The content of the aforementioned act, qualifying elements and types of punishment have been prescribed. The amendments made to the Law of Georgia on Combating Domestic Violence, Protecting and Assisting Victims of Domestic Violence have facilitated further prescription of rights of domestic violence victims and guaranties for their protection.</p> <p>Government has drafted another set of legislative amendments to combat violence against women. The first draft of amendments to 17 legal acts</p>

Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
			<p>was presented by the Minister of Justice of Georgia on 17 June, 2015. The draft of amendments was largely disseminated among local and international NGOs for their feedback.</p> <p>It is noteworthy that the new law “On Legal Status of Aliens and Stateless Persons” enacted on 1st September 2014 introduced 9 categories of residence permits, one of them being the “residence permit for the victim of domestic violence”, based on which these persons are issued the temporary Georgian residence permit by simplified procedure.</p> <p><i>National Action Plan on Combating Domestic Violence and Protection of the Victims of Domestic Violence</i></p> <p>In order to intensify efforts to combat domestic violence in Georgia 2011-2012 National Action Plan on Combating Domestic Violence and Protection of the Victims of Domestic Violence was adopted by N 27/-4/-2 Decree of the President of Georgia on 27 April 2011.</p> <p>According to the monitoring report on the Implementation of the aforesaid Action Plan elaborated in the framework of the UN Joint Programme <i>to Enhance Gender Equality in Georgia</i> overall the activities defined by the Action Plan have been carried out.</p> <p>The Action Plan for 2013-2015 on Combating Domestic Violence and Protection of the Victims of Domestic Violence was adopted by N 17/07/01 Decree of the President of Georgia on 17 July 2013. The Action Plan names three main goals: improvement of the mechanisms and the legislative base on prevention of domestic violence, protection and assistance of victims of domestic violence; protection, assistance and rehabilitation of domestic violence victims; prevention of domestic violence and raising awareness on domestic violence issues.</p> <p><i>Awareness Raising Campaigns and Trainings on the issues related to</i></p>

Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
			<p><i>domestic violence</i></p> <p>Trainings on domestic violence were held for prosecutors and police officers. In 2012, 447 prosecutors, intern prosecutors and police officers were trained on domestic crime. The trainings were mainly concentrated to introduce domestic violence as a crime to law enforcements. The trainings also include issues related to violence against women, gender based violence and gender equality.</p> <p>The Legal Aid Service of Georgia has specifically trained lawyers with the support of the State Fund in the issues relevant to the Convention targeting gender based violence, domestic violence related particular matters, as well as trafficking in persons, particularly women and children. The Legal Aid Service and the State Fund together with Police provide all necessary support to women to be encouraged and empowered to avail themselves of procedures and remedies for violations of their rights. All the above mentioned institutions as well as the educational institutions work actively on the dissemination of information via sustained awareness-raising and legal literacy training campaigns to target women, especially rural women and non-governmental organizations working on women's issues, including at times in very close partnership with UN Women, a variety of non-governmental organizations, particularly, in the regions of Georgia. The work shall be maintained, as the task of providing the sustained awareness-raising required constant work in the population at large.</p> <p>In addition, on October 12, 2011 Police Guiding Manual on the child referral mechanism was adopted under the Decree N826 of the Minister of Internal Affairs.</p> <p>With the initiative of the Public Service Development Agency of the Ministry of Justice of Georgia, a number of trainings and consultations on</p>

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				<p>domestic violence were held for the local population with the help of the Community Centers' (Space equipped with modern technologies, where local citizens can easily interact with Government and receive up to 200 public services locally, without the necessity to travel to the municipal center or the capital) infrastructure. More trainings and consultations are planned to be delivered in the future.</p> <p>During the reporting period the High School of Justice has organized 1 training for sitting judges and 1 training for assistants to judges on Domestic Violence.</p> <p>In addition, Violence and combating violence (domestic violence, trafficking and any other kind of violence) is highly represented in National Curriculum of Georgia in the context of human rights. Providing information in this regard enables students to understand the human values and the importance of human rights in order to take concrete steps to protect them.</p> <p>On the three levels of general education (primary, basic and secondary) the issues of combating violence is provided considering the age peculiarities and competences of students.</p> <p>In National Curriculum (2011-2016) the issues of violence (domestic violence, trafficking and any kind of violence), fundamental human rights are reflected in the priority cross-curricular competences. In the Section of social science group subjects (History, Geography, Civic Education, Civil defense and security) students get familiar with international frameworks of human rights protection, mechanisms and instruments for protecting human rights in Georgia and worldwide.</p> <p>Teaching social sciences supports the process of raising informed and active citizens, understanding their responsibilities and rights in respect</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>to democratic society, cultural diversity and the rule of law.</p> <p>As for the future plans, according to revised National Curriculum the social science group subjects will be offered in more intensive manner at public schools and will be taught from the III grade (the new subject "Me and Society" in grades III-IV and "Our Georgia" in grades V-VI). Through these subjects the issues of human rights, domestic violence, gender equality, tolerance, also respect to all kinds of minorities are more highlighted and promoted.</p> <p>State Shelter</p> <p>In 2011 in order to implement a uniform standard of effective functioning of the State Shelters for Domestic Violence victims, internal regulations of the structural unit of the State Fund for Protection and Assistance of (Statutory) Victims of Human Trafficking (hereinafter "State Fund") – State Shelter for Domestic Violence Victims was approved by the order # 07-2/0 of the director of the State fund. In order to ensure that the employees of the State Shelters act in conformity with professional ethics and realize their duties and responsibilities the special Code of Ethics was approved by # 07-3/o order of the director of the State Fund.</p> <p>Referral Mechanism</p> <p>Draft amendments to the National Referral Mechanism which represents a document for cooperation and mutual agreement between Georgian state institutions, international organizations and NGOs working on issues of domestic violence have been elaborated as well as draft amendments to the joint (# 152/n-#496- #45/n) order of the Minister of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia, the Minister of Internal Affairs of Georgia and the Minister of Education and Science of</p>

Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
			<p>Georgia on the procedures for children's referral of 31 May 2010.</p> <p>Draft guidelines on protection and assistance of domestic violence victims for the health system employees as well as a document establishing standard for operating crisis centers have also been elaborated.</p> <p>Restrictive Orders</p> <p>It is particularly noteworthy that one of the effective mechanisms for protection of domestic violence victims – restrictive orders issued by police and protective orders by the Court – are used in practice and there is a gradual increase in their application. In 2011, 258 restrictive orders were issued (in comparison with 2009-176 orders; in 2010 – 182 orders). In 2011, 52 protective orders were issued (in comparison with 2009- 30 orders; 2010- 44 orders). In 2012, 316 restrictive orders were issued. It shall be herewith mentioned that the Ministry of Internal Affairs is elaborating an instruction on effective monitoring of executing measures envisaged by restrictive and protective orders. 227 restrictive orders were adopted by the courts in 2013; 817 restrictive orders were adopted by the courts in 2014; 1188 restrictive orders were issued in the period of January-June of 2015.</p> <p>Services for the Victims of the Domestic Violence</p> <p>The services for the victims of domestic violence have been provided without impediments. The hotlines for domestic violence victims have been operating smoothly.</p> <p>In 2011 the nation wide, 24/7, toll free hotline (2309903) for domestic violence victims received 1008 calls. In 2012 - 604 calls, In 2013 - 776 calls, in 2014 - 1182 calls, in 2015 (including March, 10) - 182 calls. In addition, the hotlines of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia (112)</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>and of the Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia is operational.</p> <p>Since 2011, expenses of the State shelters operating in Tbilisi and Gori, including the salaries of the staff, as well as operational expenses and the expenses for the victims living in the shelters have been covered by the budget of the State fund.</p> <p>In 2013 within the framework of UN Women project a new Shelter was opened in Kutaisi, which at present is fully funded by the state budget.</p> <p>In 2015 a new shelter for victims of domestic violence will be opened in Kakheti region.</p> <p>It shall be herewith mentioned that apart from the respective organs of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Courts, the status of domestic violence victim can be granted by the Victim Identification Group, operating under the Interagency Council on Combating Domestic Violence. 94 persons have already been granted Domestic Violence Victim status by the abovementioned group. 14 persons were granted the status In 2014.</p> <p>Legal advice is provided to the victims of domestic violence by the State bodies as well as by local NGOs.</p> <p>In 2014, the mandate of Legal Aid Service was expanded in the direction of protection of domestic violence victims. Namely, on October 17, 2014, amendments were made in paragraph 2 of article 26 of the Law of Georgia on Legal Aid and in article 17 of Law on Elimination of Domestic Violence, Protection of and Support to Its Victims, according to which, since January 1, 2015, Legal Aid Service has been assigned to render legal assistance to victims of domestic violence.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>The State Fund and local NGOs facilitate rehabilitation, economic empowerment of victims.</p> <p>Other Measures</p> <p>In November 2014 a gender equality mechanism was created under the Prime-minister's Office.</p> <p>The Assistant to the Prime Minister on Human Rights and Gender Equality Issues has also been tasked to chair Inter-Agency Council on Combating Domestic Violence which resumed its work with renewed composition in November 2014 - after 5 months suspension. Even though the Council has to meet minimum twice per year, two meetings have already been held since November 2014 to discuss recommendations drafted by the representatives of the NGO sector. These recommendations concern different state agencies and the issues covered at the meetings range from the simplification of issuing restrictive order, elaboration of risk assessment methodology to strengthening awareness raising of specific professional groups and increasing the access of victims to counseling services and shelters.</p> <p>A Consultative Group consisting of civil society representatives and international organizations has also been created.</p> <p>In December 2014 new members of the group in charge of granting a victim status has been selected by the selection commission of the Inter-Agency Council. The Group consists of 12 civil society representatives (doctors, psychologist, psychiatrist, lawyers and social workers).</p> <p>As a result of the competition, 8 organizations were also selected which can submit the cases to the Group on behalf of a potential victim of domestic violence. In May 2015, both, Group members as well selected 8 organizations were trained by UNWOMEN and recently the system</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>resumed functioning.</p> <p>It has to be also underlined that there is a separate chapter on Gender equality, combating domestic violence and women's empowerment in the Human Rights Action Plan approved by the Government of Georgia. The Plan covers implementation of the first two years (2014-1015) of the National Human Rights Strategy (2014-2020) adopted by the Parliament of Georgia in April, 2014.</p> <p>Nine working groups cover 23 chapters of the Action Plan. A separate working group covers the chapter on gender equality, combating domestic violence and women's empowerment.</p> <p>In 2014 Commission on preventing domestic violence chaired by the Deputy Minister was set up under the Ministry of Internal Affairs.</p> <p>Pair of district police officers (in most cases a female and male) have been tasked to work with problematic families and react adequately.</p> <p>Within the framework of the awareness raising campaign on combating domestic violence 2182 meetings with beneficiaries were held by the representatives of the Ministry of Internal Affairs.</p> <p>In comparison to 2013, the number of revealed crimes has significantly increased and the number of restrictive orders has increased 4 times.</p> <p>Interactive map has been displayed on the website of the Ministry of Internal Affairs which shows the facts of domestic violence according to regions as well as the response followed on the facts.</p> <p>It is planned to develop a training curriculum in the Police Academy,</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>which will be directed at increasing sensitivity of the police officers concerning domestic violence.</p> <p>See also replies to recommendations 106.19, 105.40, 105.41 and 106.28.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
59.	Give a prominent role to civil society – not least women’s organizations – in efforts to address domestic violence and violence against women and place focus on strengthening public awareness	Norway 105.40		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>Civil Society representatives are given a voice and have a representative in each and every group that operates under the existing Mechanism. (see also replies to recommendation 105.7).</p> <p>A separate working group, under the human rights secretariat of the Human Rights Inter-agency Council chaired by the Prime-minister, covers the chapter on gender equality, combating domestic violence and Women’s empowerment. Civil society representatives are represented in the working group.</p> <p>A Consultative Group to the Inter-agency Council on combating domestic violence, under the Administration of the Government, consists of civil society representatives.</p> <p>The Group in charge of granting a victim status also consists of 12 civil society representatives (doctors, psychologist, psychiatrist, lawyers and social workers).</p> <p>8 non-governmental organizations were also selected as a result of the competition. These organizations are entitled to submit the case to the Group on behalf of a potential victim of domestic violence.</p> <p>The Commission on preventing domestic violence set up in 2014 in the Ministry of Internal Affairs has regular meetings with civil society representatives to discuss various issues concerning domestic violence. The same hold true of the Human Rights Committee of the Parliament of Georgia.</p> <p>Activities of the State Fund in the field of trafficking is demonstrated by providing the following services to the victims of trafficking:</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>a) Medical, legal and psychological assistance; b) Hotline services; c) Shelter services – in the reporting period, two trafficking (in Tbilisi and Batumi) and three domestic violence (Tbilisi,Gori, Kutaisi) shelters are being operated. In 2015, it is planned to open a new shelter for victims of domestic violence in Kakheti region. The trafficking shelters provide for services to the persons suffering from moral, physical, property damage as a result of crime of trafficking and who has status of victim of trafficking in accordance with the Georgian legislation. In 2011, service was provided to 6 adult and 2 juvenile beneficiaries and in 2012 - to 7 adult and 6 juvenile persons. In 2013 - to 4 adults and 1 juvenile. In 2014 - to 5 adults, In 2015 (including March 10) - 1 adult. Domestic violence shelters to persons, who, as a result of domestic violence, suffered physical, phsycological, sexual and economic violence or compulsion and has the status of victim of domestic violence according to the Georgian legislation. In 2011 in the shelter service was provided to 36 adult and 53 juvenile beneficiaries and in 2012 – to 38 adult and 50 juvenile persons, in 2013 - to 40 adult and 60 juvenile beneficiaries , in 2014 - to 47 adult and 67 juvenile beneficiaries, 2015 (including March 10) - to 19 adult and 37 juvenile beneficiaries.</p> <p>d) Compensation was provided to victims of human trafficking: In 2011 - to 6 persons, in 2012 - to 6 persons, in 2013 - to 21 persons, in 2014 - to 9 persons , in 2015 (including March 10) - to 4 persons.</p> <p>The State Fund actively cooperates with international and non-governmental organizations working on human trafficking issues. Since 1st October, 2014, the State Fund has renewed memorandums of mutual cooperation with International Organization for Migration, NGO “Georgian Young Lawyers’ Association”, NGO “Anti-Violence Network of Georgia”, NGO “Women’s Information Centre” and NGO “Women for Future”;</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>On September 21-22, 2013, a seminar regarding the court practice and the methods of combating human trafficking was held for judges, with joint efforts of the High School of Justice, the State Fund and the International Organization for Migration. the State Fund representatives, within the project „Camp of the Educated Same-age Peers for the prevention of human trafficking” conducted trainings for students in order to introduce referral mechanisms and services of the State Fund (for the (statutory) victims of the human trafficking).</p> <p>On March 1-2, 2014, a training on trafficking and domestic violence was held for the victim and witness coordinators. 13 victim and witness coordinators participated in the trainings which were organized by Chief Prosecutor’s Office, the State Fund, NGO “Sakhli” and IOM;</p> <p>On March 20-21, 2014, a training on trafficking was held for the members of ISAF mission. Over 1600 peacekeepers participated in the trainings, which have been organized by the Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Defense and the State Fund;</p> <p>On March 28-29, 2014, a training on trafficking was organized for the investigators and prosecutors. 24 law enforcements (6 intern-prosecutors, prosecutors and 18 investigators) from Tbilisi and Batumi participated in trainings, which was organized by Police Academy in close cooperation with Ministry of Justice, Chief Prosecutor’s Office and the State Fund;</p> <p>A regional conference “Deepening of the knowledge about the threats of the human trafficking” in Azerbaijan, Georgia and Armenia” was held in Tbilisi, 5-6 December, 2013 with the support of Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation and International Organization for Migration. The State Fund representatives participated in the conference.</p>

Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
			<p>A social worker of the shelter for the victims of human trafficking (structural unit of the State Fund) participated in two-day training organized by NGO “Partnerships for Human Rights”. The topic of the training was violence against women with disabilities.</p> <p>The State Fund regularly holds meetings with students in institutions of higher education for the purpose of preventing human trafficking and popularization of State Fund services.</p> <p>In March - May, 2014, Ministry of Justice of Georgia in close cooperation with EU Delegation to Georgia, LEPL Training Center of Justice, the State Fund, Public Defender’s Office and Georgian Young Lawyers’ Association and NGO Civil Development Agency (CIDA) organized Moot Court Competition on Human Trafficking. Information was disseminated through webpages of MOJ (http://www.justice.gov.ge/Ministry/Department/364), Training Center of Justice (http://tcj.gov.ge/?p=1252) and Universities. Also, information posters were disseminated in Tbilisi and regional universities. 40 students from different universities throughout Georgia (Tbilisi, Gori, Kutaisi) participated in competition;</p> <p>During the reporting period, the State Fund conducted the awareness raising campaigns:</p> <p>In 2014:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - for the promotion of consulting hotline for the purpose of the domestic violence (2 309 903) and trafficking (2 100 229) in TV and radio broadcast the video ads during three months (March, April, May). - the domestic violence consulting hotline advertising campaign in Imereti region, which was connected with the opening of a new shelter in the region, this significantly increased the number of

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>calls to the hot line.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - video Ads and news reports in regional television. - advertising campaign in the frames of international campaign against gender-based violence (25th November – 10th December) - video Ads in State radio and television. Advertising the consulting hotline about trafficking. <p>The Memorandum with Information Center 118 08 was signed for campaign against Violence. During two months the customers connected with 118-08, listened to short notice about domestic violence informational hotline.</p> <p>The domestic violence consulting hotline number was placed at the entrance of every subway station and walking distance to the central streets of Tbilisi.</p> <p>The informative brochures about domestic violence and trafficking was printed, also calendar of 2015 (hotline number on violence). The distribution was conducted by the staff of the fund during these activities.</p> <p>Informational meetings were held on the topic of domestic violence and trafficking in universities and public schools.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Trainings/Memorandums</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The trainings were conducted in structural and territorial units as a result of the agreement signed between the State Fund and organization "the children of Georgia". The visiting trainers were conducted trainings on the theme: "preparation of persons with disabilities for independent life, elaboration of individual plan and implementation, sexual education" for psychologists, educators and head teachers. - UN Women together with the State Fund conducted trainings in

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				<p>the structural units on issues of domestic violence. The project "support of gender equality in Georgia" covers legislation, existing practice and psychological aspects.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NGO "Women's Information Center" (organizer) theme – mechanisms of prevention and elimination of domestic violence. <p>On 10th of March 2015 following activities were undertaken for awareness raising on the issues related to domestic violence and human trafficking:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Informational materials were distributed in the borderline regions on the basis of cooperation between the State Fund and the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia; - Informational brochures prepared by the State Fund were given to Tbilisi Patrol Police Department to distribute in its operational units; - Information flyers were posted in the civil reception of the Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia, also in the regional and Tbilisi service centers of Social Service Agency. Furthermore, the brochures were distributed in the civil reception of the Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from Occupied Territories, Accommodation and Refugees. - The beneficiaries of Tbilisi and Gori DV shelters participated in the social action on International Women's Day.

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
60.	Ensure that there is an accessible mechanism to register cases of domestic violence and provide legal, medical and psychological advice to victims	Mexico 105.41		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>In this regard it should be highlighted that all cases of domestic violence are registered by the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA): if case contains the elements of domestic violence, the police issues a restrictive order; otherwise a police officer fills in the Protocol on Domestic Conflicts, describing a situation which does not amount to domestic violence, though still registering the case.</p> <p>Police officer who is called on the place of Domestic violence records detailed information of the case, including all data about offenders, victims, witnesses, informers (name, age, place of work, relationship and etc.) Collected information is transferred to the Analytical department of Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia. Information Centre of the Analytical Department maintains the statistics on domestic conflicts, issued restrictive orders and launched investigations. According following Parameters: form of violence, concrete age and sex of offender and victim, exact location of the fact, deprivations of guns from offender, disability status of the offender and victim.</p> <p>With the aim to ensure visibility and accountability of the MIA regarding the situation and statistics on Domestic Violence, the special interactive map has been published on the official website of the Ministry.</p> <p>In addition, the State Fund for Protection and Assistance for (Statutory) Victims of Human Trafficking provides the victims of domestic violence with the following free of charge services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Legal assistance (including legal representation in court); - Psychological service (including rehabilitation and reintegration programs);

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Medical Service; - Shelter Service; - Support for solution of social problems; - Hotline Service. <p>The Fund services for the victims of domestic violence (including minors) include the following:</p> <p>Legal service The service covers: awareness raising on legal issues, preparing all necessary legal documents, legal assistance including representation in courts (if necessary, referral).</p> <p>In 2010, legal service was provided to 9 beneficiaries; in 2011 - 16 beneficiaries; in 2012 - 21 beneficiaries; in 2013 - 30 beneficiaries; 2014 - 31 beneficiaries; in 2015 (including June) - 28 beneficiaries.</p> <p>Psychological service The service consists of the following steps: individual and group psychological consultation and rehabilitation, crisis intervention, emotional and psychological support, psychological education, assistance in defining their future perspectives/recovering control over their lives. In 2010, psychological service was provided to 17 beneficiaries; in 2011 - 65 beneficiaries; in 2012 - 63 beneficiaries; in 2013 - 76 beneficiaries; 2014 - 89 beneficiaries; in 2015 (including June) - 74 beneficiaries.</p> <p>Medical service The service includes the identification of health condition, medical needs, first aid medical services, provision of medicines.</p> <p>In 2010, medical service was provided to 19 beneficiaries; in 2011 - 37 beneficiaries; in 2012 - 35 beneficiaries; in 2013 - 37 beneficiaries; 2014</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>- 65 beneficiaries; in 2015 (including June) - 45 beneficiaries.</p> <p>Shelter service Under the Fund two shelters operate for the victims of human trafficking: in Batumi (opened in 2006) and in Tbilisi (opened in 2007) and three shelters for victims of domestic violence: In Tbilisi (opened in 2010), in Gori (opened in 2010) and in Kutaisi (opened in 2013). One more shelter for victims of domestic violence will be opened in 2015 in Kakheti region.</p> <p>Victims of domestic violence are provided with psychological, legal and medical assistance no matter whether they are placed in shelters or not.</p> <p>The shelters are opened for victims of domestic violence regardless of their race, skin color, language, sex, religion, political or other opinions, national, ethnic, and social affiliation, origin, property or social status, place of residence. The (statutory) victims of human trafficking and domestic violence can be placed at the shelters together with their dependents.</p> <p>The shelter provides the following 24 hour free of charge service for beneficiaries (including minors) and their dependents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A safe place to live, suitable for normal existence; - Nutrition and clothes; - Participation in the programs of integration into families and society; - Support minors to access formal and non-formal education; - All other activities that promote beneficiaries' complete development; - Other measures defined by the legislation of Georgia; - Medical assistance; - Psychological assistance/rehabilitation; - Legal assistance (including court representation); - Providing information to the beneficiaries in the language understandable to them. If necessary, providing interpretation

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>services.</p> <p>The rehabilitation-reintegration program is carried out with each beneficiary, living in the shelter, taking into consideration the following steps: interviewing beneficiaries and evaluation of their needs, assessment of risk of harm and developing a security plan, working out a rehabilitation-reintegration plan, planning and ensuring psychological, medical, legal and social services; communication with other organizations and experts and coordination of services, if necessary.</p> <p>The shelter services are also tailored to minors, taking into account their needs.</p> <p>In 2011, the State Fund shelters for victims of domestic violence had 89 beneficiaries; in 2012 - 88 beneficiaries; in 2013 - 100 beneficiaries; In 2014 - 114 beneficiaries, and in 2015 (including June) - 87 beneficiaries.</p> <p>Support for solution of social problems The Support for solution of social problems includes researching information regarding the available resources in the field of social assistance and providing the data to beneficiaries. In addition, providing them with information regarding educational opportunities; Assistance in employment. Connecting with different experts and coordinating services according the needs of beneficiaries.</p> <p>Hotline Services Hotline service – 2 309 903 – has been functioning at the Fund since 2010. Anyone can call on the hotline and get qualified consultation on domestic violence issues during 24 hours.</p> <p>In 2011, - hotline consultation service was provided to 1016 individuals; in 2012 – 644 individuals; in 2013 – 1997 individuals; in 2014 – 1182</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>individuals; in 2015 (including June) – 482 individuals.</p> <p>In 2014, lawyers of Legal Aid Service rendered 114 consultations regarding the protection of victims of domestic violence.</p>

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61.	Continue efforts to prevent, punish and eliminate all forms of violence against women, and to overcome the stereotypes that cause gender discrimination	Argentina 105.42		<p>Status: In the process of implementation</p> <p>See also replies to recommendations 106.19, 105.39 - 105.41 and 106.28.</p> <p>The Law of Georgia on Domestic Violence does not differentiate among family members on the basis of gender and offers equal treatment to all its beneficiaries.</p> <p>It should be mentioned that the Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs is a member of the Governmental Council on Combating Domestic Violence; the Council operates under its Action Plan and the MIA is actively involved in the fulfillment of its obligations in the following directions: development of internal regulation on domestic violence, rapid and effective response activities, qualification of personnel, awareness raising campaigns.</p> <p>The Ministry of Internal Affairs ensures fulfillment of awareness raising campaigns on Domestic Violence among the population. In light of this, MIA with the relevant partner organizations elaborates and distributes the informative brochures and leaflets.</p> <p>The Ministry of Internal Affairs, along with other state agencies launched the social campaign against domestic violence –“No to Violence” on November 25, 2014, with the support of the US Embassy and UN WOMEN. Aim of the campaign was to raise public awareness on domestic violence and outline the importance of the involvement of citizens in order to eliminate the mentioned problem.</p> <p>In the frames of the campaign MIA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elaborated and aired an informative video; • Conducted public meetings with population;

