



PARLIAMENT OF GEORGIA

2019-2020 ACTION PLAN

**OF THE PARLIAMENT OF GEORGIA
FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
EU-GEORGIA ASSOCIATION AGREEMENT**

2019



ევროკავშირი
საქართველოსთვის
The European Union for Georgia



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CONTENTS

4	Introduction
5	Role of the Parliament of Georgia in the Implementation of the Association Agreement
5	Committee on European Integration of the Parliament of Georgia
6	Sectorial Committees of the Parliament of Georgia
10	2019-2020 Action Plan of the Parliament of Georgia for the Implementation of the Association Agreement
11	Implementation of the Association Agreement: Legislative Approximation
11	Food Safety
11	Veterinary
12	Plant Protection
12	Environmental Protection
15	Activities Related to the Climate
16	Energy
19	Transport
21	International Maritime Transport
22	Air Space
23	Consumer Policy
24	Employment, Social Policy and Equal Opportunities
27	Public Health
29	Education
30	Accounting and Auditing, and Corporate Governance
31	Rules Related to the Financial Service
33	Public Procurement
34	Approximation of Customs Legislation
34	Taxation
35	Telecommunications Services
36	Rules for Postal and Courier Services
37	Implementation of Association Agreement: Parliamentary Oversight
42	Communication Strategy and Action Plan of the Parliament of Georgia on EU Integration
42	Communication strategy
48	Communication Plan

INTRODUCTION

On 27 June 2014, the Association Agreement was signed between the European Union (EU) and the European Atomic Energy Community and their Member States, of the one part, and Georgia, of the other part (hereinafter referred to as the Association Agreement). The Parliament of Georgia (hereinafter referred to as the Parliament) ratified the Association Agreement with 123 votes in favor and zero against on 18 July 2014. The Association Agreement entered into force provisionally on 1 July 2014, and fully came into force on 1 July 2016, after the EU side (the European Parliament and the EU Member States' legislative bodies) completed the ratification process.

The Association Agreement is composed of two main parts: a political part, and Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA) part. According to the Association Agreement, Georgia will have to ensure approximation/harmonization of national legislation with EU legislation (*acquis communautaire*) within the period specified. It should be noted that this is a dynamic process of approximation. The agreement is concluded for an indefinite period, though the dates by which Georgia's legislation should be approximated/harmonized with the relevant EU regulations are specified. The Association Agreement includes the following acts: regulations, directives, decisions and recommendations.

This action plan aims to promote the implementation of the Association Agreement by the Parliament, and to determine strategic goals, objectives and specific activities of the Parliament that relate to the oversight and legislative activities, and to communicate to the population about the above-mentioned issues in the process of the implementation of the Association Agreement.

The action plan is based on a needs analysis, from which the committees of the Parliament that are directly engaged in the process of the implementation of the Association Agreement before the expiration of the term of the Parliament of the 9th Convocation (autumn 2020) have been identified. Needs assessments and action plans were prepared for each committee, based on which this document – 2019-2020 Action Plan of the Parliament of Georgia for the Implementation of the EU-Georgia Association Agreement – has been written.

This document was prepared under the joint EU and UNDP project “Strengthening the System of Parliamentary Democracy in Georgia.” It was developed by representatives of relevant committees of the Parliament with the support of project consultants.

ROLE OF THE PARLIAMENT OF GEORGIA IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ASSOCIATION AGREEMENT

The Constitution of Georgia and the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament of Georgia determine constitutional prerogative, according to which the Parliament shall carry out parliamentary oversight and determine the domestic and foreign policy of the country. Statutes of some committees of the Parliament (e.g. the Committees on European Integration, the Environmental Protection and Natural Resources Committee, and the Sector Economy and Economic Policy Committee) define that the Parliament and its committees support both Georgia's integration in the EU and EU institutions, and the timely and effective implementation of the Association Agreement and Association Agenda.

Furthermore, the role of the Parliament in the implementation of the Association Agreement is additionally defined directly by Articles 410 and 411 of the Association Agreement itself. Based on these articles, the Parliament shall exercise oversight over the implementation of the Association Agreement, prepare recommendations and present them for execution to the Government of Georgia (GoG) and the relevant EU institutions. The Parliaments of the 8th and 9th Convocations have been convening the committee hearings with certain regularity, however without predefined terms related to the Association Agreement, the DCFTA and the fulfilment of obligations undertaken by Georgia under the Visa Liberalization Action Plan. Furthermore, for 2014-2017, the Parliament was defined by the GoG as one of the significant actors, and as the oversight body for the implementation of a communication strategy regarding EU integration issues. The above-mentioned function of the Parliament is preserved by the 2017-2020 Government Communication Strategy on Georgia's EU and NATO Integration approved by the GoG. According to this document, the Parliament monitors the implementation of the strategy through six-month reports and annual reports.

Through the implementation process of the Association Agreement, to ensure cooperation of legislative and executive authorities, it is important for the Parliament to be present in the working process of the Government Commission on the EU integration, the basic task of which is to support the process of EU integration and the coordinated work of separate institutions in this regard.

COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN INTEGRATION OF THE PARLIAMENT OF GEORGIA

The Committee on European Integration has an important role to play in the process of Georgia's integration with the EU. Through its legislative and oversight function, the Committee facilitates the integration of Georgia in the EU and EU institutions. The Committee oversees timely and effective implementation of the Association Agreement and Association Agenda. With this purpose in mind, the Committee oversees the approximation process of Georgia's national legislation with relevant EU legislation, monitors the fulfilment of obligations undertaken by Georgia in relevant cases, plans and conducts joint events, hearing of reports and organizes consultations with civil society in close cooperation with sectorial committees.

The Committee on European Integration leads the work of the EU-Georgia Parliamentary Association Committee, established under the Association Agreement, and the work of the delegation of Georgia at the EuroNest Parliamentary Assembly. The Committee also participates in the work of

the Conference of Parliamentary Committees for Union Affairs of Parliaments of the European Union (COSAC).

The Committee on European Integration promotes cooperation between executive and legislative branches of government on issues relating to European integration and the Chair of the Committee participates in the work of the Government Commission on EU integration.

The Committee also carries out informational and educational activities aimed at promoting the EU integration process. In this regard, the Committee is the main party responsible for the implementation of the Communication Strategy and Action Plan of the Parliament of Georgia on EU integration. The Committee cooperates with other committees of the Parliament and relevant structural units to accomplish these tasks.

SECTORIAL COMMITTEES OF THE PARLIAMENT OF GEORGIA

A desk study revealed that, under the Association Agreement, Georgia is committed to harmonizing its national legislation with at least 346 EU directives, 213 EU regulations, 57 EU decisions and 31 EU recommendations. It should be noted that during the 9th Convocation of the Parliament, Georgia must fulfill half of the obligations undertaken.

The table below presents the aforementioned directives, regulations, decisions and recommendations by sector and date provided for in a transition period, which commenced on 1 September 2014, when a large part of the Association Agreement entered into force provisionally.¹

¹ In line with Article 419 of the Association Agreement, according to the objectives of gradual approximation of Georgian legislation with EU law, the Association Council shall periodically revise and update the Annexes to this Agreement. The terms of the approximation of the EU legal acts presented in the table are given as of January, 2019.

Regulations²

Sector	2019	2020	Total
Customs	2		2
Air space ³	20		20
Rules related to the financial services	1		1
International maritime transport			4
Transport	1		1
Energy	5	4	9
Environmental protection	1		1
Activities related to the climate	2		2
Consumer policy	1		1
Food safety	4	4	8
Plant protection	1	3	4
Veterinary	4	3	7
Total	42	14	56

² Full or partial harmonization of the Georgian legislation with the regulations.

³ The Agreement on Unified Air Space between Georgia and the EU has not entered into force. The timeframes are provided according to the action plan on the implementation of obligations under the agreement between Georgia and EU and its Member States on common air space and approved by the Government of Georgia.