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interactive meetings with school students; • Elaborated and distributed brochures among the population; • Accomplished competitions for best article, best video, best slogan; • Winners of the competition were awarded by the Minister of the Internal Affairs; <p>Representatives of the MIA participate in the TV talk shows and take part in radio broadcast dedicated to Domestic Violence problem;</p> <p>Ministry of Internal Affairs in cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Science, with support of PH International, implements the project: "Program on Legal Education". Within the framework of the project course-book "Legal Culture" was elaborated for the 9th grade pupils of Georgian public schools, which is an annex of the mandatory subject – "civil education". Classes are conducted by the law enforcement Officer and teacher jointly. Topic about violence and bullying takes important part in the course-book, separate chapter is dedicated to the Domestic Violence problem.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
62.	Continue efforts to eliminate domestic violence against women and ensure that women are economically empowered	Iraq 105.43		<p>Status: In the process of implementation</p> <p>See replies to recommendations 106.19, 105.39 - 105.41 and 106.28.</p> <p>The State Fund assists beneficiaries in economic empowerment and finding employment. For this purpose the State Fund actively cooperates with NGOs. Memorandums of mutual collaboration have been signed with the following NGOs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advice Center for Women "Sakhli"; - Georgian Young Lawyers' Association; - Anti-Violence Network of Georgia; - Women's Information Centre; - Georgian Association for Promotion of Women's Employment "Amagdari". <p>Gender issues have been addressed in all projects implemented in the agricultural sector and rural development. For example, in support of a cooperative establishment in the agro sector, special attention is given to the issue of female involvement in cooperatives, especially to the promotion of women as managers and decision makers.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
63.	Take steps to prevent child labour by formulating a strategy to eliminate the worst forms of child labour	Bulgaria 105.44		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>Georgia has ratified the following international Conventions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ILO C. 138, Minimum Age; • ILO C. 182, Worst Forms of Child Labour; • UN CRC; • UN CRC Optional Protocol on Armed Conflict; • UN CRC Optional Protocol on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography; • Palermo Protocol on Trafficking in Persons. <p>Government has elaborated relevant laws and regulations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prohibition of Forced Labour - Article 30 of the Constitution of Georgia; • Minimum Age for Work - Article 4 of the Labour Code of Georgia; • Minimum Age for Hazardous Work - Article 4 of the Labour Code of Georgia; • List of Hazardous Occupations Prohibited for Children Order No. 147/N, 3 May 2007 of the Minister of Labour, Health and Social Affairs 2007 "On Approving the List of Heavy, Harmful and Hazardous Work" ; • Prohibition of Child Trafficking - Articles 143² of the Criminal Code of Georgia; • Prohibition of involvement in prostitution of Children - Article 171 of the Criminal Code of Georgia; • Prohibition of Using Children in illicit Activities - Article 172 of the Criminal Code of Georgia; • The Law of Georgia on Combating Human Trafficking; • Minimum Age for Compulsory Military Recruitment - Articles 9 and 21 of the Law of Georgia on Military Duty and Military

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>Service;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compulsory Education Age - The Law on General Education. <p>According to the Labour Code of Georgia, labour capacity of individuals arises from the age of 16 by the consent of his/her legal representative or guardianship agencies, if labour relation does not resist the interests of juvenile, does not harm his/her moral, physical and mental development and does not derogate his/her right and possibility to receive basic education.</p> <p>Conclusion of employment contract with juveniles under 14 is possible for activities related only to spheres of sport, art and culture, also for advertisement works.</p> <p>According to the Labour Code of Georgia, conclusion of employment contract with juveniles' that envisages hard, unhealthy and dangerous work for children is forbidden.</p> <p>In accordance with the Georgian Labour legislation, employment of juveniles in night works is forbidden. Also, employment in work relating to gaming business, night entertainment places, erotic and pornographic production, production, transportation and realization pharmaceutical and toxic substances.</p> <p>Legal representative or guardianship agencies of juvenile persons have the rights to require termination of employment contract, if continuation of work will damage juvenile's life, health and other significant interests.</p> <p>According to the Labour Code of Georgia to postpone the paid leave of the minors for the next year is prohibited. Also, the legal representative or the guardian of the minor has the right to demand termination of the labour agreement with the minor, if the continuation of the work will</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>harm the life, health or other important interests of the minor (as a result of amendments of June 12, 2013).</p> <p>The duration of working hours of the persons aged from 16 to 18 should not exceed 36 hours per week and the duration of working time for minors from 14 to 16 years of age must be a maximum of 24 hours a week (as a result of amendments of the year 2013).</p> <p>According to the Criminal Code of Georgia, to use a person, including minors (article 143² of the Criminal Code) for forced labour or sexual services is punishable. These types of actions are considered to be the forms of exploitation (Article 143¹ of the Criminal Code). According to the Criminal Code of Georgia the exploitation is considered to be the use of a person for forced labour or services, criminal or other anti-social activities or involvement in prostitution, sexual exploitation and other forms of service delivery, with the purpose of putting to slavery conditions or modern conditions of slavery, as well as forcing the person for transplantation of a body organ, part of an organ or tissue and/or otherwise use. Putting a person into modern conditions of slavery means taking away a person's identity documents, restriction of freedom of movement, prohibition of communication, correspondence and telephone contact with family, cultural isolation, forcing to work in the conditions abasing esteem and dignity and/or without any compensation or with inadequate compensation. The consent of the person on his/her intended exploitation has no sense.</p> <p>The procedures of protection, timely detection and response on protection of children from labour or other forms of exploitation, are reflected in the joint decree N152/N-N496-N45/N, 31 May, 2010 of the Minister of Labour, Health and Social Affairs, the Minister of Internal Affairs and the Minister of Education and Science regarding approval of the procedures of referral of children protection.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>The inter- ministerial council was established to oversee the implementation of Child Welfare and Protection Action Plan 2012-2015, which aims to serve vulnerable children, including those living and working on the street (Decree №762 of the Government of Georgia).</p> <p>It is notably, that in case of revealing children -victims of abuse and exploitation, they are transferred to the shelter of the State Fund where they undergo psychological and social rehabilitation. Partner NGOs support this process as well.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
64.	Adopt specific measures to improve effectively the situation of children living in the streets of big cities and children with disabilities	Algeria 105.45		<p>Status: In the process of implementation</p> <p>In 2012, the EU funded project “Reaching Vulnerable Children in Georgia” has been launched to support children living and/or working on the street. Within the project is provided the services of day care centers, crisis intervention centers and transit centers to identify and assist children/families living and/or working in streets. Since 2014, the services are funded by the state budget within the State program on social rehabilitation and child care.</p> <p>Since 2013, in order to identify, evaluate and assist children/families living and/or working in the streets, 3 mobile groups were set up and 2 day care, 2 crisis intervention and 2 transit centers were established in Tbilisi (in addition to the transit center already functioned in Rustavi). In Spring 2015 the mobile, daycare and crisis intervention services extended in Kutaisi with the same purpose.</p> <p>In addition, the Ministry of Education and Science elaborated the policy for second chance education for children living and working in the streets and other vulnerable children. In 2014 study was conducted to identify main challenges preventing inclusion in formal education of street children. In 2015 it is planned to start piloting of integration of education component into the daycare centers as well as preparation of specific curriculum framework based on educational needs of street children.</p> <p>As for the measures undertaken for improvement the situation of children with disabilities, as it has been noted, on 26 December, 2013 the Parliament of Georgia ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), (in force for Georgia since April 12, 2014). On 20 January, 2014 the Government of Georgia adopted the 2014-2016 Government Action Plan to ensure equal opportunities for people with</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>disabilities. Furthermore, to resolve the issues related to disabled children the governmental planned activities are depicted in the national Action Plan 2012-2015 for Child Welfare and Protection (NAP) adopted by the Decree №762 of the Government of Georgia on 24 April, 2012.</p> <p>Since 2011, the Government of Georgia adopts social state programmes annually which include specific sub-programs for children with disabilities.</p> <p>By the Decree №138 of the Government of Georgia of March 30, 2015 has been approved “State Program of Social rehabilitation and Child Care for 2015”, which include following sub-programmes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - child rehabilitation/habilitation subprogram; - Early child development subprogram; - Emergency assistance subprogram for the families with children in critical situation ; - day care centers subprogram; - Support for the communication of the deaf subprogram; - Foster care subprogram; - Provision of supportive devices subprogram (wheelchairs and promotion of disabled persons employment, prosthesis-orthopedic devices, hearing devices, cochlear implant, blind person’s walking sticks, crutches, sticks for disabled). <p>Compared to 2011, the geographical coverage, funding, number of service providers and volume of social services (day care centers, early childhood development services) has been increased. Throughout the country, more disabled children are provided with high-quality, need-oriented services;</p> <p>The budget of the subprogram increased as follows:</p> <p>Child rehabilitation/habilitation subprogram: budget of 2011 - 828 888</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>GEL; budget of 2013 - 1 241 000 GEL; 2014 -1 424 530 GEL; 2015 - 1 651 600 GEL;</p> <p>Early child development subprogram: budget of 2011 - 96 150 GEL; budget of 2013 - 232 500 GEL; 2014 - 438 000 GEL; 2015 - 832 800 GEL.</p> <p>Day care centers subprogram: budget of 2011 - 2 175 066 GEL; budget of 2013 - 2 838 200 GEL; 2014 - 3 084 000 GEL; 2015 - 3 235 900 GEL</p> <p>Since November 2014, children with disabilities, who are the target group of the day care centers and Early Childhood Development sub-program within the state programme are fully funded.</p> <p>Within the process of deinstitutionalization, at the beginning of 2015, 1 large institution for children with disabilities has been closed and currently, only 2 large institutions for children with disabilities continue functioning. The working process is ongoing to create services oriented on children's needs, in order to close remaining large institutions.</p> <p>According to the data of May, 2015 there are 167 disabled children in foster care. In 2011, 85 disabled children were using this service. To improve the quality of service, in 2011 the foster care reimbursement increased and became 300 GEL per month for kinship foster care services for disabled child and 20 GEL per day for non-family foster care for a disabled child and emergency foster care cases.</p> <p>Since 2014, disabled children aged 6-18 are able to use small group homes' services, which are provided by increased amount of funding in comparison with children who do not have the status of disabilities.</p> <p>Since September 2013, for the persons with severe disabilities the amount of social package has been increased from 100 to 150 GEL, for the children with severe disabilities – from 70 to 100. The funding and volume of social service (day care center, community organizations, early childhood development services) has been increased as well. More disabled people</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>across the country are provided with high-quality, appropriate services for their needs.</p> <p>Persons with disabilities have equal access to health care services across the country. Special approaches are considered for persons with disabilities, in terms of their safe movement, as shown by the Regulation documents. Persons with disabilities, as well as other citizens of Georgia are involved in all health care state programs.</p> <p>Since 2014, the Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs of Georgia has developed special program for support of youth with special needs and deprived of parental care. In the framework of the program training courses, seminars and sport tournaments organized with participation of the beneficiaries of the "SOS Children's Village" and "Georgian Caritas".</p> <p>See also response to recommendation 105.16.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
65.	Provide children who work or live in the streets with recovery and social reintegration services	Hungary 106.37	Accepts: Georgia is firmly committed to enhancing the protection and reintegration of street children and has taken significant steps towards these ends, including the creation of designated day-care centers, pursuant to 2008-2011 Governmental Action Plan on Child Welfare	<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>See response to recommendation 105.45.</p> <p>In May 2014, the large scale institution - Children’s Crisis Centre has been closed in Tbilisi, which was under the State Fund for Protection and Assistance of (Statutory) Victims of Human trafficking and beneficiaries were shifted to 24 hour service established under the project “Reaching Vulnerable Children in Georgia”.</p> <p>Through the “State program on Social rehabilitation and Child Care” in 2014, 78 children were reached by mobile teams in 2013. In the 2 day care centers, 2 crisis intervention and 2 transit centers, lunched since that, in 2014, 350 children were reached by mobile teams, 130 out of 350 were enrolled in day care/crisis intervention/transit services, 69 out of these 130 are actively attending services. For 2015, 380 children were reached by mobile teams, 144 enrolled in services, 72 out of 144 are actively attending services. In Spring 2015, mobile team, day care and crisis intervention services were established in Kutaisi.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
	Administration of justice and the rule of law			

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
66.	Take essential steps to create an environment where rule of law is preserved	Czech Republic 105.46		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>Criminal Justice Reforms are led by the Criminal Justice Reform Inter Agency Coordination Council (the CJRC). The CJRC is a key policy-making body composed of representatives from different governmental agencies, and of international and non-governmental organizations. The CJRC adopted the following strategies and action plans in 2009 and subsequently revised on an annual basis: criminal legislation reform, juvenile justice, penitentiary, probation, legal aid, legal education, prosecution, police, judiciary and the Public Defender's Office. The CJRC also adopted a Strategy and Action Plan for the Resocialization-Rehabilitation in the Criminal Justice System in 2014.</p> <p>In 2014, amendments were introduced to the Criminal Procedural Code aimed at enhancing human rights in the criminal justice system. The amendments aimed at enhancing the rights of the defendant and the powers of judges in the process of plea bargaining and the determination of punishments, enhancing the role of the victim in the plea-bargaining process and improving the transparency of procedure.</p> <p>The set of procedural law amendments aimed at enhancing the principle of adversarial trial was adopted by the Parliament of Georgia in June 2013. The amendments aimed to ensure equality of arms between defence and prosecution in the criminal procedure. Another amendment introduced to the Criminal Procedural Code addressed the rights of victims. The Ministry of Justice, in close cooperation with international experts, drafted legislative amendments envisaging increased rights for victims to information, the right to be heard and to appeal. Most importantly, is the right to appeal the decision not to prosecute in case of serious crimes, the right to request the granting of the status of victim and to appeal against the subsequent decision of a prosecutor are provided in the amendments. The amendments relied upon the recent EU victims' rights directive</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>(Directive 2012/29 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on the establishing of minimum standards on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime) and the jurisprudence of the European Court of Human Rights. The amendments were approved by the Government of Georgia on 4 April 2014 and adopted by the Parliament of Georgia on 24 July, 2014.</p> <p>Reform of judiciary</p> <p>The first stage of reforms of the judiciary started in 2012 and was primarily aimed at de-politicizing and strengthening the independence of the High Council of Justice and a number of other institutions of judicial self-government. The enacted amendments ensure a participation of judges in the formation of the High Council of Justice and a decision-making process on the judicial system in general. The first wave of amendments also increased the transparency of the court and disciplinary proceedings. The provisions regulating the recording and broadcasting of the court proceedings and the publication of the decisions of the Disciplinary Chamber and Disciplinary Board were revised.</p> <p>At the second stage of reform there was a constitutional amendment introducing life tenure for judges. In line with the Constitution, the Organic Law on the Common Courts sets a three year provisional appointment period. A transparent mechanism for assessing the judicial performance during this period was elaborated and will soon enter into force.</p> <p>The third stage of reform was launched in spring 2014. It is focused on guarantees of the independence of an individual judge and his/her involvement in the activities of the court. The draft legislative amendments at this stage are aimed at the following changes: filling of judicial vacancies through competition, as opposed to direct appointment;</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>introduction of the principle of automatic allocation of cases; and a strict regulation of the transfer of judges to another court.</p> <p>Establishment of Data Protection Supervisory Authority</p> <p>The Data Protection Supervisory Authority was established in July 2013. It is fully operational and equipped with adequate financial and human resources. The Head of the Authority, the Personal Data Protection Inspector, is elected by the Parliament for a 3 year term. The Authority's mandate fully covers public and private sectors, including data processing by the law-enforcement agencies for crime prevention and investigation purposes. The Authority has respective monitoring powers, inter alia, power to conduct investigations, study the legal aspect of the data processing and, in the case of violations, it can impose fines.</p> <p>Reforms in the Ministry of Internal Affairs</p> <p>Following the 2012, the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia underwent important changes in order to address international and national recommendations and bring the law enforcement system closer to European standards, whether by means of structural reorganization or by introducing a new legislative framework. The main objectives of the new management were to depoliticize the police force, ensure accountability for any wrongdoing and the transparency of police work. Following a thorough review of the police systems of several European countries, especially that of Germany, new Law of Georgia on the Police was adopted on October 4, 2013. The Law aims to create the legal ground for a sophisticated, politically unbiased police of European standards, protecting public security and law and order.</p> <p>Reform of prosecution service</p> <p>In order to strengthen institutional independence of the prosecution</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>service, ensuring that prosecutors can carry out their professional functions impartially and objectively and ensuring the protection of human rights in criminal proceedings, in June 2013, amendments were introduced in the Law of Georgia on the Prosecution Service. The Parliament of Georgia adopted two separate packages of legislation that stripped the Minister of Justice off her prosecutorial powers by transferring all prosecutorial powers to the Chief Prosecutor of Georgia and made individual investigations and prosecutions immune from interference from the Minister of Justice and the wider executive authority. Thereby, the Chief Prosecutor's Office (the CPO) became immune from the interference from the Minister of Justice and the rest of the executive authorities in individual prosecutions and investigations. The Minister of Justice only retained the power to define general criminal justice policy.</p> <p>In late December 2014, the Government of Georgia started working on the institutional reform of the Prosecutor Service within the framework of the CJRC. Based on the large-scale comprehensive research on general prosecutors' offices of 20 European nations and the United States, prepared by the Secretariat, the Ministry of Justice presented an institutional model for the reformed Prosecution Service to the CJRC on its meeting of April 8, 2015. Consequently, the Ministry of Justice elaborated the draft amendments to the law on Prosecution Service and sent to the Government for approval. The amendments were approved by the Government of Georgia on May 15, 2015 and sent to the parliament for adoption. The draft amendments were also sent to the Venice Commission, to the OSCE/Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights and to the Directorate General for Human Rights and Rule of Law for expertise. At the same time, furthermore, the CPO is currently working on the manual which will define the procedures for the appointment, promotion, disciplining and dismissal of the staff of the Prosecution Service of Georgia. After drafting the manual it will be submitted to the</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				Ministry of Justice for its approval.

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
67.	Continue to strengthen and effectively implement the rule of law, especially through an effective reform of the judicial system, and to strengthen democratic institutions	Latvia 105.47		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>See response to recommendation 105.46.</p> <p>High Council of Justice (HCoJ) initiated series of legislative amendments, aimed at strengthening the independence and transparency of the judiciary. Key points of the amendments shall be summarized as follows:</p> <p>Amendments to the Organic Law of Georgia on the Common Courts of Georgia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The representatives of the executive branch are now excluded from their participation in the work and sessions of the Plenum of the Supreme Court and thus only judges will preside during the sessions (Article 18(6) of the Law)); • The post of a Secretary General of the HCoJ is now available only for a judge elected by the Conference of Judges (Article 51(1) of the Law)) and s/he may not concurrently hold the office of the chairperson of a court, the first vice-chairperson or vice-chairperson of a court or the chairperson of the judicial panel or a chamber; • In 2012 and 2013, amendments have been made to Article 47 of the Law. As a result, non-judge members of the Council are excluded from holding any other paid position (except for scientific, pedagogical or artistic work), as well as from being a member of any political party. This amendment aims to eliminate possible influence of political institutions on the work of the HCoJ. • In October 2013 the Government of Georgia initiated the amendments to the above Law which were adopted by the Parliament changing the rules of appointment of the members of the High Council. According to the Law, 5 members have to be chosen by the parliament upon the nomination of civil society,

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>academia, and professional circles and President has the right to appoint one member of the Council.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Another notable novelty in the law was the introduction of the article 13¹ which established the rules for airing the court sessions by the media. As a result A public broadcaster may perform taking of photos, cinematographic, video and audio recording of a trial, without limitation, except where the court has ruled to close the session in part or in whole. The public broadcaster shall release the record to any other media upon request; Amendments have been moved to Article 67 of the Law, granting the HCoJ the power to participate in the Parliamentary discussions concerning budgetary findings of the Common Courts. Hence, the HCoJ members are now granted an efficient tool to have an impact on the budgetary funding of the Court; <p>Yet another novelty is the institution of Judicial Mediation, which was introduced in 2011, after amendments moved to the Civil Procedures Code of Georgia. According to this latter, after a claim has been filed with the court, a case that falls within the jurisdiction of a judicial mediation may be transferred to a mediator (a natural or legal person) in order to conclude the dispute by a settlement between the parties.</p> <p>Judiciary has additionally been involved in the project “Enhancing judicial reform in the Eastern Partnership Countries” throughout the years 2012-2013. The work has now been finalized in the following three components: the self-government of the court system, Career of the judges and the training and the effective performance of the court system.</p> <p>The Reform in the Judiciary system continues and Ministry of Justice initiates legislative changes related to making amendments to the Organic Law of Georgia on “Common Courts”, Law of Georgia on “High School of</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>Justice” and Law of Georgia on “Disciplinary Liability and Disciplinary Proceedings of the Judges of Common Courts of Georgia”.</p> <p>The bills improve a number of aspects, including the procedure for election of chairmen, the order of secondments of judges, procedure for collection of information on the candidates prior to their appointment, provisions regulating conflicts of interest, possibility of appeal against the decision of the Council related to the competition, and other issues.</p> <p>The draft law aims at improving the conduct of disciplinary proceedings, ensuring a higher degree of protection for the independence of judges, eliminating defects in the current Law and improving the existing disciplinary procedures.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
68.	Continue to build public trust in democratic institutions by strengthening the rule of law including as it relates to the independence of the judiciary	Australia 105.48		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>See response to recommendation 105.46 - 105.49.</p> <p>Following activities have been carried out in order to build public trust and increase transparency:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In 2012, by the decision of the High Council of Justice (HCOJ) the plan of the “communication and the public trust” has been approved. This will help to increase the public trust of the court system. - In order to improve relations with public society and strengthen trust in judiciary in High Council of Justice of Georgia and in Supreme Court of Georgia, Tbilisi Court of Appeals and Tbilisi City Court, public relations departments are created. A new webpage of HCOJ is now up and running. - The process of integrating the Georgian courts of jurisdiction in one single web space and the one united web portal of all courts was finished by November 2012. Portal covers all the information that might be interesting for the users. www.court.ge contains an individual page of every court and the specific information can be searched by following the links to the website of the particular court. - Moot courts have been regularly planned and organized for enhancing practical skills amongst the students and for raising awareness within the field of criminal, civil and administrative law. 86 Moot Court Competitions were held at the Supreme Court of Georgia since 2010. - The Georgian Public Broadcasting had the TV show “Our Justice.” - The video about the ongoing reforms in the judiciary has been prepared and aired on TV. - The regional newspaper rubric “The Court Chronicles – Imereti” and “The Court Chronicles - Ajara” has been prepared and printed in the press. - The other newspaper rubrics have been prepared and printed in the press. In order to build public trust towards the Court System, these

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>rubrics were published in Armenian and Azerbaijani languages as well.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Informational leaflets and brochures have been prepared and distributed on the current amendments or newly introduced institutions (amendments to the criminal procedural code; jury trial; court mediation etc.). The leaflets and brochures concerning the proceedings at the Court have been distributed for District Courts' Users and it served the purpose to ease access to Court. - Since 2014, in the regions of Ajara and Imereti is implemented radio broadcasting on current developments and challenges of the Judiciary. Judges and Court officials have been discussing the relevant issues and judicial reforms. - TV Shows have been broadcasting in Azerbaijani and Armenian languages about judicial reforms, explanations of law provisions and generally, Court System. <p>In May 2012, CoE funded the court user satisfaction survey, conducted by the Applied Research Company (ARC), covering 6 big First Instance Courts (city courts of Tbilisi, Batumi, Kutaisi and Rustavi, district courts of Gori and Zugdidi). According to the overall evaluation, on average 85.01% of the respondents reported their trust towards the court, and 76.4% thought that there was no bribery any more at the courts of Georgia. Such user satisfaction survey conducted in February, 2014, covering Tbilisi, Kutaisi and Batumi City Courts. According to the overall evaluation, on average 91.8% of the respondents reported their trust towards the court, and 81.0% thought that there was no bribery any more at the courts of Georgia. Analysis of the survey clarifies that the level of confidence towards the judiciary is increasing annually.</p> <p>In April, May and June 2014, for the purpose of improving and strengthening communication skills, monitoring over the fulfillment of communication standards in the Common courts of Georgia was held by</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>the HCoJ. Monitoring process was conducted by the means of „Mysterious Costumer“. For this purpose, selected interns were trained in relevant skills. Telephone and e-mail communication monitoring was conducted in the courts of first instance, Appellate Courts and the Supreme Court of Georgia. As a result of monitoring, communication standards are implemented in accordance with the stated rules and there have not been manifested significant violations.</p> <p>Additionally, the poll conducted by the NGO National Democratic Society reveals the increasing dynamics of public trust and their belief that the court system has improved year after year. According to the World Justice Project²³, Rule of Law Index 2014, in the region of Eastern Europe and Central Asia, the strongest overall rule of law performer in the region is Georgia (there are 13 countries in this region).</p> <p>Moreover, in the same region and among low middle income group countries, Georgia holds the first place in income rank indicator, which is the result of salary increases in Judiciary and guarantee of financial independence.²⁴</p> <p>It's noteworthy that the surveys carried out by the different organizations at different time concerning the public trust towards the judiciary is available on the web-site of the Supreme Court of Georgia (www.supremecourt.ge).²⁵</p>

²³ The World Justice Project (WJP) is an independent, multidisciplinary organization working to advance the rule of law around the world.