Directives⁴

Sector	2019	2020	Total
Sectorial legislation	8	0	8
Air space ⁵	10	0	10
Rules related to the Financial services	8	8	16
Public procurement	2	3	5
Rules defined for telecommunications services	1	0	1
Rules related to postal and courier services	3	0	3
Rules in the international maritime transport sector	10	0	10
Taxation	3	0	3
Transport	2	1	3
Environmental protection	7	2	9
Corporate law, accounting and auditing, corporate governance	4	1	5
Consumer policy	12	0	12
Employment, social policy and equal opportunities	6	6	12
Public health	8	1	9
Energy	4	2	6
Food safety	0	3	3
Plant protection	6	3	9
Veterinary	1	3	4
Total	95	33	128

⁴ Full or partial harmonization of Georgian legislation with the directive.

⁵ The Agreement on Unified Air Space between Georgia and the EU has not entered into force. The timeframes are provided according to the action plan on the implementation of obligations under the agreement between Georgia and EU and its Member States on common air space and approved by the Government of Georgia.

Decisions

Sector	2019	2020	Total
Veterinary	2	1	3
Plant protection	1	4	5
Food safety	1	2	3
Total	4	7	11

Recommendations⁶

Sector	2019	2020	Total
Veterinary	0	1	1
Food safety	2	0	2
Total	2	1	3

The presented information provides a basis on which to identify the parliamentary committees that, in coordination with the Committee on European Integration, will engage in the process of the approximation of Georgian legislation with that of the EU during 2019-2020. These identified parliamentary committees are as follows:

- ✓ **Agrarian Issues Committee**
- ✓ **Human Rights and Civil Integration Committee**
- ✓ **Education, Science and Culture Committee**
- ✓ **Environmental Protection and Natural Resources Committee**
- ✓ **Sector Economy and Economic Policy Committee**
- ✓ **Legal Issues Committee**
- ✓ **Budget and Finance Committee**
- ✓ **Healthcare and Social Issues Committee**

The Association Agreement has been valid since 1 September 2014, and the Parliament and the relevant parliamentary committees have already undertaken the implementation process. The tables presented above show that their activity is likely to increase as the implementation period continues. A baseline study (2017) showed that it was mostly lawyers, economists and international relations specialists who were employed in the staff of the relevant committees. However, none of

⁶ The harmonization timeframes for the recommendations in the field of financial services, accounting and auditing, corporate governance, consumer policy, education and public health are not defined at this stage.

those employed were specialists in EU law, including in the Legal Issues Committee. Moreover, it is essential that the English-language skills of the committees' staff employees are improved, given that the legal acts related to the Association Agreement are not translated fully into Georgian by the Legislative Herald. The lack of such language skills may lead to some delays in the retrieval of information, research and the law-making process. None of the employees in any of the committees had been assigned to work exclusively on the implementation of the Association Agreement. Some of the employees of the Committees have attended a donor-funded training on the issues of legislative approximation and/or regulatory impact analysis, however the general level of knowledge of these subjects among staff remains scarce.

Considering all the above, it is important to strengthen the human resources of the Parliament to ensure the timely and effective implementation of the presented action plan.

2019-2020 ACTION PLAN OF THE PARLIAMENT OF GEORGIA FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ASSOCIATION AGREEMENT

The presented action plan defines strategic goals in three main areas:

1. Law-making activities of the Parliament, related to the implementation of the Association Agreement;
2. Oversight of the Association Agreement implementation process; and
3. Informing citizens about the Association Agreement and EU integration process.

This action plan defines certain activities that will enable these strategic goals to be reached. The action plan includes performance indicators that will allow for an assessment of the quality of performance of each activity. The presented document will assist the Parliament to better conduct its activities in the implementation of the Association Agreement, ensuring the involvement of civil society, experts and other interested groups in this process and providing information to the population about the process of Georgia's approximation with the EU.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ASSOCIATION AGREEMENT: LEGISLATIVE APPROXIMATION