²⁴ *ibid.*

²⁵ *ibid.*

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
69.	Strengthen its efforts to promote the independence of the judiciary	Greece 105.49		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>See response to recommendations 105.46 -105.49.</p> <p>In 2010, Georgian Constitution was amended to introduce the lifetime appointment of judges.</p> <p>The Article entered into force in October 2013, when a newly elected President took an oath. The lifetime appointment of judges is planned to increase and guarantee the independence within the judiciary.</p> <p>Jury Trial Institute was another novelty introduced in the Criminal Code of Georgia in October 2010. The scope of the jury trial's application was limited primarily to cover only the Tbilisi City Court. Starting from 1 October 2012, Kutaisi City Court is also entitled to conduct jury trial hearings on the alleged violations of Article 109 of the Criminal Code of Georgia ("CCG").²⁶ Additionally, starting from 1 October 2012, the range of crimes as to be heard at the jury trial has been enlarged at the Tbilisi City Court and now covers Articles 110-114 of the CCG.²⁷</p> <p>The quantitative information and qualitative assessments indicate a certain improvement in terms of the independence of the judiciary. As far as statistics are concerned, the acquittal rate in criminal cases has been higher over the last three years compared to the period covered in the 2011 NIS report (0.1 percent in 2009 and 0.2 percent in 2010, 2.5 percent in 2011 versus 7.8 percent in 2012, 3.2 percent in 2013 and 3.3 percent in 2014).²⁸</p>

²⁶ Premeditated Murder under Aggravating Circumstance.

²⁷ Article 110-Mercy-killing; Article 111-Premeditated Murder under Sudden Rush of Anger; 112-Infanticide by a Mother of the Newly Born Child; 113-Manslaughter beyond the Necessity of Defense; 114 Manslaughter beyond the Measures Necessary for Capturing a Criminal.

²⁸ <http://www.supremecourt.ge/statistics/> (accessed on 16 March 2015).

Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
			<p>In criminal cases, the judges' greater willingness to subject the prosecution's motions and evidence to greater scrutiny is another example of improved oversight. In an important example of the judiciary's greater willingness to review the executive branch's decisions, the Tbilisi City Court upheld Transparency International Georgia's appeal to revoke the finance minister's decree that threatened to establish a monopoly in the postal and carrier services.²⁹</p> <p>Furthermore, the OSCE/ODIHR Election Observation Mission has not highlighted a pro-government bias in the judiciary's handling of appeals during the 2012 parliamentary and the 2013 presidential election, which is another possible indicator of an improvement in terms of the judiciary's independence.³⁰</p> <p>In the period between February 2013 and December 2013, the percentage of cases won by the state party in Tbilisi City Court dropped from 84.4 percent to 63.7 percent, whereas the percentage of those won in Batumi City Court and Khelvachauri District Court dropped from 87.1 per cent to 45.5 per cent, respectively.</p> <p>One of the guarantees for independence of the judiciary is a professionalism of judges and other court staff. To this aim the High School of Justice provides intensive 10-month-long initial training for Judicial Candidates and In-service Training program for sitting judges and other court staff.</p>

²⁹ (Transparency International Georgia, *Third Court Monitoring Report on administrative cases revealed significant improvements, but many problems still remain*, 8 April 2014, 5<https://www.ndi.org/files/Georgia-April14-Survey-Political-English.pdf>; <http://caucasusbarometer.org/en/cb2013ge/TRUCRTS/>).

³⁰ OSCE/ODHIR, *Georgia: Parliamentary Elections 2012*; OSCE/ODIHR, *Georgia: Presidential Election 27 October 2013, OSCE/ODIHR Election Observation Mission Final Report*, Warsaw, 14 January 2014.

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>During the reporting period 68 Judicial Candidates graduated initial training course at the High School of Justice.</p> <p>Besides, within the framework of In-service Training Program of the High School of Justice, the following number of trainings were organized for sitting judges: In 2011 – 65 trainings, in 2012- 52 trainings, in 2013 - 37 trainings, in 2014 – 54 trainings, in 2015 (until 26th of march) – 10 trainings.</p> <p>In addition, the following trainings were organized for the rest of the court staff: In 2011 – 33 trainings, in 2012- 13 trainings, in 2013 - 13 trainings, in 2014 – 21 trainings, in 2015 (until 26th of March) – 5 trainings.</p> <p>Apart from this, the High School of Justice with the support of and in cooperation with the Council of Europe conducted a thorough needs-assessment of the HSoJ. Based on the needs assessment, the Strategic Development Plan of 2014-2018 of the School has been developed. Implementation of the Strategic Development Plan will further improve the quality of the trainings provided by the HSoJ to sitting judges.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
70.	Continue its efforts to implement the judicial reforms undertaken in the last years	Republic of Moldova 105.50		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>See response to recommendations 105.46 -105.49.</p> <p>Efforts have been directed to the following directions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuing to work with the NGOs with the aim to take into account their recommendations. • The process of uniting the courts of the general jurisdiction is finished. By now there are 26 first instance courts, 41 Magistrate Judges, two courts of appeals and a Supreme Court. • One of the main directions of the judiciary reform that started in 2005, was to modernize the trial courts that envisaged precise definition of issues falling under their jurisdiction, and identification of specialization of judges as well. By the end of 2012 the process of uniting the courts of the general jurisdiction is finished. By now there are 26 first instance courts, 41 Magistrate Judges two courts of appeals and a Supreme Court. The magistrate court constitutes the part of the district (city) court and exercises its judicial power in the administrative-territorial unit where the enlarged district (city) court is not present. • The development process of the electronic case management system is now finished. The project has been implemented in every Court of the first instance, in the Courts of the second and the third instances. • Judges and the staff and conducting the trainings based on this. To this aim, the High School of Justice (HSJ) provides the professional initial training for the 'Justice Listeners' - persons who are supposed to be appointed as judges at common courts of Georgia. It is noteworthy that as of the year of 2009, a person can only be appointed as a judge if he/she is a graduate of the HSJ. The initial training course which continues for 10 months is very intensive and is divided into 3 stages: substantive (theoretical) training, practical

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>training (internship at Tbilisi City Court) and seminars (combination of both). Therefore, the graduates of the HSoJ who are appointed to judicial positions are equipped with knowledge and skills necessary for judges.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In addition, the HSoJ is responsible for ensuring that the qualification of acting judges are permanently renewed and kept up-to-date. Therefore, the HSoJ provides continuous training for sitting judges, so that they regularly improve their qualification. For this purposes, about 300 seminars were held under the judges training program in 2006-2011. On average 18 participants attended each seminar of the training programs in total. During 01/2011-10/2013, 145 trainings have been organized for acting judges. The topics of trainings, <i>inter alia</i>, included: problematic issues in Civil Law Code, Prison Code of Georgia and relevant international standards, tax legislation, investigation of inhuman treatment, review of organized crime and terrorism cases, labour legislation, juvenile justice, new Criminal Procedure Code, substantiation of court decisions, mediation, intellectual property law, refugee law, judicial ethics, legal writing, international law, European Convention on Human Rights, communication standards, anger management, etc. • Apart from working with sitting judges and judicial candidates, the High School of Justice is also in charge of training and retraining of judges' assistants and other court staff. As with continuous training program for judges, the HSoJ starts planning these activities in advance, taking into consideration the most pressing needs of the judiciary and the court staff in particular. • For instance, during the years of 2011-2013, 103 trainings have been organized for the assistants to judges regarding the variety of topics, including: new Criminal Procedure Code, civil law related legislative changes, substantiation of court decisions, European Convention on Human Rights, electronic case management system, etc.

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With the purpose of creating technical and material conditions for judges and ensuring an unimpeded and speedy administration of justice, intensive reconstruction of courthouses, creation-improvement of material and technical conditions for judges and their support personnel have been going on throughout the country. As a result of these intensive works implemented in this direction, reconstruction of 64 courthouses was completed. Refurbishment of the remaining 2 courthouses was over in 2011. Besides, courtrooms in all the reconstructed courthouses were equipped with computers, and sound amplifiers, microphones and special equipment were installed for audio recording of court sessions. • With the amendments made to the organic law of Georgia on Common Courts in August 2010, a position of a court manager was introduced at the court, and a multi profile training course for court managers was initiated at the High School of Justice. • Archives Software was activated at the Supreme Court in October 2011. Any interested individual can use the search engine after registration. • Within the frameworks of digital justice reform, the search engine for judgments of the Supreme Court of Georgia has also been activated. The search engine has been developed in cooperation with the Supreme Court and the Norwegian Mission of Rule of Law Advisers to Georgia (NORLAG). The software enables all the interested individuals to look for the judgments of the Supreme Court quickly and easily. • In 2015, the Book was published providing the Guiding Proposals for the judges of the general jurisdiction on the form of judgments, substantiation and stylistic virtue of a text in a judgment. • It worth's noting that Human Rights Center is functioning at the Supreme Court of Georgia. The main duty of the Human Right Center is carrying out researches concerning the human rights issues, which

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>might be arisen in complicated cases. The Human Rights Center has two types of publishing. One publishing includes the cases of the ECtHR that are adopted against Georgia and another covers all other important decisions made by the ECtHR.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
71.	Implement changes that improve the independence of the judiciary, giving full consideration to the Venice Commission's concerns, particularly by establishing more objective and transparent processes for the appointment, discipline, and removal of judges, including during any applicable probation period	USA 106.39	Partially: Georgia accepts the premise of the recommendation and will give a due consideration to the recommendation of the Venice Commission. However, the extent of the implementation of Venice Commission recommendation will be subject to broad consensus among the relevant stakeholders.	<p>Status: In the Process of Implementation</p> <p><i>Appointment of Judges</i></p> <p>In June 2012, in cooperation with the Judicial Independence and Legal Empowerment Project (JILEP), a software platform was created for judicial qualification examinations. The software provides a possibility to conduct judicial qualification examinations in an electronic format, also to simplify the selection of judicial candidates. Team of experts has been working on the project for a year and the Human Resources Department of the High Council of Justice has been actively involved in its formation. The vacant places of judges are being filled using the new rules of the selection of judges.</p> <p>The Organic Law of Georgia on common courts, in line with the constitutional amendments, provides for appointment of a judge for three year probation period before life time tenure. The law introduces structured transparent and objective mechanism for the appraisal of judges. On the other hand, the law imposes an obligation on the High Council of Justice to be objective and impartial in assessing the performance of the judge.</p> <p>Since 2013, according to above mentioned rules, 22 judges were appointed (12 judges in November 2013 and 10 judges in May 2014) out of which 12 have undergone the first process of appraisal. The process was conducted at a high level.</p> <p>In September, 2014 by the decision of the High Council of Justice several amendments were moved to the procedure of the selection of judicial candidates. According to the amendments selection criteria of judicial candidates have been improved, furthermore, the system of collection of information on judicial candidates has been developed. Therefore, selection process has become more transparent and objective.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>In December, 2014, the Conference on appointment and promotion of judges were held which was attended by the judges, members of High Council of Justice and the representatives of non-governmental organizations and the main topic discussed was Criteria for promotion of judges.</p> <p><i>Disciplinary proceedings against judges</i></p> <p>Disciplinary proceedings, grounds for such proceedings and types of disciplinary measures are regulated under the Law of Georgia on Disciplinary Liability of Judges of Common Courts of Georgia and Disciplinary Proceedings.³¹</p> <p>Types of disciplinary sanctions are: reproof; a reprimand; a severe reprimand; dismissal of a judge from the position and elimination of a judge from the reserve list of judges of Common Courts .</p> <p>Types of disciplinary measures are: giving a private recommendation letter to a judge; dismissal of a chairperson, first deputy or deputy chairperson of a court, a chairperson of a judicial board or chamber.</p> <p>Gross violation of law as a type of disciplinary misconduct has been</p>

³¹ Article 2 of the Law lists following grounds for imposing disciplinary measures: (a) a corruptive offence or abuse of official powers to the detriment of the interests of justice and the interests of office. A corruptive offence is understood to mean an offence envisaged by the Law of Georgia on Incompatibility of Interests and Corruption in Public Service” unless it is of a nature that entails criminal or administrative liability; (b) an activity incompatible with a judicial office or conflicting with judicial duties; (c) an action inappropriate for a judge that disgraces the judiciary or damages the trust towards the judiciary; (d) undue delay of adjudication of a case; (e) non-performance or improper performance of judicial duties; (f) disclosure of the secrecy of judicial deliberation or professional secret; (g) hindrance to the activity or contempt of a disciplinary organ; (h) violation of judicial ethics norms. Incorrect interpretation of law based on a judge’s internal belief is not a disciplinary violation and the judge shall not be held liable for such conduct under disciplinary rule.

Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
			<p>removed from the law based on an amendment of March, 2012.</p> <p>Since March 2012, <i>ne bis in idem</i> principle is guaranteed during disciplinary proceedings, i.e. if disciplinary proceedings have been already carried out against a judge then it is prohibited to start disciplinary proceedings against the same judge on the same grounds.³²</p> <p>Since March 2012, it is not permitted to check the legality of judgment during disciplinary proceeding.³³ The High Council of Justice is not a part of three tier judicial system and is not a judicial body, therefore it is not entitled to alter the judgment of a court.</p> <p>Until the amendments of 2012, three different bodies had the authority to start disciplinary proceeding. Currently, since March 2012, only HCOJ has the right to start examination of reasonableness of disciplinary case. Therefore after this amendment the Chairman of the Court of Appeals and the Chairman of The Supreme Court do not have the authority concerned.³⁴</p> <p>Another important novelty is that the form of complaint (application) is approved. The complaint (application) should comply with the template approved by High Council of Justice of Georgia (HCoJ) and must be compiled, usually in printed form. Complaint (application) can also be submitted electronically.</p> <p>High Council of Justice discusses the reasonableness of the complaint filed against a judge and assesses whether to continue proceedings or close it.</p>

³² Article 8(3), the Law of Georgia on Disciplinary Liability of Judges of Common Courts of Georgia and Disciplinary Proceedings.

³³ Article 12(4), the Law of Georgia on Disciplinary Liability of Judges of Common Courts of Georgia and Disciplinary Proceedings.

³⁴ Article 7 (2), the Law of Georgia on Disciplinary Liability of Judges of Common Courts of Georgia and Disciplinary Proceedings.

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>Decision is made if supported by not less than 2/3 of the full composition of the Council. If the Council decides to proceed further with the disciplinary proceedings, the decision is forwarded to the Disciplinary Board of Judges of Common Court. Members of this Disciplinary Board are elected for a 2-year term.</p> <p>The judge who has been charged under the disciplinary rule has the right to use a defense counsel's assistance. The judge may invite any attorney, judge or other person as his/her defense counsel. Decisions of the Disciplinary Board may be appealed at the Disciplinary Chamber of the Supreme Court of Georgia.</p> <p>In 2013, amendment was moved to Article 24, changing the composition of the disciplinary Board: Prior to the amendments, Board consisted of 3 judges and 3 non-judge members of the HCoJ, whilst the amendment increases the number of judges, providing majority of the seats to the Judiciary (i.e. 3 judges and 2 non-judge members of the HCoJ); the judicial members are elected by the Conference of judges upon a proposal of any judge, non-judge members are elected by the Parliament upon the nomination of civil society, academia, and professional circles. The member of the Disciplinary Board cannot be the member of HCoJ, as well as Chairmen or deputy chairmen of the Supreme Court or chairman of a court or a Chamber or a Board who has held this position during the previous one year.</p> <p>The Disciplinary Chamber of the Supreme Court, consisting of 3 members, is elected by the Plenum of the Supreme Court for a term of 3 years. A complaint challenging a decision of the Disciplinary Board should be lodged with the Disciplinary Board within 10 days. This term may not be prolonged or restored and its countdown starts from the moment a decision of the Disciplinary Board has been served to the party.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>According to the law effective until March 2012, disciplinary proceedings were confidential and author of complaint was not informed about HCoJ's decision. Since amendments of March, 2012, the author of complainant is informed about HCoJ's and Disciplinary Board's decision based on a written request and only if the hearings on a particular case is finished.³⁵ In May 2013, amendment was also moved to Article 81 that guarantees publicity of the decisions of the disciplinary Board or Chamber. The decisions of Disciplinary Board and Disciplinary Chamber are published on the official website.</p> <p>Since May, 2013 certified copies of legally effective decisions of the Disciplinary Board and the Disciplinary Chamber shall be forwarded to the parties and/or any person upon request.</p> <p>Within the framework of the third phase of the judicial reform several legislative initiatives are introduced and discussed by the Ministry of Justice as well as by the Supreme Court of Georgia. During this reform the Venice Commission's some concerns were taken into account. The legislative initiatives deal with the organization of courts, the rules of the production of electronic system in Common Courts and electronic allocation of cases (the Organic Law of Georgia on "Common Courts" Article 58¹), Internet publication of Court decisions (Article 13.3¹), providing adequate pension arrangements for judges (Article 77), the establishment of independent inspection service (Article 511), the creation of the Department of Court Management (Article 56¹), the publicness of the Plenary Sessions of the Supreme Court (Article 19), the introduction of the obligation to substantiate the termination of the disciplinary proceedings and the publicness of disciplinary hearings (Law</p>

³⁵ Article 67, the law on „Disciplinary Liability and Disciplinary Proceeding of Judges of Common Courts of Georgia”.

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>of Georgia on "Disciplinary Liability and Disciplinary Proceedings of the Judges of Common Courts of Georgia", article 5, 4, 15), judges' career, admissibility at the Supreme Court and other important issues.</p> <p>The key positive changes occurred in 2011-2015 in court system identified. More independent judiciary was demonstrated by more proactive behavior of judges in relation to the Prosecutions of criminal trials as well as the growth of the number of administrative disputes won by private parties against state.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
72.	Adopt all necessary measures to guarantee the full independence of the judiciary and restore the confidence of the population in judicial system	Switzerland and 106.40.	Partially: Georgia agrees with the call of the present recommendation for continued reforms to improve the judiciary. However, Georgia cannot accept the part of the recommendation urging to "restore" the confidence of the population in the judicial system. Georgia had inherited a Soviet judiciary characterized by general lack of public trust. International and national indices clearly show that public trust in the judicial system is growing steadily	<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>See response to recommendations 105.46 -105.50, 106.39.</p> <p>Additionally, the Judiciary has established a Court Cooperation Group in February, 2013. The aim of the Group is to open up discussions amongst the prosecutors, defense lawyers and non-governmental sector. Major goals include enhancing the quality of the court practice and the substantiation of the court decisions, discussions on current issues of the unified court practice, presenting proposals in order to eradicate organizational problems and improve the quality of the judiciary and etc. This initiative was welcomed by the stakeholders and the Statute was adopted. Participants agreed to establish working groups in criminal, civil and administrative law directions. The group has been holding meetings for interested parties and institutions to introduce them newly established practice of the Supreme Court and its views on problematic legal issues.</p> <p>In Tbilisi city Court "Public Courthouse Project" is created, which aims to approximate Tbilisi City Court with the society, engage citizens in the process of administration of justice and most importantly to serve as a tool for crime prevention. "Public Courthouse Project" makes it possible to change legal consciousness and raise legal awareness of society, which in turn will enable them to assess court's activities more objectively. Within the scope of this program more than 10000 students have visited the court.</p> <p>At the same time, HCoJ conducts its sessions openly and publicly and any interested person can attend them, unless otherwise determined by law. The transparency of the Meetings of HCoJ has improved considerably in previous years. Moreover, there were instances when the attending guests were permitted to speak and provide their opinions during the session.</p>

Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
		<p>as a result of undertaken reforms. Georgia is committed to continuing its efforts towards guaranteeing full independence of judiciary that in itself contributes to the increase of public trust.</p>	<p>According to the latest amendments made in HCoJ's Rules of Procedure, the High Council of Justice is authorized to convene enlarged meetings of the HCoJ in order to enhance the efficiency and transparency of the High Council of Justice of Georgia.</p> <p>As well as live streaming of HCoJ meetings has been introduced, that is accessible to all judges of common courts.</p> <p>In addition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Several user satisfaction surveys have been conducted periodically. • There is a 24 hour hotline at the high Council of Justice connecting population to the HCoJ and then to the Court respectively; • Department of Quality management has been established at the High Council of Justice the aim of the department is to determine the standards of the quality of the judicial system and to monitor whether the standards and indicators are being observed by the courts. With the aim to create a better environment for the court users the Tbilisi City Court Service center has been created and is functioning; • The media is the only tool available to the courts to reach the general public with information, to put forward their point of view in order to explain their judgments and decisions, to inform about their role and to clarify their tasks. In 2014, 3 sessions of trainings, which were held for media and press journalists, served the purpose of increasing their knowledge in the field of criminal law and criminal law terminology. The trainings were also attended by the judges, who were actively involved in the process and provided journalists with the information of deciding matters in a manner that is efficient and in full compliance with the rule of law in Common Courts of Georgia.

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>In 2015 HCoJ started working meetings with the representatives of media in order to improve accessibility of judiciary and to better regulate the relationship between them.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
73.	Continue efforts for developing trust among the population with regard to the judiciary	Lithuania 105.51		Status: Implemented See response to recommendations 105.46 -105.50, 106.39 and 106.40.

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
74.	Continue strengthening the reform of the judiciary and the criminal justice system in order to overcome the lack of confidence	Chile 105.52		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>See response to recommendations 105.46 -105.50, 106.39 and 106.40.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
75.	Follow up on the initiatives whose aim is to improve the judiciary and to further train judges on human rights norms and the international jurisprudence regarding treaties ratified by Georgia	Hungary 105.53		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>Before judges are appointed on judicial positions, they have to graduate the High School of Justice. Curriculum of the High School of Justice includes intensive trainings related to human rights and relevant international standards. Namely, they learn the obligations of Georgia which are deriving from the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and other treaties ratified by Georgia. Also, they undergo separate intensive trainings on European Convention on Human Rights, its additional protocols and case law of the European Court of Human Rights.</p> <p>In addition, within the framework of the In-service Training programs, the High School of Justice organizes trainings on human rights issues for sitting judges, including on European convention on Human Rights and its additional protocols. In particular, during the years of 2011-2014 the High School of Justice conducted 13 trainings on the issues related to human rights, including ECHR, for sitting judges.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
76.	Continue to pursue appropriate justice-system reforms with a view to strengthening its efficiency, impartiality and independence	Slovakia 105.54		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>See response to recommendations 105.46 -105.50, 105.53, 106.39 and 106.40.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
77.	Further develop initiatives aimed at fighting judicial corruption, including through the implementation of adequate education of judges	Poland 105.55		<p>Status: In the Process of Implementation</p> <p>Being a member of the Inter-agency Coordinating Council combating Corruption, Judiciary follows the anti-corruption strategy and action plan and reports on their implementation. The action plan lists specific activities aimed at providing further transparency within the judiciary. Activities are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhancement of legislative norms on appointment and promotion of judges; • Development of researches on judicial ethics; Elaboration of proposals on adoption of a new Code on judicial ethics; • Elaboration and implementation of electronic programme for disciplinary proceedings; • Organizing training programs for judges on corruption issues, including liability of legal persons; • Elaboration of the relevant legislative amendments for increasing transparency of the work of the High Council of Justice of Georgia; Preparation of amendments to the Rules of the High Council of Justice; • Publishing proactively public information and monitoring its publication. <p>Within the framework of Initial Training Program of the High School of Justice of Georgia the Judicial Candidates undergo the one full-day training in Economic Crimes and one-full day training in Expropriation of Unlawful and Unjustified Property of Public Officials. In addition, curriculum of judicial candidates entails one-day training regarding Public Servant's Status and Functions which includes corruption issues.</p> <p>Apart from this, in February, 2014, in cooperation with the CEELI (Central and Eastern European Law Initiative) Institute, the High School of Justice</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>organized International Judicial Seminar on Fight against Corruption and the Managing of Public Pressure on the Judiciary. Judges from Georgia as well as USA and several EU countries shared experiences on fight against corruption with each other.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
78.	Carry out effective and independent investigations on excessive use of force by law enforcement officials in order to bring to justice those responsible	Switzerland and 105.56		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>The National Human Rights Strategy explicitly mentions among its strategic priorities "Implementation of effective measures against torture and degrading treatment, <i>inter alia</i> transparent and independent investigation". The relevant part of the Strategy sets the goal to develop the system that would secure the prevention of torture and other forms of ill-treatment, conduct of effective investigation and elaborate protection and rehabilitation mechanisms for victims of torture and ill treatment.</p> <p>Section 6.6.1 of the Human Rights Action Plan acknowledges that investigation of complaints against police officers and prosecutors requires a creation of effective and professional mechanism and provides for the following activity: "consider creation of independent and effective mechanism to investigate such cases". The complex training of law-enforcement officers on ethical standards and human rights is also provided for in this section of HRAP.</p> <p>Consistent with EU-Georgia Association Agenda the Georgian Government has undertaken to update the National Strategy and Action Plan to combat ill-treatment and torture, and step up efforts to implement them in order to combat impunity. The Interagency Council on Combating Torture and Other Forms of Degrading and Inhuman Treatment or Punishment has been functioning under the chairmanship of the Minister of Justice of Georgia (MoJ) since 2007. On 7 May 2014 by the Decree of Government №341 the composition of the Council was updated. According to the Decree the Council is responsible for drafting National Strategy and Action Plan against torture and ill-treatment.</p> <p>On the Council's meeting held on 16 June 2014 the following priorities were identified and corresponding working groups composed of representatives of different governmental agencies, ombudsman's office,</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>international organizations (including CoE and EU) and local NGOs were formed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Strengthening National Preventive Mechanism under the Public Defender's Office; 2. Establishing a mechanism in order to ensure a thorough, transparent, independent investigation into any allegation of the use of torture and ill treatment; 3. Improving rights/conditions of the inmates in the penitentiary system and other closed facilities. <p>The working groups have already convened to discuss and identify topic themes and problems for each of them.</p> <p>The work on new Action Plan (AP) against Torture started on October 2014. In particular, new draft was sent to all stakeholders to receive their comments and recommendations. After that three working meetings of the Council's experts have been held (January-February 2015) at which the problematic issues have been discussed. The current Action Plan is more ambitious and extensive than any previous. Thus, in contrast to six-page 2011-2013 Action Plan against Torture, the current document consists of 30 pages. The Action Plan includes 4 chapters:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Strengthening of procedural, legislative and institutional mechanisms of fight against ill-treatment; 2. Ensuring effective investigation of all cases of ill-treatment; 3. Ensuring defence, rehabilitation of and compensation for victims of ill-treatment; 4. Trainings, awareness-rising and capacity building as integral part of the fight against ill-treatment. <p>The new 2015-2016 Action Plan against Torture was approved on 18 May 2015. The Chapter 2 of the Action Plan is dedicated to ensuring effective</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>investigation of alleged facts of torture and includes activity on elaboration of the concept of mechanisms thorough, transparent, independent investigation of any allegation of the torture and ill treatment in the penitentiary system, police, military and other closed facilities.</p> <p>See further response to recommendations 105.10, 105.57, 106.35, 106.41 and 106.42.</p> <p>With regard to investigations <i>See Appendix IV.</i></p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
79.	Carry out effective, impartial investigations into allegations of deaths, torture and ill-treatment caused by excessive use of force by the police and prison officials	Hungary 106.41	Partially: Georgia agrees with the objectives of the recommendation, but cannot agree with any implication embedded in it that undermines the significant progress that Georgia has made in the fight against torture, cruel and inhuman treatment by police and prison officials. In 2007, the CoE/CPT emphasized considerable progress and noted an 80 percent decrease in the number of ill-treatment cases in police detention facilities.	<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>The protection of rights of the detainee in temporary detention isolators (TDI) is ensured by the Main Division of Human Rights Protection and Monitoring of the MIA, which operates under the Deputy Minister. The major duty of the mentioned Main Division is to monitor the temporary detention facilities at the MIA. The monitoring division is composed of 10 persons and carries out scheduled and unexpected visits to all TDIs of Georgia. The monitoring process is thorough and it covers examining the overall compliance with basic standards and requirements by TDI staff, among them focusing on recording bodily injuries, visits of lawyer and/or doctor and complaints/claims. If there is any complaint against the police officer, the case is notified to the relevant authorities, General Inspection of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Office of Chief Prosecutor of Georgia for further investigation.</p> <p>At the same time, Ministry of Corrections closely cooperates with the Prosecutor's Office of Georgia. In order to avoid conflict of interest, all cases of alleged ill-treatment of remand prisoners and convicts are submitted for investigation to the Main Prosecutor's Office of Georgia.</p> <p>In September 2012, following the publication of video material containing scenes of ill-treatment (including sexual abuse) of inmates, the Prosecutor's Office of Georgia initiated an investigation and charges were brought against some senior officials from the Penitentiary Department.</p> <p>On 14, June 2013, as a result of the investigation on so called "prison scandal" case, 17 guilty verdicts were delivered by the Tbilisi City Court.</p> <p>See further response to recommendation 105.10, 105.56, 105.57</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>106.35 and 106.42.</p> <p>With regard to investigations <i>See Appendix IV.</i></p>

	Recommendation of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
80.	Take steps to ensure full accountability of law enforcement agencies, including by strengthening complaints procedures	United Kingdom 106.42.	Partially: Georgia agrees with the premise of the recommendation that aims at full accountability of law enforcement agencies. Georgia cannot, however, agree with the part that calls for altering the existing complaints procedures, since Georgia has already established a comprehensive complaints system in line with international standards.	<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>Since 2005, a special centralized custody registering software system has been introduced in all temporary detention isolators (TDI), providing the opportunity to register and collect detailed data on detainees and covering the data starting from 2005; taking into consideration that registration of each detainee is obligatory, and that registration is not performed by a police officer, but by a TDI staff member.</p> <p>The lists of procedural rights for persons with administrative and criminal charges has been elaborated and translated into English, Russian, Azerbaijani and Armenian. The list also contains Hot lines of General Inspection. Therefore the detainee has the right to call hotline of the Ministry of Internal affairs in case of violation of his/her human rights.</p> <p>It is an applied standard obligation for all the policemen to inform orally, as well as to provide each arrestee with the complete list of his/her rights envisaged by the procedural legislation of Georgia. The document, which is handed over to the arrestee upon his/her apprehension is drawn up in line with the amendments to the procedural legislation of Georgia and thus, includes the complete list of the rights of the detainee.</p> <p>Along with the existing legal safeguards in cooperation with Public Defenders Office the adapted versions of the lists of procedural rights for persons with administrative and criminal charges has been elaborated and translated into English, Russian, Azerbaijani, Armenian and Farsi. Since March 2011, these lists in five languages (including Georgian) are provided in all temporary detention isolators, which are displayed in the form of posters at visible places (at cells, rooms of investigation) and corresponding version is handed to each detainee upon apprehension. The list also contains Hot lines of General Inspection which is in charge of revealing and sanctioning any violation of ethics and discipline in the</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>Ministry, as well as any fact of poor professional performance and wrongdoing by the police officers.</p> <p>In order to ensure better accountability, the role of the General Inspection of the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA) has been strengthened and its effectiveness raised through structural changes conducted therein. More precisely, new model of Disciplinary Persecution Division enables General Inspection to monitor and cover all structural units of the Ministry and to have a clear picture about the existing situation at the MIA, thus ensuring effective functioning of the integrated internal oversight mechanism. Furthermore, Main Division for Monitoring, Analysis and Coordination has been established within General Inspection, being responsible for centralized analysis of all data and information collected by divisions of the General Inspection.</p> <p>Moreover, complaints-handling procedure has been improved at the MIA General Inspection: 24/7 hotline - 126, an easy number has been introduced for individual complaints, and all calls are now recorded and monitored.</p> <p>In order to raise awareness about the new General Inspection hotline in the population, active media campaign has been conducted by the MIA through TV and other media means.</p> <p>In order to safeguard that human rights standards are fully protected and respected at the isolators, the MIA ensured video monitoring in corridors in all TDIs</p> <p>With the purpose of ensuring accountability of police and due fulfillment of duties especially, during interactions with society, each patrol police officer carries portable camera attached to their uniform, in order to ensure that no procedural or human rights violations take place.</p>

Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
			<p>At the same time complains procedures for penitentiary establishments are regulated by the Code of Imprisonment. Accordingly complain boxes are accessible to prisoners in all penitentiary establishments and procedures safeguarding confidentiality of complains are defined and followed. Since 2013 the 24 hour hot line on human rights violations have been established within a system which is directly linked to the General Inspections Department and accessible as well to prisoners.</p> <p>Complaints handling and guarantees for complaining has been improved. Increase in number of complaints and statistics on reacting to them demonstrate that safeguards over the complaining mechanisms are more effective; Currently the new package of legislative amendments to the Imprisonment Code is in the process of parliamentary hearing. The normative changes include new regulations of complaints procedures: Now convicted inmate has right to submit a complaint in 90 days after the factorial development, which will be considered in 5 days by the director of prison (period may be extended up to 30 days). The decision may be appealed before the penitentiary department, this later decision – before the Ministry and finally, before the court. According to changes, complaints period has been reducing to 30 days and director’s decision making process may be extended to 10 days instead of 30 days. This final decision should be appealed directly before the Ministry of Corrections. This will be reflected in the shortening of complaining and consideration period.</p> <p>Within the reform general inspection department’s modernization will be completed to ensure staff perfect liability and conduct preventive measures: regular and <i>ad hoc</i> revision to reveal offenses timely and to react adequately to staff’s actions.</p> <p>See further responses to recommendations: 105.10, 105.56, 105.57</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>106.35 and 106.41.</p> <p>With regard to investigations <i>See Appendix IV.</i></p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
81.	Take necessary measures with the aim of ensuring that each case of abuse of power by law enforcement officers is properly investigated and perpetrators brought to justice	Czech Republic 105.57		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>Human Rights Unit of Chief Prosecutor's Office (HRU) systematically records the facts of ill- treatment committed by public officials.²⁰ Prosecution HRU systematically collects information from the Ministry of Corrections and Legal Assistance related to the bodily injuries of the prisoners inflicted by the time of placement at the penitentiary establishment. Based on the given information, Prosecution HRU conducts visits to the places of deprivation of liberty in order to prevent ill treatment, and in cases where inhuman treatment exists, unit ensures to correspond by taking relevant steps. In order to reveal facts of torture, ill/degrading treatment conducted by public officials, all relevant institutional structures of the Prosecution report/ provide information to the HRU.</p> <p>The representatives of the unit (HRU):</p> <p>In 2010, meetings were held with 69 inmates. In the following year, 9 investigations initiated on the basis of complaints written by inmates. In 2011, 75 meetings were held. 19 Investigations initiated as a result. In 2012 58 meeting were conducted with inmates from all penitential facilities. 3 Investigations initiated as a result. In 2013, 101 meetings were held. 13 Investigations initiated as a result. In 2014, 159 meetings were held. 9 Investigations initiated as a result on the basis of complaints written by inmates.</p> <p>See further responses to recommendations: 105.10, 105.56, 106.35, 106.41, 106.42.</p> <p>With regard to investigations <i>See Appendix IV.</i></p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
82.	Adopt a more rigorous, systematic and transparent inquiry policy for the investigation of allegations of use of excessive force by its internal security forces, and that the members of its forces that are condemned for violating the rights of the citizens be systematically held accountable for their actions	Canada 106.43.	Partially: As noted in its response to recommendation 106.42 Georgia accepts the call for full accountability of law enforcement officials. At the same time, Georgia believes that the inquiry policies currently in place provide for effective and transparent investigation of allegations of excessive use of force by law enforcement officials and cannot accede to this recommendation's call for the revision of inquiry polices at place.	Status: Implemented See responses to recommendations: 105.10, 105.56, 105.57, 106.35, 106.41, 106.42. With regard to the accountability issue of law enforcement officials <i>See Appendix IV.</i>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
83.	Ensure that the cases of intimidation and violation against journalists and human rights defenders are effectively investigated and prosecuted and that those responsible are brought to justice	Czech Republic 105.58		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>Article 19 of the Constitution of Georgia ensures the right to freedom of speech and prohibits the persecution of a person on the account of his/her speech as well as the compulsion to express his/her opinion.</p> <p>Criminal Code of Georgia dedicates two articles to the inviolability of journalists' during their job performance. Article 154 of criminal code stipulates that journalists shall not be unlawfully hindered from carrying out their duties or compelled to spread certain information or refrain from the dissemination of information. The article also contains aggravating circumstances - same action carried out by threat of violence or in official capacity envisages the punishment by a fine or prison sentence up to two years and optional deprivation of the right to hold the official position for a term of up to three years. Article 153 of the Criminal Code of Georgia also ensures the freedom of speech and prohibits hindering or compelling a person from spreading certain information.</p> <p>Criminal Procedure Code of Georgia also addresses the rights of the journalists. Article 50 of the Code lays down that journalists must not be compelled to be a witness in the court, regarding the case connected to his/her professional duty and the information received while exercising their duty.</p> <p>The Law of Georgia on Assemblage and Manifestations stipulates that organizers of the manifestations and law-enforcement officials shall not obstruct the work of journalists with identifying badges while covering the gathering or manifestation.</p> <p>Police officers are informed about their obligation to cooperate with and to facilitate the work of journalists at every stage of their career development. Basic training courses of the Academy of the Ministry of</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>Internal Affairs for the recruits of operative departments (Patrol Police Department, Central Criminal Police Department) cover the topic of media relations. Officers are taught the ethics of media relations, the rights of the journalists, obligations of the police officers towards journalists and relevant legislation on the topic. Patrol Police Department Standard Operating Procedures contains a provision regulating the relation with media representatives. The retraining courses that target candidates for promotion also touched upon the issue. The safety of media representatives is one of the main topics of the crowd management courses as well.</p> <p>Thorough and prompt investigation of the crimes against media representatives is one of the priorities of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia. According to statistics of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, 3 cases were launched under the article 154 of Criminal Code of Georgia in 2013 and 3 cases in 2014.</p> <p>Additionally, high representatives of government of Georgia, including Minister of Internal Affairs of Georgia, condemn any acts of violence against media representatives in public speeches. For example, on March 4, 2015, at the Rose Square in Tbilisi, a photojournalist was beaten by one of the participants of a demonstration. The law enforcement officers immediately reacted to the incident and promptly arrested the perpetrator. The next day the Minister of the Internal Affairs gave a statement condemning the violence against journalist and announcing that there will be zero tolerance towards such incidents perpetrated against journalists. The Deputy Minister also made a statement guaranteeing full and speedy investigation of the case.</p> <p>See further the response to recommendation 106.20.</p>

	Recommendation Scope international obligation	Country of	Scope Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<i>See Appendices II and III.</i>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
84.	Strengthen the protection of journalists by ensuring the effective investigation of violations of their rights	Chile 105.59		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>See responses to recommendation 105.58 and 106.20.</p> <p><i>See Appendices II and III.</i></p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
85.	Do its utmost in ensuring that allegations of self-censorship, threats against journalists and low public trust in the media are investigated in a timely, transparent and effective manner and that those responsible are held to account	Norway 106.45.	Partially: Georgia agrees with the essence of the recommendations and is determined to further media transparency and duly investigate any threat against journalists. However, it cannot agree with the parts of the recommendations calling for the government to take a lead in addressing public trust, reduce self-censorship and unbalanced reporting since these measures fall within the competence of media outlets and are self-regulatory. On its	Status: Implemented See responses to recommendations 105.58 and 106.20. <i>See Appendices II and III.</i>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
			<p>part, the Government of Georgia has taken steps, including through cooperation with international broadcasting agencies, to strengthen the professional standards and reporting quality within the nationally-broadcast Georgian Public Broadcaster (GPB). Private media outlets have also made strides in the quality of reporting, which Georgia believes in sum will incrementally contribute to higher levels of public trust in the media.</p>	

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
	Freedom of religion or belief, expression, association and peaceful assembly, and right to participate in public and political life			

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
86.	Take steps to ensure equal enjoyment of the right of freedom of religion or belief and ensure freedom of speech and of the press	Bulgaria 105.60		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>The Georgian State draws appropriate attention to the problem of discrimination based on a religion or belief. The right of everyone to freedom of speech, thought, conscience, religion and belief is guaranteed by the Constitution of Georgia.</p> <p>In this direction, with the international support a very important step was taken, namely, in 2014 a law on “Elimination of all forms of discrimination” was adopted, which represents an additional instrument for elimination of discrimination based on religion or belief.</p> <p>The National Human Rights Strategy (2014-2020) adopted by the Parliament in 2014, sets as one of its main objectives to guarantee the right to freedom of religion and belief as well as their abilities to express such beliefs. To ensure this aim, the Strategy sets the main task, which is to implement effective measures to prevent discrimination on grounds of faith and religious belief, as well as the consequences resulting from such discriminatory actions, to ensure the unrestricted operation of the activities of all religious associations, to implement effective measures to prevent and conduct meaningful investigations into all crimes committed on the basis of regions hatred and intolerance. Freedom of religion and protection of religious minorities is one of the priority areas Action Plan of the Government of Georgia on the Protection of Human Rights (2014-2015) for the implementation of National Human Rights Strategy was adopted in June 2014.</p> <p>In 2011, with amendments of Civil Code of Georgia, religious groups were granted with freedom to freely and equally gain any legal status, according to Georgian legislation. Since then, 35 religious organizations used the right to register as Legal Entities of Public Law.</p> <p>In line with the best European practice, the State Agency for Religious</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>Issues was established in 2014. The Agency implements research, analytical and advisory activities for the Government, the Prime Minister and other Authorized bodies of the Georgian state.</p> <p>Currently, the Agency is working on the legislative amendments, which will equalize taxation advantages for all religious organizations.</p> <p>Notwithstanding the fact that the Georgian State does not have any legal obligation to recover the damage caused by the Soviet totalitarian regime, in accordance with the principles of justice and good will, on the bases of the Government Decree adopted in 2014, state agreed to partially recover the moral and material damage to Muslim, Jewish, Roman-Catholic and Armenian Apostolic denominations. In 2014 for the listed denominations 1,750,000 Gel were transferred. The funds allocated for the partial recovery were doubled in 2015; also it is planned to expand the list of denominations which were subjected to moral and material damage.</p> <p>On the right of the freedom of speech see responses to recommendations 106.20, 105.64 and 105.65.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
87.	Adopt appropriate measures to ensure equal enjoyment of the right to freedom of religion or belief	Slovakia 105.61		Status: Implemented See response to recommendation 105.60.

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
88.	Ensure equal enjoyment of the right of freedom of religion or belief, both de jure and de facto	Denmark 105.62		Status: Implemented See response to recommendation 105.60.

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
89.	Address the problem regarding the confiscation of places of worship and related properties of religious minorities	Holy See 106.48	Accepts: While Georgia recognizes the importance of addressing the problem regarding the confiscation of places of worship, it notes that confiscations took place during Soviet rule, remain highly contested among the various religious confessions and that restitution can only result from careful study and investigation. This process is currently underway and has already yielded positive results.	<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>In line with the “restitution” of the property confiscated during the Soviet Regime, it must be defined that the State of Georgia is not a successor of the Soviet Union, accordingly Georgia does not bear any obligation, neither on the national or the international level, to restitute the confiscated property.</p> <p>On the current stage, the state of Georgia implements the return of the confiscated property as a factual holder and not as a subject responsible for restitution. In addition, symbolic financial support of particular Religious Associations is connected with the restoration of the returned places of worship and other needs, guaranteeing usage of these places.</p> <p>However, ownership of some religious monuments is highly contested among different confessions. Due to its sensitivity, this question requires a careful study and investigation, which is currently underway.</p> <p>After resolving the legal issues, in keeping with necessary procedures, 67 mosques have been transferred to the Muslim Community, 7 synagogues – to the Jewish community, 1 church in city of Gori – to Georgian Evangelical Protestant Church, in 2014-2015. Transfer of other places of worship and related properties to relevant communities still continues.</p> <p>This process is currently underway and will continue in the future.</p> <p>See also response to recommendation 105.60.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
90.	Promote social, cultural and political respect and tolerance for religious minorities. In this regard, Ecuador agreed with the views of the Human Rights Committee about the need to take steps to ensure equal enjoyment of the right of freedom of religion or belief and to address the problems related to confiscation of places of worship and related properties of religious minorities	Ecuador 106.49.		Status: Implemented See responses to recommendations 105.60 and 106.48.

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
91.	Reduce the length of alternative service for conscientious objectors so that it is the same length as the military service	Slovenia 105.63		<p>Status: In the process of implementation</p> <p>Ministry of Defense of Georgia drafted amendments to the Law on Non-Military, Alternative Labor Service. According to the draft law term of non-military, alternative labor service shall be equal to term of compulsory military service. The draft law is to be presented to the Parliament for approval.</p> <p>In Georgia, employment of recruits in non-military, alternative labor service is regulated by the "Labor Code of Georgia" and their service length does not exceed 41 hours a week according to the labor code of Georgia.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
92.	Safeguard full and unhampered enjoyment of freedom of expression	Czech Republic 105.64		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>The State recognizes and protects the freedom of speech and expression as eternal and supreme human values. The people and the state are bound by these rights and freedoms, as directly applicable law in accordance to the law of freedom of speech and expression.</p> <p>Article 24(1) of the supreme law of Georgia – the Constitution of Georgia – acknowledges that everyone within the jurisdiction of Georgia has the inevitable freedom “to receive and disseminate information, to express and disseminate his/her opinion orally, in writing or otherwise’. The same provision further envisages that “mass media shall be free” and “censorship shall be inadmissible” and prohibits the monopolization of mass media or dissemination of information by anybody including state. The para 4 of the Article reserves the possibility of restriction of the proclaimed freedom which may be exercised “by law to the extent and insofar as is necessary in a democratic society, in order to guarantee state security, territorial integrity or public safety, to prevent crime, to safeguard rights and dignity of others, to prevent the disclosure of information acknowledged as confidential, or to ensure the independence and impartiality of justice”.</p> <p>Criminal Code of Georgia (CCG) contains number of provisions aimed at promotion safe and enabling environment for journalists to perform their work independently and without undue interference. Thus, Article 153 of CCG – “Encroachment upon the freedom of speech” – criminalizes the illegal interference into exercising the right to freedom of speech i.e. the right to receive and spread information that has resulted in a considerable damage or has been committed by misusing official authority.</p> <p>CCG in its Article 154 also prohibits “Illegal interference into professional activity of journalist”. The para 1 of the Article is read as follows:</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>“Preventing illegally a journalist from carrying out his/her professional duties, i.e. his/her coercion to disseminate or to refrain from dissemination of information shall be punishable by fine or socially useful labor from one hundred and twenty to one hundred and eighty hours in length or by corrective labor for up to a two-year term.” Para 2 of the Article sets aggravating circumstances of the crimes and prescribes that the same action committed with the threat of violence or with the misuse of official authority carries heavier penalties, in particular a perpetrator may be sentenced to up to two-year imprisonment or/and deprivation of the right to hold office or pursue a particular activity up to three-year period.</p> <p>The obligation not to impede the work of journalists is also prescribed in the Law of Georgia On Assemblies and Demonstrations. Article 2 (4) of this statute envisages that “the organizers of assemblies or demonstrations and representatives of law-enforcement bodies shall be obliged not to obstruct professional activity of journalists with identifying signs covering the assembly or demonstration.”</p> <p>Article 3 of the Law of Georgia on Freedom of Speech and Expression provides as follows: “the state shall recognize and protect the freedom of speech and expression as eternal and supreme human value. The people and the State shall be bound by these rights and freedoms, as well as by the applicable legislation, during the execution of authority.”</p> <p>Further, Article 3(2) envisages that everyone, save an administrative body, shall have a freedom of expression and provides for modalities one may enjoy this freedom.</p> <p>Procedural guarantees to ensure protection of the right to freedom of expression are provided in Article 11 of the Law, para 1 of which prescribes that “the sources of professional secrets shall be protected by</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>an absolute privilege, and nobody shall have the right to require disclosure of the source. In litigation on the restriction of the freedom of speech, the respondent shall not be obliged to disclose the source of confidential information.”</p> <p>The terms “absolute privilege “and “professional secret” are defined in Article 1 of the Law as follows: absolute privilege – a complete and unconditional release of a person from liability provided for by law; professional secret - the secret of confession, information disclosed to a member of parliament, doctor, journalist, human rights defender, or advocate in the course of their professional activity, as well as information of professional value, which became known to a person under the condition of privacy protection in relation to carrying out his/her professional duties and the disclosure of which may damage the person’s professional reputation; information, which does not contain any personal data, a state or trade secret, as well as information on an administrative body shall not be a professional secret.</p> <p>Finally, to exclude any possibility of pressure on journalist the Law envisages that in litigation on restriction of the freedom of speech the respondent’s denial to disclose a professional secret or its source shall not become the sole ground for making an adverse decision for the respondent (Article 7(7)).</p> <p>It should also be mentioned that according to the Law “the burden of proof for limitation of freedom of speech shall lie with the initiator of the limitation. Any reasonable doubt that cannot be confirmed under the procedure established by the law shall be resolved against the limitation of the freedom of speech”. Furthermore, any limitation of the rights recognized and protected by the Law shall be based on incontrovertible evidence and any doubt on limitation of these rights, which cannot be confirmed under the procedure established by the law, shall be resolved</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>against the limitation of these rights.</p> <p>It should also be mentioned that there is no criminal responsibility in Georgia for cases of defamation or libel. According to Articles 13 and 14 of the Law of Georgia on Freedom of Speech and Expression a person who makes defamatory statements may incur only civil liability.</p> <p>On April 30, 2014 the Georgian Parliament adopted the National Human Rights Strategy of Georgia (2014-2020) followed by the approval of the Governmental Action Plan by the Government of Georgia on 9th of July 2014. The Strategy and the Action Plan identify human rights priorities and streamline the activities of various government agencies. Ensuring freedom of expression is one of the aim of the action plan. The relevant objectives are combating and preventing facts of interference in the professional work of the journalists, identification and elimination of current legislative ambiguities concerning to freedom of expression and ensuring access to Information. To achieve above mentioned objectives concrete following actions are specified in the Action Plan: (i) Prompt and effective investigation of cases of interference in the professional work of journalists by law enforcement agencies; (ii) appropriate qualification of crimes by the Prosecutor's Office in relation to confirmed incidents; (iii) collection of statistical data by investigative authorities based on confirmed incidents and their resolution; (iv) identification of existing legislative gaps and ambiguities relating to the freedom of expression; (v) revision of the notion of 'interference' in the professional activities of journalists, if necessary, preparation of recommendations and reform projects related to internal regulations of digital broadcasting, if necessary; (vi) initiation of relevant legislative changes in order to raise public awareness.</p> <p>See also responses to recommendations 106.20 and 105.65.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				For the Law of Georgia on Freedom of Speech and Expression <i>See Appendix VII.</i>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
93.	Build on the media transparency law by taking measures to reduce widespread self-censorship and unbalanced reporting	United Kingdom 106.53	Partially: See 106.45	<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>In terms of diversity of the media in the country, there is an Article 40¹ - Transit of Broadcast by Authorized Persons in the law on broadcasting (<i>enforced since 12.07.2013. N833</i>)</p> <p>A Broadcaster has the right to demand from a broadcasting carrier to include his/her TV channels in all packages ("mast carry"). In such case the broadcasting carrier shall not charge the broadcaster for the transit.</p> <p>We believe that this regulation would increase diversity in the media outlets and reduce self-censorship and agenda-setting potential of individual broadcasters.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
94.	Enhance efforts to guarantee freedom of speech and of the press and other media, and to ensure that complaints in this regard are promptly investigated and that the perpetrators are prosecuted and punished	Poland 105.65		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>Criminal Code of Georgia (CCG) contains number of provisions aimed at promotion safe and enabling environment for journalists to perform their work independently and without undue interference. Thus, Article 153 of CCG – “Encroachment upon the freedom of speech” – criminalizes the illegal interference into exercising the right to freedom of speech i.e. the right to receive and spread information that has resulted in a considerable damage or has been committed by misusing official authority.</p> <p>CCG in its Article 154 also prohibits “Illegal interference into professional activity of journalist”. The para 1 of the Article is read as follows: “Preventing illegally a journalist from carrying out his/her professional duties, i.e. his/her coercion to disseminate or to refrain from dissemination of information shall be punishable by fine or socially useful labour from one hundred and twenty to one hundred and eighty hours in length or by corrective labour for up to a two-year term.” Para 2 of the Article sets aggravating circumstances of the crimes and prescribes that the same action committed with the threat of violence or with the misuse of official authority carries heavier penalties, in particular a perpetrator may be sentenced to up to two-year imprisonment or/and deprivation of the right to hold office or pursue a particular activity up to three-year period.</p> <p>The obligation not to impede the work of journalists is also prescribed in the Law of Georgia On Assemblies and Demonstrations. Article 2 (4) of this statute envisages that “the organizers of assemblies or demonstrations and representatives of law-enforcement bodies shall be obliged not to obstruct professional activity of journalists with identifying signs covering the assembly or demonstration.”</p> <p>See further responses to recommendations 105.58, 105.64, 106.20 and</p>

	Recommendation Scope international obligation	Country of	Scope Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>105.65.</p> <p><i>See Appendices II and III.</i></p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
95.	Continue efforts to ensure freedom of speech and of the press, and to promptly investigate all complaints in this regard	Denmark 105.66		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>See responses to recommendations 105.58, 105.64, 106.20 and 105.65.</p> <p><i>See Appendices II and III.</i></p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
96.	Take all necessary steps to promote an environment which would allow freedom of expression to be enjoyed without undue impediment	Greece 105.67		<p>Status: In the process of implementation</p> <p>In accordance to the law on freedom of speech and expression the state declare and protect freedom of speech and freedom of expression as supreme human values. Everyone has right of expression and in accordance to the law on freedom of speech and expression there are guaranteed the environment of freedom expression.</p> <p>For detailed information see responses to recommendations 105.58, 105.64, 106.20 and 105.65.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
97.	Strictly uphold freedom of the press, including public access to information, and ensure that the complaints made in this regard are properly investigated	Netherlands 105.68		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>Public access to information is one of the core priorities for Government in order to ensure transparency and accountability processes in the Government. In May 2012, some legislative amendments were introduced to the General Administrative Code of Georgia establishing upon public agencies an obligation to proactively disclose public information and also giving the public a right to request information electronically (e-request). These amendments entered into force on September 1, 2013.</p> <p>In addition, the Government Decree on the Proactive Publication of Public Information and Electronic Request, the draft of which had been prepared by the Ministry of Justice, was adopted by the Government on August 26, 2013. The list of information subject to proactive publication is included in the Annex of the Decree. Because the Government Decree is mandatory for the executive government agencies only, almost all other state agencies also adopted their own orders/decrees regulating the disclosure of proactive publications and related procedures.</p> <p>In addition to the legislative changes that were implemented in relation to freedom of information, in September 2013 the Data Exchange Agency (DEA) integrated the electronic communication service into the Citizens' Portal - www.my.gov.ge. This service allows citizens to interact with the Government electronically. It allows individuals to submit requests of public information to 60 public organizations (by using their e-documentation management systems), track the request sent and receive replies electronically.</p> <p>In 2013, at the OGP Annual Summit in London, UK, the Georgian authorities officially announced a new commitment – to adopt a stand-alone Freedom of Information Act in line with international standards and best practices. Comprehensive revision of the access to information</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>provisions has been carried out and the drafting process of the new Freedom of Information Act is underway.</p> <p>The drafting process with the involvement of a wide range of NGOs, international organizations and experts, state agencies and judiciary was initiated in March 2014. The process is led by the Ministry of Justice with the support of Open Society Georgia (OSFG) through three thematic working groups. The current co-ordination mechanism is of participatory and consensus-building nature and the process is guaranteed to be held with the broad participation of governmental bodies, NGOs, media, judiciary and academia.</p> <p>The aim of the adoption of this special law is to eliminate shortcomings and consolidate the public information regulatory norms in a single normative act. It will improve the practice and assist the Government as well as nongovernmental sector and broader society in developing open and accountable public service.</p> <p>The drafting of the FOI Act will be finalized in the first half of 2015 and afterwards the draft will be submitted to the Parliament of Georgia for adoption.</p> <p>See responses to recommendations 105.58, 105.64, 106.20 and 105.65.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
98.	Equal treatment for all media and prompt investigations of reported violations against the rights of press and speech	Germany 105.69		<p>Status: in the process of implementation</p> <p>See responses to recommendations 105.58, 105.64, 106.20 106.53 and 105.65.</p> <p><i>See Appendices II and III.</i></p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
99.	Take the lead in addressing public trust in the media outlets	Norway 106.50.	Partially: See 106.45	Status: Implemented Public trust is guaranteed in the law on Broadcasting. See responses to recommendations 105.58, 105.64, 106.14, 106.20 106.53 and 105.65.

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
100	Develop relevant legislation to resolve the issue of ownership of private media, in a spirit of transparency	Belarus 106.51.	Accepts: On 8 April 2011, the Parliament of Georgia passed amendments to the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting to enhance media ownership and financial transparency. Measures included a prohibition for companies registered in offshore locations to own shares in a broadcasting license.	<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>The law on broadcasting guarantees private media transparency. The media has an obligation to publish and provide the regulatory commission with annual information about the possession of a license or other authorization of broadcasting, ownership of a newspaper, news agency of shares or stocks and etc.</p> <p>Detailed information is provided in responses to recommendations 106.14 and 106.53.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
101	Amend legislation governing radio, television and communications to fully guarantee the openness, transparency and the diversity of the media in the country	Mexico 105.70		Status: Implemented See responses to recommendations 106.14, 106.51 and 106.53.

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
102	Review the July 2009 Law on Assembly and Manifestation imposing several restrictions on the right to assembly and to demonstrate in order to ensure free and unhampered enjoyment of this right	Czech Republic 106.52.	Accepts: In its recently delivered judgment, the Constitutional Court of Georgia reviewed the Law of Georgia on Assemblies and Manifestation, repealed norms restricting enjoyment of these freedoms and found them incompatible with the Constitution of Georgia guaranteeing individuals the freedom to assemble and peacefully manifest.	<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>There is no 2009 Law on Assembly and Manifestation in Georgia. The only legislative act that specifically regulates holding of assemblies and manifestations in Georgia is the 1997 Law of Georgia on Assemblies and Demonstrations which indeed was amended in July 2009. These amendments were aimed at achieving more detailed regulation of cases when an assembly/demonstration blocks, fully or partially, the traffic roadway.</p> <p>Since 2009, the Law has been amended several times. Some of the amendments are of rather technical character. However, in 2011 some substantial changes to the Law were introduced. Thus, Article 11² was added that obliges local authorities to strike balance between the rights of rally/demonstration participants and the rights of person who live or work in adjacent territories. In addition, the notion of and preconditions for the restrictions of the rights protected and recognized by the Law were introduced.</p> <p>The most significant changes, however, have been introduced to the Law as a result of its judicial review by the Constitutional Court of Georgia. Thus, on April 18 2011 by the decision № 2/482,483,487,502 the Constitutional Court declared unconstitutional the provision of the Law that had provided that only political party, union, enterprise, organization or citizens' action group may be a principal of an assembly or demonstration and ruled that any individual who initiates an assembly or demonstration may also act as its principal in relations with the local government.</p> <p>Another significant amendment to the Law was caused by the decision of the Constitutional Court № 1/5/25 dated 14 December 2012. According to Article 5(3) that had been in force before this ruling, foreign citizens</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>could not be persons responsible for organization and holding of an assembly or demonstration. According to the Court's decision the provision that debar a foreign citizen from being a responsible person is in conflict with the Constitution of Georgia and shall be removed from the Law.</p> <p>For the updated version of the Law of Georgia on Assemblies and Demonstrations <i>refer to Appendix VIII.</i></p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
	Right to social security and to an adequate standard of living			

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
103	Establish appropriate solutions to combat poverty and ensure sustainable development	Iraq 105.71		<p>Status: In the process of implementation</p> <p>The main aim of Georgia's economic policy is to create grounds for sustainable development and inclusive growth. Inclusive growth is one of the main bases for poverty alleviation as well as for sustainable development.</p> <p>With this regard, main goal of the Government of Georgia is to support private sector, especially Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (SMEs) development, which is the main driver for inclusive economic growth, employment generation and job creation.</p> <p>In order to promote business development and support to growth of their competitiveness, in 2014 (February), 2 new agencies – Entrepreneurship Development Agency (Enterprise Georgia) and Innovation and Technology Agency (GITA) were established. Enterprise Georgia support SMEs, <i>among others</i>, in following areas: access to finance, consultancy, export promotion, entrepreneurial learning, business skills development, adaptation to DCFTA requirements etc, while GITA works on following direction: creation of innovation eco-system in Georgia; support to the development and commercialization of innovations and export oriented ICT; absorption of innovations and technology; support to innovative start-ups and commercialization of innovation R&D.</p> <p>In 2014, the Government of Georgia launched new state Program “Produce in Georgia”, which is oriented to the enhancement of private sector competitiveness and SMEs support through financial and technical assistances and provision of physical infrastructure. Program is implementing in close cooperation with commercial banks and has 2 directions: industrial and agricultural production. So far 90 projects were supported with total expected investment volume – more than 254.5 mln GEL. In order to facilitate economic activities in the regions of Georgia, where income of population is low compared to cities, in 2015 new</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>component of "Produce in Georgia" was launched, which considers support to micro and small businesses as well as start-ups via matching grants and technical assistance.</p> <p>For promotion of innovations and R&D and facilitation of their commercialization the Government is working actively for the development of appropriate infrastructure. Currently construction of the first techno-park is ongoing. In addition 2 fabrication labs (FabLab) and 3 innovation labs were created. In addition, under the mini-grants program 17 projects were financed.</p> <p>In addition, in order to support SMEs development, the Government, in close cooperation with OECD is working on elaboration of SMEs Development Strategy and related Action Plan for 2016-2020, which is based on best international and EU practices.</p> <p>In addition, significant changes in the methodology of evaluation of socio-economic conditions of vulnerable households have been introduced. The new methodology, which has been approved by the Decree №758 of the Government of Georgia on 31 December, 2014 and entered into force since 2015, mostly makes emphasis on income of a household, rather than property. Personal subjective evaluation of social agents is not taken in consideration anymore. The methodology more adequately reflects needs of household members (disabled persons, persons suffering with chronic disease, children, pensioners etc.). As a result, accuracy of the methodology and targeting of TSA increased.</p> <p>Since July 2013, allowance for the families below poverty line has been doubled, one member family receives 60 GEL and every next member is given 48 GEL.</p> <p>Since September 2013, retirement package for old aged pensioners</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>(women over 60 and men over 65) and for the persons with severe disabilities were increased up to 150 GEL.</p> <p>For the beneficiaries with significant disabilities, disabled children, persons left without breadwinner (survivors) and for the victims of political repressions the state compensation amounts to 100 GEL.</p> <p>From March 1, 2014, monthly benefit for refugee, IDP and a person having a humanitarian status consists of 45 GEL. Previously, monthly benefit for organized settled IDPs was 22 GEL and for those settled in private sector - 28 GEL.</p> <p>In 2014, within the framework of State Social Program, the Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia launched the Emergency Assistance Sub-program for the Families with Children in the Critical Situation to meet their urgent needs and provide with the material support (food, inventory, hygienic materials, home appliances) in value of 1000 GEL to each family in need.</p> <p>Since November 2012, Agriculture and Rural Development has become a national priority for the Government of Georgia. Development of agriculture in a right direction can greatly contribute to the general economic growth and welfare of Georgian people. In 2015, Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia, with the strong support and active participation of EU ENPARD (European Neighborhood Program for Agriculture and Rural Development) project, in cooperation and broad consultation with civil society, donors and other stakeholders, has developed "Strategy of Agricultural Development in Georgia 2015 - 2020".</p> <p>Agricultural Strategy defines the main strategic directions of the Government in the medium term and the specific measures, which are in</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>full conformity with the European vision and DCFTA (“Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area”) Agreement requirements and envisage creation of an environment that will increase agricultural competitiveness, improve access to domestic and international markets, promote stable growth of agricultural production, ensure food safety and food security for all income groups, eliminate rural poverty through the sustainable development of agriculture and rural areas and promote environmental sustainability.</p> <p>In addition, it is notable that one of the priorities of the Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs is to contribute to the sustainable development process. Specifically, under the auspices of the Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs the Government of Georgia has adopted State’s Sport Policy and Youth Policy Documents. There number of key priorities defined in the document, namely: State’s Sports Policy - a) development of sport infrastructure; b) sport education and science; c) building legislative mechanisms. State’s Youth Policy - a) youth participation in social, economic, cultural and political activities; b) Promotion of youth education, employment and mobility; c) Health and Special Support. It should be noted, that the Government also adopted the State’s Youth Policy Action Plan, which unites roughly 200 projects/programs to be implemented on national level until 2020.</p> <p>By the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia (MESD) was elaborated new Numbering System in the country. The Government of Georgia has approved regulation of National Numbering System of Electronic Communications Networks of Georgia deployment, which was realized in 2011 and realization of it contribute to the introduction of modern technical specifications and technologies and new types of services, it gives us opportunity to simplify numbering resources acquiring procedures and further development of business activity and</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>long-term competition in the field of telecommunications. Now Georgia practices European model National Numbering System.</p> <p>See also response to recommendation 105.73.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
104	Continue and strengthen social dialogue to support further enjoyment of economic social and cultural rights by large segments of the Georgian population	Algeria 105.72		<p>Status: In the process of implementation</p> <p>The Labor Code of Georgia has established a “Tripartite Social Partnership Commission” (TSPC), composed by members of the Government of Georgia and representatives of employers’ associations and workers’ associations operating in various industries across the country. Each party shall have six members who can represent the various organizations.</p> <p>The functions of the Tripartite Commission are: to promote the development of social partnership in the country and a social dialogue between employees, employers and the Government of Georgia; to formulate proposals and recommendations on labor and other accompanying issues.</p> <p>The Tripartite Commission may:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) review issues raised by parties as determined by the legislation of Georgia; b) hear information of parties on the issues falling within its competence at the sessions of the Tripartite Commission; c) request from executive and local self-government bodies, as well as from other agencies the materials required for the Tripartite Commission to review issues, as determined by the legislation of Georgia; d) invite, if necessary, as determined by the legislation of Georgia, the representatives from different agencies, specialists, and experts of the respective fields for drafting appropriate proposals and recommendations; conflict of interest must be excluded when inviting the above persons; e) draft and submit to interested persons proposals on issues falling within its competence. <p>The Statute of the Tripartite Social Partnership Commission (TSPC) was adopted by the Decree №258 of the Government of Georgia Georgian of</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>October 7, 2013. The Order of the Prime Minister №55 dated March 12, 2014, has defined its composition. The committee meets on quarterly bases and additionally in necessary. The first meeting of the committee was held on 1st May, 2014.</p> <p>For the purposes of strengthening the social dialogue, the special Working Group (WG) was established within the Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia within the TSPC. The WG learns and discuss the labor related problematic cases and prepares the relevant materials for the TSPC. The representation of the WG is tripartite with the participation of International Labor Organization (ILO), as an observer in working process of the WG.</p> <p>The Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection of Georgia has been implementing the program on "Supporting the Culture of National Minorities".</p> <p>Ministry of Culture annually supports publication of newspapers in minority languages these are the newspapers "Vrastan" (Armenian) and "Gurjistan" (Azerbaijani) and since 2013, the Ministry also finances Russian-language newspapers "Svobodnaia Gruzia" and "Vecherni Tbilisi" (the editions are delivered across the Georgia and also in Greece). These newspapers help national minorities of Georgia in raising awareness and support their cultural integration.</p> <p>The 2010-2017 State Strategy for the Regional Development of Georgia in 2011 the relevant Action Plan 2011-2014 was developed with the participation of various stakeholders including international organizations and civil society.</p> <p>As of 2010, cultural festival and contest "Students Days" is organized by Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs of Georgia (MSY) annually. The event</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>in 2013 was entitled as – “Students’ Days against Drugs” and in 2014 – “Students’ Days for European Future”. The aims of the youth festival are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promotion of the healthy lifestyle; - Development of youth participation in the projects implemented by the Ministry; - Raise students' interest regarding the cultural-educational and sports activities; - Support the integration of students with disabilities; - To support the European choice of the Georgian Youth; - To disseminate the European values in various target groups through the students; <p>Since 2012, MSY has been implementing program with the primary aim of popularization of culture, customs and traditions of the ethnic minorities among the general society. In the framework of the program Ministry organizes different cultural events, folk dances and music performances, traditional clothes exhibitions, degustation of the traditional food and other events. The geographical area of the program covers Kvemo Kartli and Samtskhe Javakheti regions.</p> <p>Youth Ambassadors of Georgia is a program which is designed by the Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs of Georgia and implemented in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia in 2014. The program is entitled “Be Your Country’s Young Ambassador” and its aim is the promotion and awareness raising on Georgia among the youth living abroad. In the scope of the program, 10 Georgian citizens living abroad (USA, Germany, France, Great Britain, Austria, Lithuania, Ukraine, Czech, Turkey, and Poland) are “appointed” to this honorable position on a temporary basis.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>In 2011, one year program "I Assist" was implemented by the LEPL "Children and Youth National Center". In the scope of the program, the kids and teenagers living in orphanages were provided with lessons and trainings in sport, art, literature and foreign languages by celebrities and professionals in each sphere.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
105	Consider the possibility of increasing or matching resources toward socio-economic and development programmes aimed at, among others, further alleviating poverty and reducing unemployment	Malaysia 105.73		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>For effective functioning of the labour market the adequate infrastructure is necessary, which, first of all, means the establishment of the State Employment Service - the employment support service network. With this purpose, in 2013 Department of Employment Programs was created at the LEPL Social Service Agency under the control of the Ministry of Labour, Helath and Social Protection of Georgia, to ensure the implementation of the state employment and labour market infastructure policy development.</p> <p>All the regional offices of the Social Service Agency provide employment services. Besides, the Labour Market Management Information System was formed (LMMIS), which is an integrated web-portal (www.worknet.gov.ge). The system provides opportunity of information processing. Registration is free and voluntary in the system. At present coordination, monitoring, analysis of the work of the centers is in process; the everyday work of the centers is being supported; the information about the state employment services and information on www.worknet.gov.ge is constantly being recorded, processed and analyzed, the counseling of the job seekers and intermediary services is underway as well.</p> <p>Employment support services delivery includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Raise public awareness of the state employment services (information pamphlets, the mass media, organizing special meetings, etc.); b) Informing and counseling job seekers on employment opportunities; c) Registering job seekers in the corresponding data base;

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>d) Searching for vacancies and systematizing;</p> <p>e) An optimal selection of the suitable person for the vacancy and delivering data to the employer (intermediary services);</p> <p>f) If necessary, researching/ analyzing the local and regional labour market;</p> <p>g) Organizing the professional trainings in labour market demanded professions / specialties for the unemployed (primarily long-term unemployed, young people who do not have professional education, individuals with disabilities; IDPs; individuals released from penal institutions and other individuals considering the gender aspects);</p> <p>h) Organization of trainings to develop job searching and self-presentation skills;</p> <p>i) Intense relations and cooperation with employers;</p> <p>j) If necessary implementation of targeted programs for employment promotion;</p> <p>k) Periodically organizing the job fairs.</p> <p>EU Twinning Programmer Capacity Building of the Employment Support Services (ESS) in Georgia was approved in 2014, which will be launched in 2015.</p> <p>The conciliation procedures with the EU delegation related to Budget Assistance Program between Government of Georgia and EU with the aim to support sector reforms in the employment and vocational education and training in Georgia was successfully finalized in 2013. The funding agreement concerning the above mentioned was signed on December 26,</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>2013 based on the Resolution №2181 of the Government of Georgia.</p> <p>The General Objective of the Employment and Vocational Education and Training program is to stimulate sustainable and inclusive socio-economic development through improved transition from training to employment.</p> <p>In 2014, Government of Georgia has approved the following policy documents in the field of labor and employment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Labor Market Formation State Strategy and its Implementation Action Plan for 2015-2018 (Resolution №732 of the Government of Georgia); - Concept of Introduction and Development of the Labor Market Information System and its Implementation Action Plan for 2015-2018 (Resolution №733 of the Government of Georgia); - Concept of Development of Publicly Available Lifelong Vocational Counseling and Career Planning Service in Georgia and its Implementation for 2015-2018 (Resolution №721 of the Government of Georgia); - The Action Plan for Development of Employment Promotion Services was approved by the Order 01-359/o of the Minister of Labor, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia on December 29, 2014. <p>On the basis of Decree №733 of the Government of Georgia, considering the Concept of Introduction and Development of the Labor Market Information System and its Implementation Action Plan for 2015-2018, the Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs announced a tender for purchase of Labor Market Survey. The need for the survey was the mismatching of the knowledge and skills of the labor resources existing in the country to requirements of the labor market, caused with shortage of information and/or irrelevance of these requirements. The survey covers two phases for qualitative and quantitative surveys. The number of sample size consists of 6000 companies in Georgia for quantitative survey</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>and 240 - qualitative.</p> <p>The survey will study out demanding occupations in Georgia in accordance with ISCO (International Standard Classification of occupations) – 2008 for 2014-2015 period. As the result of the survey the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia will be deprived of the possibility to plan accurately and implement vocational training programs and define the priorities of their financing and the Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia will have the opportunity to assist to reduction of frictional (existing unemployment level) and structural unemployment with implementation of proper active labor market policy, to eliminate misbalance between the demand and delivery of human resources to the labor market. At the same time, qualitative research will find out the trend of the demand and barriers that exist for employers in the process of finding appropriate candidates for the vacant positions.</p> <p>The research is conducted throughout Georgia. Final results will be revealed by the end of July, 2015.</p> <p>Since 2013, the support of agriculture has been one of the priorities for the Georgian Government. The aim of the Government is, based on the principles of sustainable development, to encourage the proper environment for the reliable growth of high quality agricultural production, enhance competitiveness, provide food security and overcome poverty.</p> <p>With pertinent state policy in place, entrepreneurs, farmers, peasants can stand up to the new challenges which Georgia faces after signing the Association Agreement with the European Union; they can produce European standard-compliant ecologically clean, competitive products and be respected on the global market.</p> <p>Given this, since 2013 the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia has</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>implemented several large-scale projects, which provided entrepreneurs, farmers, peasants with assistance in financial and technical, as well as in modern educational fields.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agro Projects <p>“Concessional Agro Credit” project, being implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia, could be considered as a big step towards promotion and protection of human rights in economic and social sphere. The provision of cheap and accessible funds is one of the factors facilitating the establishment of new enterprises, as well as the expansion of existing ones. Beneficiaries are provided with loans (or leasing) from financial institutions participating in the project, using the principle of interest rate co-financing.</p> <p>Within the framework of the preferential Agro Credit Project, 23,604 credits have been issued to 16,327 beneficiaries from 2013 till June 2015. Funds issued in 2013-06.2015 amount to 885,613,483 GEL in total. (USD 1 = GEL 2.24). Besides of Preferential Agro Credit project, Agriculture Project Management Agency successfully manages other projects as well: Co-financing of Agro Processing Enterprises; Produce in Georgia; Assistance to Small Farmers During Spring’s Season Work; Agro Insurance and Assistance in Apple and Mandarin Sales projects. Within the framework of the projects, in different regions across Georgia, new enterprises were built, existing enterprises were re-equipped, new jobs were created and local production processing started. Project participant entrepreneurs sell their goods not only on local markets, but also export to neighboring countries and European Union.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cooperation <p>Currently, institutional arrangement comprising support to agriculture cooperation generates most sustainable results in terms of sustainability.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>This enhances competitiveness and provides an opportunity for farmers to have affordable access to agricultural inputs, services and markets. Active work of cooperatives bolstered by effective, systematic and result-oriented support of the Government, in a long-term perspective, will result in improvements in some crucial directions, such as: improvement of the quality and quantity of agricultural products; increasing growth rates of sales (both on domestic and international markets). Measures for support of cooperation include development of the entire production cycle incorporating primary production, processing, packaging, storage and marketing. The value of production increases at each of the stages and the members of cooperatives will be able to get considerably more income as a result of selling of the final product. Establishment of integrated production cycle within the framework of cooperation is probably the most effective mechanism of risk reduction. This creates opportunities to supplement rather clumsy commercial credit available to agriculture with other schemes of financial support or some other combined models.</p> <p>Also, agricultural cooperatives have the best platform for poverty reduction. Development of cooperation improves involvement of marginal and vulnerable groups, women and young farmers in economic activities.</p> <p>Currently, vast majority of cooperatives lack the necessary information for better planning of their activities and forecasting of anticipated results.</p> <p>LEPL Agricultural Development Cooperative Agency of the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia provides agricultural cooperatives with consultation services on legal, institutional, production technologies and other matters; granting, suspending and terminating agricultural cooperative status; supporting training and re-training of agricultural cooperative staff, and facilitating the capacity building of cooperative's authorized representatives.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>The process of agricultural cooperation began in Georgia in 2013, with assistance from the government, and is currently proceeding successfully.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As of 22 June 2015, 982 entities have received the agricultural cooperative status; • 1 432 shareholders - members of agricultural cooperatives- are women • Capital accumulated in agricultural cooperatives exceeds 13,346,500 GEL. <p>An advisory rulebook on agricultural cooperation was developed in 2014, and a guide was issued for interested parties in Georgian, Azeri, and Armenian languages.</p> <p>As of 31 December 2014, 207 motor hoes and 139 manual seeders were distributed among 72 cooperatives that had an agricultural status, within the framework of the program on providing agricultural cooperatives with motor hoes and manual seeders.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of Agricultural Insurance Market <p>Agricultural insurance is one of the key elements to development of agriculture. Insurance of agricultural risks is one of the most complicated areas in insurance business and requires deep knowledge of agronomy. Given this, insurance companies abstain from using of such a high risky product. In addition, there is a lack of statistical information and data related to weather patterns. This further complicates decision making in this area. Vast majority of farmers in the country processes small parcels of land, which increases costs to insurance companies and accordingly, they prefer to interact to larger farmers.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>On September 1, 2014, with the initiative of the Ministry of Agriculture, agri insurance program has been launched, within which the Government finances a considerable part of insurance premium. 21,194 insurance policies were issued, 18,646 ha land plots and 152,140,160 GEL amount of yield were insured.</p> <p>The Ministry will continue implementation of agro-insurance program and devote serious attention to elaboration of risk management mechanisms and further development of insurance market. A detailed review of agro insurance schemes employed in the world will be made and the criteria and procedures for Government intervention, in emergency situations, will be clarified and simplified. Pilot programs will be improved in collaboration with private insurance companies. The trainings and advice will be provided to farmers, through regional information-consultation centers on possibilities and potential for agricultural insurance, that will promote the linkage of insurance companies with consumers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food Security <p>Ensuring food security implies creation of condition, in which every citizen at any time has access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food supply fulfilling his/her dietary needs and food preferences and enabling to live an active and healthy life. At the national level, the key aspects of food security are availability, access, and affordability of food. In this case, quantitative availability of foodstuffs implies for permanent readiness of the government to ensure the necessary minimum availability of food to the population.</p> <p>The Ministry of Agriculture continues monitoring of food security and also supports subsistence farms to reduce their risks. Special programs are being developed to increase incomes of citizens employed in agriculture.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>The further encouragement will be given to the process of commercialization of subsistence farms.</p> <p>The implementation of the Strategy of Agricultural Development will promote to raise the level of food self-sufficiency of the country, food market stability, and diversification of import and export markets. The Government of Georgia will also develop food security action plan for emergency or crisis situations. Levels and availability of basic foodstuffs will be monitored.</p> <p>The Ministry of Agriculture plans to develop and implement an early warning system for food security and in particularly for the most vulnerable regions and parts of the population, continues improving the information collection and analysis system and train data collectors and analysts. A rapid and effective method of response to food crises will be developed, including for food distribution, and in line with the National Plan of Response to Emergency Situations and in association with the Ministry of Internal Affairs, other relevant Ministries and international partners.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food Safety <p>Food safety implies compliance of all the stages of food production, processing and distribution to the “farm to fork “principle. This stipulates for provision of consumer market with safe food, as well as elimination of potentially negative simultaneous, short-term, and long-term health effects of foodstuffs prepared in improper conditions on the consumer. Also, this legislation is aimed at prevention of negative impact of consumption of improperly prepared foodstuffs on future generations.</p> <p>The Georgian Strategy for development of the food safety system and legal approximation to standards is already well defined by the Ministry of</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>Agriculture and these standards are consistent with EU legislation.</p> <p>State control over food safety aims at protection of human life and health, as well as interests of consumers. It is based on risk assessment principle relying on planned and random inspection, surveillance, monitoring, testing, and documentation inquiries.</p> <p>The inadequate legislative basis existing in previous years, lack of human and technical resources, and insufficient programmatic budgetary financing resulted in lack of effectiveness of state control over food safety.</p> <p>The process of upgrading of the legal framework has been underway since 2012. Namely, the code for food/animal feed, veterinary, and plant protection alongside other legislative acts was adopted. The risk assessment service was established in the LEPL Scientific-Research Center, which will ensure risk assessment on scientifically identified data and supply recommendations to entities responsible for control and risk management.</p> <p>In 2014, as a result of the Ministry of Agriculture initiative, the budgetary financing of this sphere quadrupled. The National Food Agency was staffed with the relevant quality and quantity cadre and with necessary technical equipment. Both the central apparatus staff and personnel of territorial units undertake food safety control. For the first time in the recent years, the food supply blocks of the kindergartens and schools, milk collection points, agricultural markets, and primary producers of honey were inspected.</p> <p>Taken into consideration the enhancement of human and technical capacities of the Agency, both the number of planned and random inspections increased. 4.5 times more samples of various foodstuffs (including potable water) have been analyzed by accredited laboratories. The program for laboratory analysis of residues of veterinary medicines</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>and residual substances in honey is being created in accordance with the EU requirements.</p> <p>The results of state control revealed that awareness level of business operators needs to be raised. Inconsistent and inappropriate practices are continuously revealed by the state control of slaughterhouses, meet and processed meat production enterprises, milk collection points, milk production and processing enterprises, food blocks of kindergartens and schools, food suppliers, including fast food outlets, and water supply systems in rayon's and villages. Based on the results of inspections, the Agency staff undertakes the prescribed measures.</p> <p>Within the framework of approximation to the EU legislation, the mechanisms for state control over food safety, including simplified control, will be established. The collaboration and information sharing mechanisms between institutions involved in risk analysis (NFA, Revenue Service, and the Risk Assessment Service of the Scientific-Research Center) will be further improved. The sustainable and flexible system will be created for the purpose of streamlining the registration procedures for businesses. The NFA will be enabled to have direct access to the database of business operators in order to precisely determine their number and activities. The risk-based state control will be maintained through the relevant mechanisms and frequency.</p> <p>Based on risk assessment and priorities, all the business operators will be examined at production, processing, and distribution stages, which will lead to attainment of highest food safety standards and considerable reduction of food-borne diseases. State control over food of animal origin, food blocks of education and health providers, and primary production enterprises will be regarded as a priority.</p> <p>The effective system for food safety management and traceability at</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>production, processing, and distribution stages will be created based on legislation. In accordance with the Georgian legislation, it will become necessary for business operators to undertake food safety procedures in compliance with risk and hazard analysis and critical points (HAACP) system.</p> <p>The food safety laboratorial research capacities will be upgraded and international research methods introduced. On an annual basis, the number of samples to be taken, food products to be analyzed and relevant research parameters will be identified. This will support protection of consumer markets and increase in exports.</p> <p>The awareness of business operators will be raised and their skills upgraded. This will lead to production and selling of safe food in the market. Important steps will be taken for support of biologically clean production. Interested parties will be supplied with the information on the role of competent state agencies responsible for food safety. The awareness raising campaigns for private sector representatives, farmers, media, and consumers will be continued.</p> <p>The budget of the Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure (MRDI) in 2012 amounted to about GEL 717 mln. These funds were envisaged for various infrastructural projects, the implementation of which simultaneously facilitated the alleviation of poverty and the reduction of unemployment in the country.</p> <p>Notably, from September 1, 2013 till September 1, 2014 around 12 800 people were temporarily employed in various projects conducted by the MRDI.</p> <p>The fund of the projects to be implemented in the regions of Georgia and within the framework of the village support program amounted to about</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>GEL 250 mln. In 2013.</p> <p>The total costs of the projects to be implemented in the regions of Georgia and within the framework of the village support program amounted to around GEL 190 mln.</p> <p>The implementation of these projects simultaneously facilitated the alleviation of poverty and the reduction of unemployment in the country.</p> <p>Under the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia (MESD), with the technical assistance of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and the Government of Finland, in the framework of the long-term program "Georgia: Information and Communications Policy and Regulation Development", the project "Digital Switchover Policy and its Implementation in Georgia" was elaborated in 2012. Base on this project and by participation of GNCC and stakeholders, the "Digital Terrestrial TV Broadcasting Switchover Action Plan and Recommendations" was elaborated and adopted by the Government in 2014. According to the above Plan the construction of digital terrestrial television network on whole territory of Georgia and distribution of individual digital TV receivers (Set-Top-Box) to socially vulnerable families has started. The digital terrestrial TV broadcasting switchover in the country will be completed in 2015.</p> <p>For the farther promotion of country's economy based on knowledge and innovation, conversion of intellectual projects and innovations into export product, introduction of the ICT technologies and innovations in every fields of Georgian economy and thus raising their competitiveness :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · In Georgia for the first time is carrying out works on creation high technology and innovations development centre (technology park), which will be completed in 2015. High technological laboratories, trending centers for local and international companies, show-rooms, incubators,

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>co-working centers, conference rooms, green zone, etc. will be placed In the Technology Park;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Under the grant program of Georgia's Innovation and technology agency was opened 2 Fab Lab and by the end of the year will be opened 2 Fab Labs; · 3 iLab for mobile applications was opened directly of visual effects and computer gaming, while 10 Innovation Lab will be opened by the end of this year. <p>- In order to ensure Georgian population with high speed internet MESD introduced the project on construction of broadband infrastructure and delivery services based on open access principle. Under the project Georgian Government is going to construct the internet infrastructure only in those populated areas where private ICT companies don't have commercial interests.</p> <p>See also responses to recommendations 105.71 and 105.72.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
106	Initiate adequate reforms in the health sector	Sri Lanka 105.74		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>86. In 2014, the Government of Georgia adopted the “Socio-Economic Development Strategy, Georgia 2020”. One of the main directions of the Strategy is protection of human rights on health which ensures the availability of high-quality healthcare. Activities oriented on poverty reduction, are implemented in order to eradicate extreme forms of poverty and social risks in the country. The main principle of the Georgian social security policy is orientation on the needs of the socially vulnerable. State resources are provided to people who are revealed to be the poorest, according to an evaluation system registered in the united database of socially vulnerable households. The State social programs budget in 2015 was increased by 9, 920, 000 GEL in comparison to the year 2011.</p> <p>Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia elaborated Healthcare System State Concept 2014-2020 “Universal Healthcare and Quality Management for Protection of Patient Rights”.</p> <p>In 2013, country started major health sector reforms in order to ensure universal coverage for the population.</p> <p>Universal Healthcare Program was launched in February 2013, providing coverage for over 90 percent of country population. Program started with the minimum set of services and in July was expanded to include additional services. At the moment program provides universal coverage for primary healthcare services, emergency in- and out-patient treatment, planned surgery, cancer treatment and deliveries.</p> <p>According to the data of inquires from the population, which was executed with financial and technical support from Strengthening project of Healthcare system of United States International Development Agency (USAID/HSSP), most of program beneficiaries, were satisfied or very</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>much satisfied with in-patient and/or emergency out-patient service, and 80.3% were satisfied or very much satisfied with non emergency out-patient service.</p> <p>The Government of Georgia pioneered the Hepatitis C Treatment Program in order to effectively eliminate/control of the Hepatitis HCV Virus in penitentiary establishments. As of June 2014, the program allowed inmates and patients of penitentiary medical establishments to receive free screening and examination of Hepatitis C, vaccination for Hepatitis B, and treatment of chronic Hepatitis C using Pegylated Interferon and Ribavirin. Expanding the Treatment of Hepatitis C: in April 2015, with the support of US CDC a Hepatitis C elimination program was launched in Georgia, in order to ensure the free provision of Sofosbuvir to hepatitis C patients, as well as the diagnostic and monitoring of the treatment process. In order to increase the quality of outpatient services and increase the geographic coverage, 82 village outpatient clinics were built and fully equipped in 2014.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
	Right to education and to participate in the cultural life of the community			

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
107	Take appropriate measures and allocate required resources in the interest of achieving the millennium development goal on universal primary education	Sri Lanka 106.46.	Accepts: Georgia is working actively to meet all Millennium Development Goals including those on universal primary education and reduction of infant and under-5 mortality rates. Georgia will remain firmly committed to these efforts	Status: Implemented See response to recommendation 106.21.

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
	Minorities and indigenous peoples			

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
108	Promote a culture of tolerance and cooperation among different ethnic and religious groups, and foster greater socio-economic inclusion of the existing minorities	Brazil 105.75		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>The process of promoting a culture of tolerance and cooperation among different ethnic and religious groups is continuous process.</p> <p>Promotion and further strengthening of the tolerance and interaction between the different ethnic groups is implemented through various programs, projects and activities envisaged in the state civic integration strategy, which includes the awareness raising campaign among ethnic minorities as well as among the majority (ethnic Georgians). In this regard the target groups are local authorities, representatives, public officials, youth, law enforcement bodies, and youngsters. The Police Academy of the Ministry of the Internal Affairs of Georgia conducts special educational BA and MA courses in antidiscrimination, diversity and tolerance. Within the general education, the subject in civic education is conducted at schools. Also various cultural activities are implemented aimed at popularization of the culture of ethnic minorities and encouraging intercultural dialogue.</p> <p>Since 2009, by the initiative of Ministry of Civic Equality and Reconciliation and by the support of Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection multicultural festival – “Under the one sky” takes place annually. Students of musical schools and folk ensembles take part in the festival; financial supporter of the festival is UNAG.</p> <p>In 2013, the project Georgian-Armenian and Azerbaijani-Georgian megagame has been launched, named: “United Georgia”, the aim of this competition was to let ethnic minorities to know and introduce diversity of Georgian culture, learn Georgian language and promote their integration into Georgian society.</p> <p>In October 2013, Multiethnic festival – “Kakheti 2013” took place, each</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>municipality sent a representative of its own ethnic minority group, each participant was supposed to represent his/her own and Georgian culture. A trade fair was held and ethnic minority groups exhibited their own handicrafts and cuisines, local folk groups and musical ensembles participated too.</p> <p>During 2014, multiple excursions were organized for ethnic minority groups in different sport activities, such as water-polo, rugby, judo. The representatives of Samtskhe-Javakheti, Kvemo Kartli and Kakheti region took part in above mentioned excursions.</p> <p>During 2014, a number of training-seminars have been conducted in management of interpersonal communication, which took place at Iliia Chavchavadze's Museum. About 50 ethnic minority representatives participated at the event. Another training was held in Project Management at Kvareli Justice House.</p> <p>In 2014, festival – "Magic flute" was held in Tsalka municipality. Within the program young flute specialists were trained every day and received master classes.</p> <p>The ministry of Health, Labor and Social Affairs has been strongly involved in numerous social campaigns directed at various minorities. Georgia's Healthcare Strategy provides the principle of equal access to state healthcare and social programs regardless of ethnic, religious, and race origin. The Ministry of Health, Labor and Social Affairs has been developing various information campaigns for providing national minorities with the information on state healthcare programs and social benefits in their native language. In 2011-2014, within the program on "National/ethnic minorities information on the provision of social guarantees the meetings with the national minority representatives were organized in Kvemo Kartli, Samtskhe-Javakheti and Kakheti regions;</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>information brochures on the use of a variety of social guarantees were published and delivered; the information banner was designed and translated into Armenian and Azerbaijani languages.</p> <p>In 2011-2013, Georgian National Screening Center has regularly been organizing information meetings within the National Cancer Screening Program for ethnic minorities in the regions of Kvemo Kartli (Bolnisi, Gardabani), Samtskhe-Javakheti (Foka, Ninotsminda, Akhalkalaki) and Kakheti (Iormuganlo, Sagarejo, Karajala, Kabali). Informational material was distributed in order to increase citizen participation in the program.</p> <p>Samtskhe - Javakheti Road Rehabilitation Project implemented within the "Millenium Challege, Georgia" project included the rehabilitation of 223 km of road in Kvemo Kartli and Samtskhe - Javakheti regions. The road rehabilitation created a better environment for trade-entrepreneurship /business development, it caused increase of international and domestic trade, and stimulated private investments, tourism and other related activities. These projects lessen the isolation of Samtskhe - Javakheti region from the rest of the country and therefore, promote regional economic integration, and also social mobility.</p> <p>In addition to the abovementioned initiatives, infrastructural projects are implemented in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Energy infrastructure rehabilitation; - Rural gasification; - Rehabilitation of kindergartens/schools; - Providing with agricultural machinery; - Restoration/creation of irrigation and drinking water canals, water reservoir recovery; - Rehabilitation of small irrigation canals; - Rehabilitation of internal roads.

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>Several projects are developed by the Ministry of Education and Science to promote cooperation and aid ethnic minorities.</p> <p>In order to promote access to higher education, special programs have been elaborated aimed to promote enrolment of minority students in institutions of higher education. In November 2009, the Law on Higher Education was amended to establish a new system allowing better access for national minorities to institutions of higher education in Georgia. Armenian and Azerbaijani language speakers in Georgia are being allocated 10% of all state university seats. Unlike other university entrants, who must pass four different exams in Georgian, these candidates are only required to pass a single test of general skills in their native language. They are then enrolled in a year-long intensive Georgian-language program before starting their undergraduate studies.</p> <p>In 2010, when the new system was launched, 180 Azerbaijani and 123 Armenian language speakers were admitted to Georgian state universities - representing an increase of more than 300% over the previous two years. State scholarships to national minority students also increased dramatically, from 11 in 2008 to 213 in 2010. As for 2011, 250 Azerbaijani and 179 Armenian language speakers were admitted to Georgian state universities. The state scholarship was granted to 98 Azerbaijani and 99 Armenian speaking students.</p> <p>As of 2011, the quota also embraced Abkhazian language speakers, being allocated 1% of the slots at state universities.</p> <p>Among other government agencies, the Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection of Georgia has taken numerous measures for promoting equality and cooperation among different cultural and ethnic groups living in Georgia. The ministry supports protection, development, popularization and self-expression of the culture of ethnic minorities and</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>promotes their further integration into the Georgian space. This support is provided via several organizations, which were included into the list of subsidized organizations and in 2009 acquired the status of Legal Entities of Public Law. These organizations are: LEPL David Baazov Historical Ethnographic Museum of Georgia, LEPL Mirza Patali Akhundov Azeri Culture Museum, LEPL Tbilisi Petro Adamyane Armenian Theatre, LEPL Tbilisi Heydar Aliyev Azeri Theatre and LEPL Al. Griboedov Russian Drama Theatre. Later in 2011, the Circassian (Adyghe) Cultural Center was founded as well.</p> <p>See also response to recommendations 105.27 and 105.76</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
109	Take steps to implement the national integration strategy to ensure the participation of minorities in Georgia's cultural, social and economic life	United Kingdom 105.76		<p>Status: In the process of implementation</p> <p>The Office of the State Minister for Reconciliation and Civic Equality coordinates the process of implementation of the state policy towards ethnic minorities. "National Concept for Tolerance and Civic Integration" and respective Action Plan for 2009-2014 expired in 2014, therefore, the Office of the State Minister has started the process of elaboration of a new Civic Equality and Integration strategy and Action Plan for 2015-2020. The new policy document will be based on the results obtained after the implementation of the previous strategy. In this regard, Office of the State Minister of Georgia for Reconciliation and Civic Equality prepared the assessment document of the National Concept for Tolerance and Civic Integration (NCAP) and 2009-2014 Action Plan. Examining the achievements and challenges for the past five years provide the basis for formulating a new and more effective government policy. The new civic integration strategy is based on <i>more diversity, more integration</i> approach and aims at: contributing to the provision of equality; ensuring ethnic minorities' full-fledged participation in all spheres of public life; preserving national minorities' culture and identity.</p> <p>In 2014, number of informative projects have been held. Informative bulletins and posters were prepared in different topics, such as restoration of prescriptions on medications. During the program, 5000 booklets were prepared and distributed in Armenian and 5000 in Azerbaijani languages.</p> <p>Informative booklets were prepared for the prevention of brucellosis and anthrax in Animals (7000 booklets in Azerbaijani, 4000 in Armenian language for the first disease and 15000 in Azerbaijani and 500 in Armenian for the second disease). Also informative meetings took place with the target groups.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>In 2009-2014, when large-scale social and regional integration projects started the situation has changed significantly. Infrastructure projects were vital in minority-populated areas. The fact that the attitude of ethnic minorities living in compact settlements changed towards the state in recent years is partly due to the large-scale infrastructure development projects, in particular the important railway and highway construction. A number of infrastructural rehabilitation programs were implemented in Samtskhe-Javakheti, Kvemo Kartli and in other regions, populated by the ethnic/national minorities.</p> <p>Since 2009, the Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection has been implementing a Support for National Minority Culture program, a sub-program of the Development of Art program. The main objectives of the program are protecting the cultural identity of ethnic/national minorities, promoting its development and popularization, encouraging the cultural dialogue of ethnic/national minorities, and supporting freedom of initiatives.</p> <p>A number of Museums and theaters were reconstructed and funded by the Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection of Georgia also subjected as legal entities under Public Law.</p> <p>In most municipalities, new religious and cultural buildings are identified and registered annually. After the necessary research conducted, the cultural artifacts are granted the status. In the list of cultural monuments these are not categorized according to being Georgian or non-Georgian, Christian or non-Christian, because all of them are considered as the cultural heritage of Georgia.</p> <p>In order to ensure the inclusion of ethnic minority members in social, cultural and economic life, the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia (MoES) carries out a number of activities and tailored programs,</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>on one hand to retain their identity and on the other hand, to support the process of teaching official language to ethnic minorities to support their integration into the state social, cultural and economic life: The concrete steps taken in this regard are the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The National Curriculum has been translated into minority groups' languages; • The standard and the program for "the Georgian as the state language" is approved for all I-XII grades according to the National Curriculum (chapter VII, article 38th, sec-g). The textbook in "Georgian as the Second Language" is already prepared and distributed (grades I-XII); • The MOES with the support of the UNICEF implemented the project "Supporting Georgian Language Learning in Ethnic Minorities at Preschool Education Level" to increase school readiness in ethnic minority regions and improve the knowledge of Georgian language in preschool age children; <p>Furthermore, the MoES, under the order N220 of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia approved and carried out the "Sub-programme, Language Policy - Quality Education", which aimed at developing common vision on language education policy and organizing new model for teaching/learning of existing minority languages in Georgian as well as in minority schools/sectors, in order to support the language needs of Georgian and minority students and improve their literacy level.</p> <p>Under the sub-program the advisory council was formed in which the representatives of university, academic and governmental fields were involved. The advisory council elaborated the package of recommendations in order to regulate the teaching/learning of native languages for minorities and to support their integration in Georgian educational system.</p>

	Recommendation Scope international obligation	Country of	Scope Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>MoES is carrying out trainings for teachers and administration from language minorities groups. Georgian Zurab Zhvania School of Public Administration is providing intensive teaching courses and trainings for local public servants, especially focusing on ethnic minorities.</p> <p>MoES is also carrying 1+4 program for those ethnic minorities wishing to continue studying at higher institutions. One year study is fully financed by the state to master their state language skills to continue academic education.</p> <p>In 2014, Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs of Georgia implemented project – Electronic Learning of Georgian Language for ethnic minorities in order to promote their integration in society. The project implemented in partnership with online portal www.teach.ge. Special training module was created to simplify process of learning Georgian language for ethnic minorities living in Georgia.</p> <p>See also responses to recommendations 105.27 and 105.75.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
110	Take measures to ensure the effective participation of minorities in the social, economic and cultural life of the country and that they are adequately represented in State institutions and public administration	Pakistan 105.77		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>See responses to recommendations 105.27, 105.75 and 105.76.</p> <p>In addition, the new Civic integration strategy which is under elaboration implies improvement of participation of ethnic minorities in political processes and their involvement in public service. Currently, 8 ethnic minority persons are represented in the Parliament of Georgia.</p> <p>Office of the State Minister of Georgia for Reconciliation and Civic Equality promotes recruitment of ethnic minority representatives. Currently, two persons of Azerbaijani origin and one person of Armenian origin are staff members in the Civic Integration Unit of the Office of the State Minister, also President and Premier-Minister of Georgia have advisors from ethnic minority groups.</p> <p>The representation of ethnic Armenians in Samtskhe-Javakheti region (Akhalkalaki, Ninotsminda, Akhaltsikhe, and Tsalka) and of ethnic Azerbaijanis in Kvemo Kartli's regional (Marneuli) councils is proportional to the percentage of the population in those regions.</p> <p>In 2012, most of the financial resources from relevant funds were directed at developing infrastructure in the regions of Georgia largely inhabited by national minorities. The development of infrastructural projects ensures the effective participation in the social, economic and cultural life of the country.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
111	Promote the inclusion and political participation of all ethnic minorities	Bolivia 105.78		<p>Status: In the process of implementation</p> <p>The participation of national minorities in decision making at the local levels is secured by the <i>Law of Georgia on Local Self-Governance</i>. According to Article 2 of the Law on Local Self-Governance, the engagement of all citizens in decision making at the local level is secured through right to elect and be elected in the local self-governance bodies; Possibility to occupy any position in the local self-governance bodies if the requirements under the Georgian law are met; Right to obtain public information from local self-governance bodies and public officials; Right to obtain advance information about the draft decisions of the local self-governance bodies, to participate in discussions and to demand publication and public discussion of those drafts; Right to appeal to the local self-governance bodies and public officials etc.</p> <p>Zurab Zhvania School of Public Administration (ZZSPA) was established in 2005 by the President's initiative. Apart from preparing qualified civil servants, the special program developed for teaching Georgian language to national minorities was running at the school.</p> <p>Special needs assessment was carried out in 2010 with support of the OSCE/HCNM and other donors and new teaching programs were developed based on the findings of these needs assessments. The mission of the school is to support the process of decentralization, improvement of management in the units of local self-governance in the regions of Georgia, improvement of the quality of civil service, enhancing the professionalism of the civil servants in the regions as well as development of the local human resources and thus promoting their integration.</p> <p>In order to achieve these goals, the school provides to the national minority civil servants, working at the central and local units of the</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>governance and self-governance, long and short term programs and courses for lifelong professional development.</p> <p>ZZSPA organizes short courses on management, Financial Management, IT Management, HR Management, Basics in Law administration for civil servants working at the local governmental and self-government bodies. Long-term courses are also provided in Georgian and English languages.</p> <p>Special emphasis is made at the ZZSPA on teaching Georgian to non-Georgian speaking teachers and local civil servants. For this reason the School manages the Georgian language houses in Samtskhe-Javakheti, Kvemo Kartli and Kakheti. The curriculum of the Georgian Language Houses and the ZZSPA are unified, which enables the students to pursue studies at the ZZSPA after attending the basic training of Georgian language at the Georgian Language House.</p> <p>In response to the challenges emerged due to the introduction the new Law “On Legal Status of Aliens and Stateless Persons” on September 1, 2014, which affected different groups of people including the national minorities living in Georgia concerned with Georgian citizenship and residence issues, the outreach informational meetings have regularly been carried out, involving high Georgian officials and the representatives of local municipalities at the places of compact residence of national minorities. The focus of the meetings, among others, is on the possibilities to get the Georgian residence permits by simplified ways envisaged in the Law.</p> <p>Since 2011, the Public Service Development Agency, with EU assistance, runs the project “Introduction of e-governance in Local Governments”, in the framework of which the Agency developed Community Centers’ concept targeting the village population countrywide. The Community Centers provide more than 200 services including issuing ID documents,</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>registration of land, etc., as well as provides facilities for holding meetings of local residents with local administration. In 2014, Community Center was opened in Kvareltskali village of Akhmeta region mainly populated by local Kist and refugee Chechen population and in Armenian-populated village Phoka (Samtskhe-Javakheti region). Number of Community Centers are planned to be opened in 2015 in the villages populated by Azerbaijani minority and one in the bordering region with Armenia. Among other services, Community Centers offer Georgian language courses to the local residents.</p> <p>Residents living in the regions compactly populated by the national minorities actively participated in 2012 Parliamentary, 2013 Presidential elections and 2014 Local self-government elections.</p> <p>Ensuring equal electoral rights for ethnic minorities included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Raising awareness of young voters and women and fostering their involvement in the election process (seminars/ training on election procedures were conducted; flyers and booklets were distributed); - Increasing and supporting involvement of persons with disabilities representing ethnic minorities in the election process (defining their needs, translating video clips with sign language for voters with hearing impairment, preparing instructions for District Election Commission Members on keeping the norms of conduct with the voters with disabilities, infrastructural adaptation of electoral districts); - Providing translations of electoral documents into the language of national minorities (Armenian, Azerbaijani and Russian); - Providing access to information for voters from ethnic minorities via media ("Georgian TV Election News Digest" was translated and broadcasting daily in Armenian and Azeri languages with duration of 6 minutes each). - As a result of the 2012 Parliamentary elections, the representation of minorities in the electoral lists of two political party/coalition was 21

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>persons in the electoral list (11 Azerbaijani, 7 Armenian, one Kurd and two Ossetians).</p> <p>In 2011, a Coordination and Management Department was founded within the Central Election Commission (CEC) in order to strengthen minority political participation, to involve these groups in electoral processes and to develop a general policy concerning ethnic minorities. Additionally, in May 2012, the Central Election Commission set up a working group which unites both local and international organizations working in the field of civic integration. This group of 19 organizations also includes ethnic minority organizations that advise the Central Election Commission on policy and activity planning.</p> <p>The working group developed the 2012 Action Plan, as well as long-term action plan for 2013-2014.</p> <p>According to new National concept for tolerance and civic integration (which is under formulation) political participation of Ethnic/National minorities is one of the main priority, their civil positions, opinions and ideas will be taken closer in public. The same time election system and environment will be fair for all citizens and will give them full access to make a right decision while voting.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
112	Ensure that the policy of promoting the Georgian language is not pursued to the detriment of the linguistic rights of minorities	Pakistan 105.79		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>Constitution of Georgia protects the right of every citizen to receive education and to choose the form of education. The Georgian law on "General Education" reaffirms this right to education (Article 9) and the "equal access for all" (Article 3.2. A.). Article 4 of the Law "On General Education" states that "citizens, for whom Georgian is not a native language, have the right to acquire general education in their native language, in accordance with the national curriculum, according to the law."</p> <p>Georgian authorities actively implement policy aimed at strengthening knowledge of native language among minorities. Among 2131 public schools, there are 279 non-Georgian schools: 116 Armenian schools, 89 – Azeri, 12 Russian schools and 80 – mixed (have two or more language sectors). Teaching and learning process in the mentioned schools are provided in the minorities languages as well as efforts are done to support state language knowledge among students to ensure their full integration into the social, cultural and economic life of the country.</p> <p>Subject to the Law of Georgia on General Education, language of instruction in general educational institutions are Georgian and in Autonomous Republic of Abkhazia – Georgian or Abkhazian (Article 4, sec. 1). On the basis of the same law (Article 4) those citizens of Georgia, for whom Georgian is not a native language, can get full general education on their native language according to the National Curriculum, by the rule of law. In such educational institutions learning State language (Georgian) is also compulsory.</p> <p>Apart from that, under the same Law, a school should protect the individual and collective rights of minority group members to freely use their native language, maintain it and express their cultural identity,</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>relying on the principle of equality (article 13, sec. 7).</p> <p>According to the National Curriculum learning native language (Azeri, Armenian and Russian) in minority schools/sectors is compulsory and covers 5 hours a week in all grades of general education.</p> <p>Textbook approved by the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia in all subject areas throughout I-VI grades are translated into Armenian, Russian and Azeri languages. In these textbooks, 30% of content is given in Georgian and 70% in Armenian/Russian/Azeri languages. All learning materials to all minority school students are delivered for free by the state. Textbook in all subjects for VII-XII grades is in the process of preparation by the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia.</p> <p>In the upcoming period the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia plans to introduce the standard of teaching at schools the languages of small ethnic minorities groups (Chechen-Kist, Greek, Kurmanji, Assyrian, Ossetian, Udi).</p> <p>New national concept for tolerance and civic integration aims the improvement of bilingual textbooks, quality of teachers' professionalism, trainings for teachers how to use bilingual textbooks, issuance of auxiliary literature into their native languages, etc.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
113	Provide information, as requested by the International Labor Organization, on the implementation of measures to promote the participation of ethnic minorities in the labor market in the public and private sectors	Kazakhstan 105.80		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>Georgian citizens, including ethnic minority representatives have an equal opportunity to participate in the labor markets in the public and private sectors. Georgian legislation prohibits any discrimination in this regard, which has been reinforced by recently by the new anti-discrimination law adopted in 2014.</p> <p>See responses to recommendations 105.27, 105.75 - 105.78.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
114	Adopt a relevant law to create appropriate conditions for the integration of the Meskhetian Turks returnees	Turkey 106.56	Partially: Georgia accepts the premise of the recommendation and in cooperation with international organizations and civil society has achieved significant progress towards these ends. Georgia takes all appropriate measures to guarantee the forcefully displaced persons (FDPs) deported from Georgia by the Soviet regime in 1940s the full enjoyment of their rights in the process of repatriation. However, Georgia finds it unacceptable to label all of them	<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>On July 11, 2007, the law on “Repatriation of Persons forcefully sent into exile from the Soviet Socialist Republic of Georgia by the Former USSR in the 40’s of the 20th Century” came into force and on this basis, the State started carrying out a series of relevant actions.</p> <p>On September 12, 2014, the Government of Georgia adopted a decree on “the State strategy of Repatriation of Persons forcefully sent into exile from the Soviet Socialist Republic of Georgia by the Former USSR in the 40’s of the 20th Century”.</p> <p>Today, Action plan on the aforementioned strategy is being developed. The Action Plan will outline detailed and specific mechanisms, actions and procedures in order to implement the objectives, which are set in the strategy.</p> <p>For the purposes of coordination of the activities of the state agencies and entities on March 1, 2011, the Interagency Governmental Council on the Repatriation of Forcefully Deported Persons from the Soviet Socialist Republic of Georgia during the 40s of XX Century by the Former USSR was created by the No.111 Ordinance of the Government of Georgia. The Interagency Governmental Council consists of deputy ministers, members of the Parliament and the Public Defender of Georgia. The function of the Council also includes submission of the relevant initiatives and recommendations with respect to the repatriation of forcefully deported persons as well as submission of information to the Government of Georgia on the process of repatriation.</p> <p>On June 21, 2013, by the N162 ordinance of the Government of Georgia , the relevant amendments were made in the Ordinance of the Government of Georgia N87 (dated 30 March, 2010) on “Granting citizenship through a</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
			<p>with a certain ethnic origin and thus, cannot accept the term “Meskhetian Turks” as <i>a priori</i> hindering their inherent right to self-identification.</p>	<p>simplified procedure for the persons with repatriate status”. In accordance with the amendment, among other changes, procedural issues of application for granting Georgian citizenship for repatriates became easier, in particular, if the person seeking repatriate status does not know both Georgian and English languages, or does not reside in Georgia.</p> <p>The Decree of the Government of Georgia on the “Simplified Procedures of Granting Citizenship for Individuals enjoying the “Repatriate Status” excludes the chance of leaving a person without citizenship until they get the citizenship of Georgia; it means that a person is granted the conditional citizenship of Georgia and the citizenship becomes full-fledged by the moment they denounce their previous citizenship.</p> <p>In order to ensure the full respect of self- determination, the Georgian Legislation does not make reference to ethnic identity in any of the ID documents. Concerning the Meskhetian persons deported in 1940ies, Georgian legislation establishes the term “forcefully deported person from Georgia by the former USSR in the 40-ies of the 20th century” in order to ensure that the self-identification of persons with diverse ethnicities and religious confession are not discriminated.</p> <p>Regarding the process of granting the repatriate status to a person, the required documentation is a minimum, which is necessary to establish the identity and the family composition.</p> <p>The Presidential Decree was issued to grant Georgian citizenship to 418 Meskhetians based on the conclusion prepared by the Public Service Development Agency (2014 data). However, since none of these persons have presented the documents on renunciation of the citizenship of the country they represented by the moment of applying for Georgian citizenship, the relevant Decrees have not been put into effect yet.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
115	Launch an awareness campaign to explain the historical reasons for the return of Meskhetian Turks so as to avoid any intolerance against them	Turkey 106.57.	Partially, see 106.56	<p>Status: In the process of implementation</p> <p>For the purpose of supporting the repatriation process of forcefully deported persons and raising the awareness on repatriation issues, several activities have been held. Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Accommodation and Refugees of Georgia in the close cooperation with Action against Hunger (Acción contra el Hambre - ACF) and European Centre for Minority Issues (ECMI), implemented the project "Supporting the repatriation of persons deported from Georgia in the 1940s and their descendants." The program's objective was to facilitate the process of resettlement and integration of repatriates through awareness raising, informational services and socio-economic assistance. In 2011-2012 with the support of ACF six "go and see" visits were carried out, which gave the opportunity of traveling throughout Georgia. Also, three "go and tell" visits were carried out in Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kirgizstan and Turkey in order to give the relevant information to the repatriates.</p> <p>See also response to recommendation 106.56.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
116	A comprehensive strategy addressing issues such as language learning, access to education and employment in favor of the integration of Meskhetian Turks	Turkey 106.58.	Partially, see 106.56	<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>“The State strategy of Repatriation of Persons forcefully sent into exile from the Soviet Socialist Republic of Georgia by the Former USSR in the 40’s of the 20th Century” envisages the aim to foster civil integration of repatriates in the society. In order to implement the policy of integration, the strategy includes important activities and the significant attention is paid to the following components: to provide repatriates with access to all the educational recourses and the opportunities for Georgian language study and Social and Economic integration. The aforementioned issues will also be reflected in details in the Action Plan on the Strategy.</p> <p>Ministry of Education and Science implements program “social inclusion”. Program aims to support integration of vulnerable groups into the formal education. One of the focus group and beneficiary of the program are forcefully deported persons. Under the program children get different support: educational, social integration, state language teaching, and collaboration with other children in different regions of Georgia, support of the youth organizations founded by forcefully deported persons. All the listed activities are prerequisite for the integration of forcefully deported persons into society and also protection of their cultural identity.</p> <p>See also responses to recommendations 106.56 and 106.57.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
117	Promote the rights of the Armenian minority in line with the recommendations of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, the Human Rights Committee and the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief, as well as Council of Europe Advisory Committee of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities with close consultations with representatives of the Armenian community and the Armenian Apostolic Church	Armenia 106.59	Accepts: Georgia supports the recommendation as it is consistent with Georgia's practice and policy of promoting the rights of minorities, including those of the Armenian minority	<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>Improving the teaching of Georgian as a Second Language in the scope of educational institutions is one of the priorities of the government.</p> <p>The program "Georgian Language for Future Success" began in September 2011 by the initiative of the President. The aim of the project is to improve the knowledge of Georgian language among the ethnic minorities living in Georgia. In the scope of the program, native speaker teachers are teaching Georgian language in the schools of Samtskhe-Javakheti, Kvemo Kartli, and Kakheti. New Georgian language handbooks were also introduced to non-Georgian schools as part of the project.</p> <p>The program "Teach Georgian as a Second Language" entails assigning qualified teachers of Georgian language and literature to the non-Georgian language schools in the regions of Samtskhe-Javakheti, Kvemo Kartli and Kakheti with minority populations. The program aims to promote and develop the teaching of Georgian language and literature and support the professional development of teachers in those areas. In order to set up the groups and effectively lead the learning process, the National Center for teacher Professional Development handed over necessary equipment like audio-video equipment, visual materials and stationery, and training-aid kits. 1997 pupils, 715 teachers, and 566 community representatives are involved in these Georgian language groups.</p> <p>In 2011-2012, the TPDC program "Georgian Language for Future Success" was implemented which aims to facilitate the integration of ethnic minorities living in Georgia. The target group of the program was pupils, teachers, and administrators from non-Georgian language schools, as well as local community members in the regions of Samtskhe-Javakheti and Kakheti. 340 teachers were trained in the 90 contact hour Georgian language courses.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>For the improvement of the knowledge of the Georgian language, the National Teacher's Professional Development Center, through a competitive selection process, sent 303 specialists with Bachelor's degree in 2011 and 237 in 2012 to minority schools throughout Georgia to help the local non-Georgian language teachers conduct lessons in two languages as well as to conduct lessons in the Georgian language.</p> <p>2011-2013, the I-IX grade textbooks were developed and published for preschool and primary levels. In the same period thematic audio material was developed for class work. 20,000 copies of each textbook level were published and distributed based on requests from schools.</p> <p>By the year 2011, the Ministry of Education and Science, within the "Georgian Language Program" provided funding to Ninotsminda and Akhalkalaki language houses to the amount of 22 500GEL (per center). Also, in 2011, the Ministry made arrangements for the funding of Dmanisi and Bolnisi Georgian Language Centers founded in 2009 (22500 per center). Currently, in two language houses and in the Georgian language center 4-4 groups are being taught; and they have approximately 300 students per year. Within the scope of the program "Georgian Language for future success," three Georgian language Houses were opened in the region of Kvemo Kartli – Tsalka, Gardabani and Marneuli, as well as in the village of Iormuganlo in the Kakheti region. Since October 1, 2011 the Georgian language houses and centers are administrated by the Zurab Zhvania School of Public Administration.</p> <p>Numerous projects are annually financed by the Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection of Georgia in the framework of different programs encouraging participation in cultural life.</p> <p>Ministry of Culture annually supports: LEPL Tbilisi Petro Adamyan</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>Armenian Theatre and publication of newspaper "Vrastan" (Armenian).</p> <p>Nowadays, many patterns of different national minorities have been registered as a cultural heritage, including Gregorian (Armenian) churches (50 churches of Tbilisi, Batumi, Kakheti, Bolnisis, Akhalkalaki and Ninotsminda),</p> <p>Rehabilitation of Tbilisi Armenian church Moghnisi was projected in 2010 and strengthening works were carried out in 2011. Rehabilitation of Surbnishani and Norasheni churches was drafted in 2010, strengthening works were carried out in 2012 and in 2014 started rehabilitation works of Norasheni church.</p> <p>See also responses to recommendations 105.27, 105.76 and 105.77.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
	Migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers			

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
118	Protect rights of migrants and their families	Iraq 105.81		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>For the purpose of effective migration management and control of immigration flows, new law on “the Legal Status of Aliens and Stateless Persons” and amendments to respective legal acts were elaborated. According to the new law, the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA) became a responsible body for detection and expulsion of irregular migrants.</p> <p>The Migration Department within the MIA, responsible for the detection and expulsion of foreigners illegally residing on the territory of Georgia has been established by the ministerial order dated 6 August, 2014. According to the statute of the Department, its functions include: detection and identification of aliens illegally residing on the territory of Georgia, ensuring removal (expulsion) of aliens residing without legal grounds in accordance with the law, implementation of readmission agreements of Georgia, providing legal consultations to aliens, residing without legal grounds, and management of Temporary Accommodation Centre.</p> <p>The Temporary Accommodation Centre commenced functioning from September 1, 2014. The Centre is used for the accommodation of the foreigners staying in Georgia without the relevant legal grounds. The construction of the Centre was financed by the Government of Georgia. The accommodation center was constructed with the support of and active cooperation with international partners and donors and is built/equipped in compliance with international standards. Detainees are provided with medical and psychological support. Persons with disabilities are placed in respectively adapted rooms. Center also provides protection of children’s best interests, including the right to education and necessary conditions for free-time activities, as well as chapel room, library, computers room and playground.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
119	Consider implementing the recommendations of UNHCR with respect to refugees and IDPs	Jordan 105.82		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>Some important steps have been taken forward by the Ministry of IDPs from the Occupied Territories, Accommodation and Refugees of Georgia (hereinafter referred to as MRA) to bring asylum system in harmony with international standards and create effective law to consider new realities.</p> <p>For the purpose to reach compliance with related international treaties, agreements, protocols and declarations which Georgia is a state party to, the new law on “Refugee and Humanitarian Statuses” was adopted on December 5, 2011, which came into force in March 2012. The new term “humanitarian status” is introduced in the law as a complementary protection. The Law provides improved definition of the protection of members of the family of refugee and humanitarian status holder. Principle of non-refoulement, extradition and/or expulsion is one of those major principles, protected by this law.</p> <p>From September 1, 2014 a new law on “Legal Status of Aliens and Stateless Persons” went into force. According to that law, since November 28, 2014 issue of temporary identification cards to the asylum seekers has started on basis of Decree #50 (4.11.2014) of the Minister of Justice on “Approval of the Rule for Issue of Temporary Identification Card” and Decree #52 (15.11.2014) of the Minister of Justice on “Approval of the Form of Temporary Identification Card”. The mentioned card is legally equal to the identity document and also represents a residence permit.</p> <p>The Refugee Status holders and the Humanitarian Status holders are provided with the freedom of movement both within the territory of Georgia and outside the country that are ensured by the residence permit document under the established rule of the Georgian legislation and the travel document.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>On December 23, 2014, Minister of Internal Affairs and Minister of IDPs from the Occupied Territories, Accommodation and refugees of Georgia, signed the the Joint Order N1033-N2975 which confirms "The rules of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Accommodation and Refugees regarding the identification of asylum seekers, reception at the border, their transmission and exchange of information of mutual control". The document defines the protection of the principle of non-refoulement, the rights of the asylum seekers, refugees and persons with humanitarian status, as well as the border crossing procedures and competences of both Ministries in this direction.</p> <p>On the January 21, 2015, the Memorandum of Understanding between the Minister of Internal Affairs of Georgia and the Minister of the Internally Displaced Persons From the Occupied Territories, Accommodation and Refugees of Georgia was signed. The memorandum provides the exchange of information as regards asylum seekers and holders of refugee or humanitarian status, also protection of the international obligations undertaken by country, protection of non-refoulement principle and the migration management; Prohibition on accommodation of asylum seekers in the temporary reception center for migrants and providing information on the asylum seeker who might reside in the reception center for migrants and supplying the mentioned information to the ministry.</p> <p>Since February 21, 2013, according to the February 21, 2013, No.36 Resolution of the Government of Georgia, refugee or humanitarian status holders were involved in the State Health Program, according to which they will enjoy the same benefits from the Georgian Healthcare System as Georgian citizens. Since January 1, 2015, December 2, 2014, No. 650 Resolution of the Government of Georgia, included asylum-seekers to the list of beneficiaries of the Universal Healthcare Program, adopted by No.36 Resolution of the Government of Georgia (February 21, 2013).</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>According to the Georgian Legislation (the law on “Refugee and Humanitarian Statuses”, Article 18(1)(e)) in the field of education, refugee and humanitarian status holder as well as asylum seekers, enjoy the same rights as citizens of Georgia. Herewith, according to the law on “Refugee and Humanitarian Statuses”, asylum seekers and refugee or humanitarian status holders have the right to take advantage of employment as Georgian citizens, under state supported employment program. The mentioned program is proposed by the Social Service Agency of the Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia.</p> <p>“The Organic Law of Georgia on the Citizenship” provides simplified procedures for granting citizenship of Georgia for the persons having status of refugees. According to Article 12(4) of the Law of Georgia on Citizenship, the refugees are privileged compared to the aliens, since they do not have obligations enshrined in Article 12(1)(d) such as of having possession or/and working experience in Georgia, or ownership of business or shares and obligations in the enterprises.</p> <p>The activities for strengthening the integration process of the refugees and humanitarian status holders are enshrined by the National Migration Strategy of Georgia for 2013-2015. Chapter 4.3.3 of the action plan on this strategy covers the issues regarding the development of the integration mechanism for the refugees and humanitarian status holders. There should be noted that various activities have been implemented for the integration of the target groups based on the migration strategy, namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The children of the refugees and humanitarian status holders (as well as of the asylum seekers) are provided pre-school education in the same extent as for the citizens of Georgia (under the Order №2-5 of the Municipality of the Mayor of Tbilisi dated February 3, 2015). • On January 29, 2015 the Government approved №15 Order "To facilitate the implementation of measures for guaranteeing general

Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
			<p>education for asylum seekers and persons with refugee or humanitarian status".</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Under February 19, 2015 reform of the Law of Georgia on "General Education" the refugees and humanitarian status holders were given the opportunity to get state scholarship on the basis of the Article 22(7) of this law. <p>In the framework of the joint project of MRA and UNHCR, asylum seekers and humanitarian and refugee status holders are provided with the financial support for renting the accommodation. The amount consists of around 280-480 Georgian Lari and is offered for the vulnerable category.</p> <p>Persons holding Refugee or Humanitarian status are granted with the monthly allowance consisting of 45 GEL in accordance with the Law of Georgia on "The State Budget of 2015". The same amount is provided for the internally displaced persons.</p> <p>In the framework of the program for Development of Relations with the Young People Living in the Occupied Territories and for the support of youth IDPs Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs (MSY) is implementing several activities since 2012. The objectives of these activities are promotion of relations, dialogue and confidence building among youth living in the occupied territories and involvement of internally displaced youth in sport and social activities. Participation of the youth living in the occupied territories in the youth grants programs, such as: rugby lessons and trainings in Tserovani (settlement of refugees from the occupied Tskhinvali region/South Ossetia, Georgia); cycling tours for youth living near occupation lines; providing youth IDPs from Abkhazia, Georgia with camp equipment; support of educational trainings and social activities for young people living in surrounding areas of occupied territories; Georgian students' study visit in post conflict countries.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
	Internally displaced persons			With regards to IDPs, see responses to recommendations 105.83, 105.86, 105.89, 105.92, 105.93, and 105.94.

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
120	Strengthen policies and seek international cooperation to ensure the rights of internally displaced people, including measures for their return or resettlement	Brazil 105.83		<p>Status: In the process of implementation</p> <p>The Government of Georgia spares no effort to ensure decent conditions for all IDPs, however, the only durable solution for them is a voluntary, safe and dignified return, as reaffirmed in UN GA Resolutions on the “Status of internally displaced persons and refugees from Abkhazia, Georgia, and the Tskhinvali region/South Ossetia, Georgia”. Recently the UNHCR office in Georgia published an intentions survey among IDPs to hear their voices and perceptions on voluntary return and alternate durable solutions. As a result, 88% of IDPs expressed willingness to return to places of their origin in a safe and dignified manner. The fundamental rights of IDPs and refugees are regularly discussed within the Second working group of the Geneva International Discussions, designed to properly address first and foremost the return of IDPs and refugees.</p> <p>The Georgian Parliament adopted the National Human Rights Strategy of Georgia (2014-2020) on 30 April 2014. The Government approved the Action Plan (2014-2015) on 9 July 2014. The Strategy and the Action Plan identify human rights priorities and streamline the activities of various government agencies. The Strategy lays down general principles, whereas concrete actions are specified in the Action Plan.</p> <p>Protection of the rights of Internally displaced Persons (IDPs) and residents living near borders of occupied territories is one of the priority areas identified in the Strategy. Namely, one of the objectives of the Strategy is: to improve living conditions, social provisions and integration of IDPs and residents living near borders of occupied territories; to apply all possible measures, including bilateral and multilateral international, legal instruments, in order to return IDPs to their permanent places of residence.</p> <p>The Government of Georgia is committed to finding long-term solutions to</p>

Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
			<p>plight of IDPs, without prejudice to their right to return. Progress has been made with regard to protecting IDP rights and providing durable solutions for them. With a view of improving legislative and normative base new law on “Internally Displaced Persons – Persecuted from the Occupied Territories of Georgia” was adopted, which was developed by the Representative Commission within the MRA. The Commission was comprised of the subject matter international and local non-governmental organizations and UN experts. Implementation of the State Strategy on IDPs since February 2007 and its updated Action Plan, as well as the new Law on “Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories of Georgia”, which entered into force on March 1, 2014, brought significant improvements with regard to protection of the rights of IDPs. The new law develops a comprehensive notion of an IDP, which is in compliance with Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement. Specifically, “A citizen of Georgia or a person with a status of person without citizenship in Georgia can be qualified as an IDP who was forced to leave his/her place of permanent residence due to a danger of his/her of health or life or that of his/her family members as a result occupation of territory by a foreign state, aggression, armed conflict, mass violence and/or mass violation of human rights and/or impossibility of his/her return to the place of permanent residence due to the above-mentioned reasons.</p> <p>The new law brought significant improvements with regard to the issues of providing appropriate living conditions to the IDPs and decent living space, financial assistance (regular monthly allowance to all IDPs increased from 22 GEL to 45 GEL), proper registration and procedures for timely granting IDP status to every effected person, reassuring the right of property restitution, providing appropriate healthcare, education and employment in a non-discriminatory manner etc.</p> <p>Providing IDPs with durable housing solutions remains a high priority for the Ministry of IDPs from the Occupied Territories, Accommodation and</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>Refugees of Georgia (MRA). Significant efforts have been made in order to improve living conditions of IDPs and provide them with decent housing conditions. In addition to this, the MRA has developed and adopted the rules and criteria related to allocation of housing to IDPs that served as the basis for this process, the document was adopted by the MRA in August, 2013: The Decree #320 of the Minister of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Accommodation and Refugees of Georgia on "Rules related to allocation of housing to IDPs". Since October 2012 until now 2620 IDP families were provided with durable housing solutions.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
121	Give the highest priority to the implementation of the action plan for IDPs	Netherlands 105.84		<p>Status: In the process of implementation</p> <p>Implementation of the State Strategy on IDPs since February 2007 and its updated Action Plan (most recent update approved in 2015), which reflects priorities and projects to be implemented in 2015-2016, brought significant improvements with regard to the issues of providing appropriate living conditions to the IDPs. Action Plan for implementation of the State Strategy for 2015–2016 related to achieving above-mentioned objective of the State Strategy implies reaching of three main tasks: Improving living conditions of IDPs by means of provision of durable housing solutions; Improving social and economic conditions of IDPs; and Raising awareness of IDPs. The Action Plan defines renewed priorities and projects, in the course of implementation of which main focus will be put on voluntary and informed decision making of IDPs as well as their free choice, dialogue with IDPs and their involvement into decision making processes, gender equality, protection of childrens' rights and other recognized human rights.</p> <p>Reaching social and economic integration of IDPs implies implementation of two specific sub-objectives: Transforming support mechanisms from status-based to needs-based assistance and taking into account of access to livelihoods and social and economic integration needs. For the above mentioned purpose, categories and vulnerability types of IDPs shall be defined, as well as survey of social and economic conditions of IDPs, their analysis and planning of needs-based activities conducted. In parallel to implementing ctivities for allocating durable housing to IDPs as well as ensuing their integration, social support system will be transformed and shifted from status to needs based assistance. Feasibility of support to be rendered to IDPs will be based on rational, clear and transparent criteria. The above will be implemented in collaboration with other public authorities, as well as through drafting/reviewing relevant legal acts and</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>ensuring inclusion of IDPs into social protection programs.</p> <p>UN High Commissioner for Refugees within the project on strengthening the capacity of the ministry, coordination mechanism on Action Plan implementation, formed three working groups: on the issue of transferred property into legal ownership of IDPs; on the issue to improve the mechanism of housing allocations and toward shifting from status to needs based assistance. At this stage state agencies, international and national non-governmental organizations expressed their willingness to take participation in the working group.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
122	Implement the recommendations made by the Representative of the Secretary-General on the human rights of internally displaced persons following his visit to Georgia on the eviction of IDPs and their relocation	France 105.85		Status: Implemented See responses to recommendations 105.93 and 105.95.

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
123	Continue efforts to find solutions to improve the situation of IDPs and refugees	Lithuania 105.86		<p>Status: In the process of implementation</p> <p>Providing IDPs with durable housing solutions remains a high priority for the Ministry of IDPs from the Occupied Territories, Accommodation and Refugees of Georgia (MRA). Significant efforts have been made in order to improve living conditions of IDPs and provide them with decent housing conditions. In addition to this, the MRA has developed and adopted the rules and criteria related to allocation of housing to IDPs that served as the basis for this process, the document was adopted by the MRA in August, 2013: the Decree N320 of the Minister of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Accommodation and Refugees of Georgia on "Rules related to allocation of housing to IDPs". Since October 2012 until now 2620 IDP families were provided with durable housing solutions.</p> <p>As a result of the ongoing rehabilitation works in Vaziani, Kaspi, Gori, Khashuri, Akhaltsikhe, Zugdidi and Kutaisi over 1000 IDP families will be provided with DHS in 2015.</p> <p>The MRA cooperates with the Chinese company 'Hualing International Special Economic Zone', which conducts the construction works of apartment blocks in Tbilisi. As of December 31, 2014 the MRA purchased 298 apartments, which will be delivered to the IDP families by August 31, 2015, and 300 apartments that will be completed in February and June 2016.</p> <p>In addition to that, MRA has started a housing program in December 2014, in which RE developers and construction companies present their competitive offers to MRA in series of closed bids. The program serves as a stimulus for the companies involved, aims to revive the economic activity in the construction sector while providing MRA with the opportunity to purchase housing units in 8 major cities across Georgia, in</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>one tender-like setting. Within this program, about 500 housing units are to be purchased in 2015.</p> <p>In 2015 the MRA plans to start the construction of hi-rise apartment blocks: two in Kutaisi, Imereti Region for 160 IDP families and two - in Zugdidi, Samegrelo region for 144 IDP families. The construction works will be completed in 2016.</p> <p>The MRA strives to combine the housing solutions with the livelihood opportunities. The 'rural housing' program is an example of this, which foresees - providing housing in the rural areas with land plots, which can be used by IDPs for livelihood purposes (e.g. agricultural activities). The budget for this program in 2014-2015 amounts to six million GEL and envisages providing DHS to about 300-400 IDP families. The Ministry has processed over 400 IDP applications for the rural housing program, out of those over 100 applications were approved and those IDP families were provided with DHS in rural areas. MRA is working with the beneficiaries of RHS on livelihood opportunities; custom-tailored plans will be developed for IDPs throughout the year.</p> <p>In order to strengthen the sense of ownership, security of tenure and the motivation of IDPs to invest in the renovation of their habitats as well as their economic and social opportunities, the privatization program was initiated by MRA to transfer housing units to 10 000 IDP families into private ownership. The program started in November 2014 and will be finished in August 2015.</p> <p>MRA continues to lead and coordinate the livelihood support. The current efforts are reflected in the implementation of the State Strategy on IDP Livelihoods. The major goal of the IDP Livelihood Strategy and respective Action Plan is to improve socio-economic conditions of IDPs.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>The main interventions defined in the strategy are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase of capacities (social and human capital); • Support to agricultural activities; • Vocational education and upgrading (retraining); • Access to financial resources (interest-free credits, grants); • Non-monetary grants, equipment, livestock; • State/local municipality programs to create job places; • Establishment of social enterprises, etc. <p>The Strategy and respective Action Plan will be implemented by the MRA through the Legal Entity of Public Law (LEPL) on IDP Livelihoods, which became operational in October 2014 through the state budget funds. The LEPL will work out and implement income-generation projects for IDPs. It will closely cooperate with various ministries, as well as with self-governance bodies, donor, international, governmental and non-governmental organizations.</p> <p>See also response to recommendations 105.83, 105.89, 105.90 and 106.61.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
124	Consider additional measures of protection for displaced persons	Chile 105.87		Status: In the process of implementation See response to recommendation 105.86.

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
125	Continue, in close coordination with United Nations bodies, to address the needs of IDPs, including those living in host communities	Australia 105.88		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>All the important issues, such as improving living conditions of IDPs, privatization of living spaces of IDPs, the socio-economic challenges faced by IDPs and etc., are the object of discussion within the commissions, which are created within the MRA. Such commissions are comprised of the subject matter from international and local non-governmental organizations.</p> <p>MRA closely cooperates with UN bodies on all the issues related to IDPs including protecting IDP rights, providing housing and livelihood opportunities, in drafting relevant legislation and regulations</p> <p>The new law on “Internally Displaced Persons – Persecuted from the Occupied Territories of Georgia” was adopted, which was developed by the Representative Commission within the MRA. The Commission was comprised of the subject matter international and local non-governmental organizations and UN experts.</p> <p>General coordination of the Implementation of the State Strategy on IDPs since February 2007 and its updated Action Plan is done by the Supervisory Board led by the Ministry. Members of the Supervisory Board are the representatives of United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the representative of United Nations Resident Coordinator in Georgia and representatives of other international organizations and local non-governmental organizations. The Supervisory Board is also comprised of the subject matter Ministries.</p> <p>See also response to recommendations 105.83, 105.86, 105.89, 105.90 and 106.61.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
126	Step up efforts to protect displaced persons, particularly providing assistance and access to public services on an equal basis	Ecuador 105.89		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>For the purpose to improve the effectiveness of the IDP support policy, the decision was made in the MRA to conduct the registration of IDPs. As a result of the registration of IDPs, which took place in 2013, the current number of IDPs was established, which is and 263 664 people (86 935 IDP families).</p> <p>IDPs enjoy, in full equality, the same rights and freedoms under Georgian law as do other persons in Georgia. In addition, according to the law on “Internally Displaced Persons – Persecuted from the Occupied Territories of Georgia”, there shall be no discrimination against any kind of IDPs in the enjoyment of their rights and freedoms, for the reason that such persons are internally displaced, also, regardless of race, color, language, sex, religion, political or other opinion, national, ethnic or social origin, property and title, place of residence.</p> <p>The amended law refines grounds for granting, terminating, cancelling and restoring of an IDP allowance. IDP allowance shall be terminated, if : taxable income of an IDP amounts to 1,250 Gel or more. This process is confirmed by the authorized body established by the Georgian Legislation. Above mentioned issues represents first steps towards shifting from status to needs based assistance.</p> <p>IDPs right to receive adequate housing is protected by the state. It includes providing IDPs with permanent residence, as well as provision of durable housing to IDPs. IDPs are protected from the eviction. Eviction of IDPs from lawfully possessed living space is strictly determined under the circumstances by the Law. The Law adopted by the Ministry, determines activities in order to ensure realization of rights of victims of displacement to life, dignity, safety and liberty.</p> <p>The State recognizes the IDPs’ right to restitution, which is hereditary, on</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>the real estate they left in the places of permanent residence. It does not depend on whether the person has IDP status or not.</p> <p>Also the other social rights are protected by the Law: ensure enjoyment of the constitutional right to education and state-funded general education as established by the legislation of Georgia; help IDPs to resolve social and everyday issues; provide IDPs with first aid during displacement on the territory of Georgia; issue allowances and other types of assistance within their mandate pursuant to Georgian legislation; Medical expenses of an IDP/IDP families registered in the database of socially vulnerable families are covered by state-funded healthcare programs or insurance according to relevant rules. Also, if termination of IDP's working activities is related to displacement, IDP shall maintain the length of service during the period of displacement despite his/her occupation.</p> <p>The Law determines State Guarantees for Integration of IDPs into Another Part of the Country before Returning to their Places of Permanent Residence and Reintegration of IDPs into Their Places of Permanent Residence in order to provide elaboration of relevant mechanisms providing which ensure integration of IDPs into another part of the country before return of IDPs to their places of permanent residence, so that socio-economic conditions necessary for safe and dignified life are created, IDPs participate equally and without any limitations in socio-economic relations and they receive social and public services.</p> <p>The commission whose members are representations of Public Defender's Office, international and local non-governmental organizations, is created by the Minister's Decree in order to bring the "Law of Georgia on Internally Displaced Persons - Persecuted from the Occupied Territories of Georgia" in accordance with international standards. On this stage the issue of shifting from status to needs based approach through the analysis of legal aspects, is ongoing. After this corresponding changes will be made</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				in the Law.

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
127	Develop a comprehensive strategy to address the socio-economic challenges faced by IDPs, emphasizing their integration in the local communities to promote work and the autonomy of the individual	Canada 106.61.	Accepts: Georgia supports these recommendations as the continued strengthening of IDP rights and the improvement of their socio-economic situation are the cornerstones of the Action Plan for the implementation of 2009-2011 State Strategy on Internally Displaced Persons.	Status: Implemented Implementation of the State Strategy on IDPs since February 2007 and its updated Action Plan (in 2015), which reflects priorities and projects to be implemented in 2015-2016, brought significant improvements with regard to the issues of providing appropriate living conditions to the IDPs. Action Plan for implementation of the State Strategy for 2015–2016 related to achieving above-mentioned objective of the State Strategy implies reaching of three main tasks: Improving living conditions of IDPs by means of provision of durable housing solutions; Improving social and economic conditions of IDPs; and Raising awareness of IDPs. The Action Plan defines renewed priorities and projects, in the course of implementation of which main focus will be put on voluntary and informed decision making of IDPs as well as their free choice, dialogue with IDPs and their involvement into decision making processes, gender equality, protection of childrens' rights and other recognized human rights. Reaching social and economic integration of IDPs implies implementation of two specific sub-objectives: Transforming support mechanisms from status-based to needs-based assistance and Taking into account of access to livelihoods and social and economic integration needs. For the above mentioned purpose, categories and vulnerability types of IDPs shall be defined, as well as survey of social and economic conditions of IDPs, their analysis and planning of needs-based activities conducted. In parallel to implementing activities for allocating durable housing to IDPs as well as ensuing their integration, social support system will be transformed and shifted from status to needs based assistance. Feasibility of support to be rendered to IDPs will be based on rational, clear and transparent criteria. The above will be implemented in collaboration with other public authorities, as well as through drafting/reviewing relevant legal acts and ensuring inclusion of IDPs into social protection programs.

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				See responses to recommendations 105.86 and 105.89.

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
128	Consider exploring possible ways and means to further facilitate access to and provision of humanitarian aid and other forms of assistance to the IDP population, with a view to normalizing their living situation	Malaysia 105.90		<p>Status: In the process of implementation</p> <p>See responses to recommendations 105.86, 105.89 and 106.61.</p> <p>In addition, medical expenses of an IDP/IDP families registered in the database of socially vulnerable families are covered by state-funded healthcare programs or insurance according to relevant rules.</p> <p>Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure takes into consideration the need to assist IDPs, in particular, to improve their living conditions and, therefore, establishes a plan in its annual budget. For example, in 2012 Budget Plan (consisting of the total amount of GEL 717.1 mln) 5.5% was aimed on IDPs.</p> <p>The amount of contributions towards the improvement of living conditions of IDPs grows annually. The number of the amounts allocated for IDPs in 2012 grew up to 9.1% in 2013.</p> <p>The amounts allocated for IDPs were mainly spent for the construction of residential blocks for them.</p> <p>In 2013 GEL 12 mln was spent for the rehabilitation of 10 residential blocks for 335 IDP families and above GEL 22 mln was spent for the construction of 15 new residential blocks for IDPs in Poti and Zugdidi.</p> <p>Some settlements inhabited by IDPs were equipped with mobile labs checking water quality. Chemical-microbiological research is conducted to ensure the water is safe.</p> <p>20 projects with the value of GEL 82 mln were implemented in 2014 with the purpose of providing dignified living conditions to IDPs. 17 new residential complexes were built in Poti and zugdidi in 2014 - 586</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>families were provided with new residential apartments.</p> <p>Rehabilitation and construction of water supply and irrigation system remain the key aspects for MRDI. In 2014 rehabilitation works were successfully completed in 12 populated areas. 21 projects were contracted and already started. Rehabilitation of water supply systems and drainage channels was carried out in 16 villages populated with IDPs.</p> <p>Water supply and sewerage systems were developed in 10 compact settlements of IDPs – living conditions were improved for 1483 families in 2014.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
129	Consider adopting a holistic approach in order to enable the totality of IDPs to sustain themselves and have access to employment, education and health care	Greece 105.91		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>General Education is fully financed by the state and is open and accessible to all children in the country, including those from vulnerable groups. Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia supports students from vulnerable families (including IDPs) to receive higher education through financing tuition.</p> <p>Furthermore, starting from February 2013, country had launched Universal Healthcare Program. For nowadays, it is confirmed that the basis of reserving the universal rights of Georgian population (among them IDPs) has been achieved in healthcare sector – the whole population of Georgia is covered by basic medical service, among them about 496 000 persons are under private or corporate insurance and remaining - major part of population - is covered by Universal Health Care Program.</p> <p>The Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Abkhazia provides additional healthcare services for IDPs from Abkhazia, Georgia free of charge which are not included in the Universal Healthcare Program; the services cover – medical examination, chemo-therapy and child birth service. There are 4 medical clinics in the capital city providing the above-mentioned services. Throughout Georgia there operate 6 polyclinics in Poti, Senaki, Zugdidi, Khobi, Tskaltubo and Kutaisi, also one ambulatory clinic in village Jvari (Zugdidi). 8 such ambulatories operate in Gali District and 4 medical centers in Gali villages.</p> <p>See also responses to recommendations 105.86, 105.89, 105.90 - 106.61.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
130	Establish clear procedures to ensure that evictions of displaced persons are carried out respecting international norms and guaranteeing the rights to decent housing and work, and the access to health services and education	Switzerl and 105.92		Status: Implemented See responses to recommendations 105.86, 105.89, 105.90, 105.91, 105.93, 105.95 and 106.61.

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
131	Take steps to protect IDPs including through the provision of durable housing solutions and by ensuring that forced evictions are carried out in accordance with international standards	United Kingdom 105.93		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>The Law adopted by the Ministry ensures activities together with other state bodies for realization of rights of victims of displacement to life, dignity, safety and liberty. Eviction of IDPs from lawfully possessed living space shall not take place unless:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) a written agreement is signed with an IDP on provision of adequate monetary or other type of assistance instead of the living space they occupy; b) an IDP is provided with adequate housing not deteriorating his/her living conditions; c) a natural disaster or other event occurs, envisaging certain compensation being regulated by a common rule. <p>In this cases, in order to safeguard IDPs' dignity, freedom and safety, the Ministry shall ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) an IDP/an IDP family is fully informed on reasons and procedures of resettlement and on relevant alternatives in order to ensure IDPs' free and voluntary decision; b) each IDP is provided with adequate housing; c) IDPs shall be accommodated to places where safety, health and sanitary conditions are satisfactory and the right to respect of the family unity of an IDP shall be protected. <p>By the Minister's Decree N320, 9/08/2013 and the by the criteria of providing housing for IDPs, priority is given to IDPs living in the places whose buildings are the private property and the owner of the unit is implementing eviction procedure provided by law. Also without criteria the IDPs living in the buildings, whose buildings are in need of urgent public interest entities, will be provided with DHS.</p> <p>See responses to recommendations 105.86, 105.89, 106.61, 105.90,</p>

	Recommendation Scope international obligation	Country of	Scope Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				105.91 and 105.95.

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
132	Intensify its efforts to ensure that collective centers and resettlement zones for IDPs that are still in operation meet adequate living standards, in particular access to drinking water and basic sanitation. Forced evictions should be exceptional, proceed in compliance with due process and respect the right to adequate housing for the affected population	Spain 105.94		Status: In the process of implementation See responses to recommendations 105.86, 105.89, 105.90, 105.93 105.95 and 106.61.

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
133	Ensure that evictions are carried out in full compliance with the guarantees required by international human rights law and that those who are evicted are provided with adequate housing	Netherlands 105.95		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>Since 2012, all the eviction procedure, was conducted by the Ministry, was voluntarily with the maximum awareness of IDPs; in addition, none of the IDP families have been left without offering alternative housing. Before the eviction process, the Ministry at least 2 months worked with IDPs, negotiate with them, studied condition of each family individually (the process was monitored by the representatives of Public Defender's Office and non-governmental organizations), accordingly, from the outset, all the IDPs families were informed about Ministry offered alternatives and the date of eviction was agreed with the basic parts of the IDPs. By the Ministry decision, providing renting for the IDPs families, who unlawfully owned the real estate and were evicted from a variety of objects, was extended after the expiry of 3 months. Currently, 208 IDPs family evicted from a variety of residence is providing with rental assistance by the Ministry. Before the eviction process, the Ministry negotiated with each IDPs family, studied their need. A few months before the IDP families had been informed that after emptying the building, the Ministry provided them with alternative accommodation.</p> <p>See also responses to recommendations 105.86, 105.89, 105.90, 105.93 and 106.61.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
134	Ensure that evictions take place voluntary and without coercion and that those evicted are urgently provided with adequate housing	Sweden 106.62.	Partially: Georgia accepts the part of the recommendation regarding the need to provide adequate housing to IDPs, however, it must also note that evictions in certain cases may take place without the consent of the individual. Georgia directs significant efforts to ensure consent in all possible cases of evictions and is guided by Standard Operational Procedures for Eviction of IDPs and Provision of Durable Housing, developed in collaboration with	Status: Implemented See also responses to recommendations 105.83, 105.86, 105.89, 105.90, 105.93, 105.95 and 106.61.

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
			international actors. Georgia will continue to work diligently to uphold these standards	

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
135	Fully integrate IDP children in the regular education system	Austria 105.96		<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>By Law of Georgia on Internally Displaced Persons – Persecuted from the Occupied Territories of Georgia, which entered into force in 2014, the Ministry, together with other state bodies ensure enjoyment of the constitutional right to education and state-funded general education as established by the legislation of Georgia.</p> <p>IDP children attend regular schools and are fully integrated in the national education system. The state is distributing free school textbooks to all children, including IDPs.</p> <p>See also response to recommendation 105.91.</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
136	Reinforce further the rights of internally displaced persons in law and in practice	Sweden 106.60.	Accepts: Georgia supports these recommendations as the continued strengthening of IDP rights and the improvement of their socio-economic situation are the cornerstones of the Action Plan for the implementation of 2009-2011 State Strategy on Internally Displaced Persons.	<p>Status: Implemented</p> <p>A new “law of Georgia on Internally Displaced Persons – Persecuted from the Occupied Territories of Georgia”, was developed and adopted within the framework of the legislative basis; work was carried out within the Representative Commission, created by the Ministry. International and local non-governmental organizations and UN experts working in this field participated in above mentioned commission. This law entered into force in 2014; Based on the “Guiding Principles, Criteria and Procedures of Durable Housing Solution” (DHS) which has developed and approved by the Ministry by the order N320 of Minister of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Accommodation and Refugees of Georgia.</p> <p>The new law has significantly improved the rights of IDPs recognized by international laws and practices, such as: the right to be protected from forcible transfer from the permanent place of residence, provide IDPs with first aid during displacement on the territory of Georgia, the right to respect the family unity, social protection of an IDP (monthly allowance, help IDPs to find jobs, other types of social assistance and state-funded insurance) In addition, the law establishes, that discrimination of IDPs shall be prohibited in the enjoyment of their rights and freedoms on the ground that they are internally displaced.</p> <p>First steps have been taken for shifting IDPs social assistance from status to needs based approach (IDP allowance shall be suspended if taxable income of an IDP amounts to 1,250 GEL or more) IDPs right to receive adequate housing is protected by the state. It includes providing IDPs with permanent residence, as well as provision of durable housing to IDPs. IDPs are protected from the eviction. Eviction of IDPs from lawfully possessed living space is strictly determined under the circumstances by the Law. Eviction of an IDP/IDP family shall take place in accordance with the rules established by the Georgian legislation. The State recognizes the</p>

	Recommendation Scope of international obligation	Country	Scope of Obligation	Measures Undertaken by 2015
				<p>IDPs' right to restitution, which is hereditary, on the real estate they left in the places of permanent residence. It does not depend on whether the person has IDP status or not.</p> <p>Also the other social rights are protected by the Law: ensure enjoyment of the constitutional right to education and state-funded general educations established by the legislation of Georgia; help IDPs to resolve social and everyday issues; provide IDPs with first aid during displacement on the territory of Georgia; issue allowances and other types of assistance within their mandate pursuant to Georgian legislation; Medical expenses of an IDP/IDP families registered in the database of socially vulnerable families are covered by state-funded healthcare programs or insurance according to relevant rules. Also, if termination of IDP's working activities is related to displacement, IDP shall maintain the length of service during the period of displacement despite his/her occupation.</p> <p>The Law determines state guarantees for integration of IDPs into another part of the country before returning to their places of permanent residence and reintegration of IDPs into their places of permanent residence in order to provide elaboration of relevant mechanisms providing which ensure integration of IDPs into another part of the country before return of IDPs to their places of permanent residence, so that socio-economic conditions necessary for safe and dignified life are created, IDPs participate equally and without any limitations in socio-economic relations and they receive social and public services.</p> <p>See also responses to recommendations 105.86, 105.89, 105.90, 105.93 and 106.61.</p>