Activity / Event	Compliance with the Association Agreement	Responsible Committees	Other Stakeholders	Period	Indicator	Comment
FOOD SAFETY⁷						
1. Consideration of legislative amendments in the field of food safety for purposes of approximation of Georgian legislation with EU legislation	Association Agreement, DCFTA, Annex IV, part 3.	Agrarian Issues Committee	Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture of Georgia	2019-2020	Amendments adopted	
		Sector Economy and Economic Policy Committee	Ministry of Finance of Georgia			
		Committee on European Integration	LEPL National Food Agency			
			LEPL Laboratory of Agriculture of Georgia			
			LEPL Revenue Service			
VETERINARY⁸						
2. Consideration of legislative amendments in the field of veterinary for purposes of approximation of Georgian legislation with EU legislation	Association Agreement, DCFTA, Annex IV, part 1.	Agrarian Issues Committee	Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture of Georgia	2019-2020	Amendments adopted	
		Committee on European Integration	Ministry of Finance of Georgia			
			LEPL National Food Agency			
			LEPL Laboratory of Agriculture of Georgia			
			LEPL Revenue Service			

⁷ The approximation with the EU legislation in the field of food safety in 2019-2020 is mainly envisaged through adoption of sub-legal acts.

⁸ The approximation with the EU legislation in the field of veterinary in 2019-2020 is mainly envisaged through adoption of sub-legal acts.

PLANT PROTECTION⁹					
3. Consideration of legislative amendments in the field of plant protection for purposes of approximation of Georgian legislation with EU legislation	DCFTA, Annex IV, part 2. Sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) measures.	Agrarian Issues Committee Committee on European Integration	Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture of Georgia	2019-2020	Amendments adopted
			Ministry of Finance of Georgia		
			LEPL National Food Agency		
			LEPL Laboratory of Agriculture of Georgia		
LEPL Revenue Service					
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION					
4. Consideration of draft laws on environmental liability, on amendments to the Law of Georgia on Environmental Protection, on amendments to the Budget Code of Georgia and on amendments to the Criminal Code of Georgia	Directive 2004/35/EC on environmental liability with regard to the prevention and remedying of environmental damage	Environmental Protection and Natural Resources Committee Committee on European Integration	Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture of Georgia	Spring-Autumn session 2019	Legislative package adopted
5. Consideration of a draft Law on Biodiversity	DCFTA: Article 230 (2) Directive 2009/147/EC on the conservation of wild birds Directive 92/43/EC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora	Environmental Protection and Natural Resources Committee Agrarian Issues Committee Committee on European Integration	Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture of Georgia	Spring-Autumn session 2019	Law adopted
			LEPL Agency of Protected Areas		

⁹ Approximation with EU legislation in the field of plant protection in 2019-2020 is mainly envisaged through adoption of sub-legal acts.

6. Preparation and consideration of the Forest Code of Georgia	DCFTA: Article 233	<p>Environmental Protection and Natural Resources Committee</p> <p>Committee on European Integration</p>	<p>Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture of Georgia</p> <p>LEPL National Forestry Agency</p>	Spring-Autumn session 2019	Code adopted
7. Implementation of legislative and institutional reform of the water sector including consideration of a draft law on water resources management	<p>Directive 2000/60/EC on establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy</p> <p>Directive 91/271/EEC concerning urban waste water treatment</p> <p>Directive 98/83/EC on quality of water intended for human consumption</p> <p>Directive 91/676/EEC concerning the protection of waters against pollution caused by nitrates from agricultural sources</p> <p>Directive 2007/60/EC on the assessment and management of flood risks</p> <p>Directive 2008/56/EC on establishing a framework for Community action in the field of marine environmental policy</p>	<p>Environmental Protection and Natural Resources Committee</p> <p>Committee on European Integration</p>	<p>Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture of Georgia</p>	Periodically from 2019; no later than 2024	Proper reform implemented Law adopted
8. Discussion of draft law on amendments to the Law of Georgia on Ambient Air Protection	<p>Directive 2008/50/EC on ambient air quality and cleaner air for Europe</p> <p>Directive 2004/107/EC relating to arsenic, cadmium, mercury, nickel and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons in ambient air</p>	<p>Environmental Protection and Natural Resources Committee</p> <p>Committee on European Integration</p>	<p>Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture of Georgia</p>	Spring-Autumn session 2019	Amendments of the Law adopted
9. Consideration of draft Law on Prevention of Large Accidents Caused by Hazardous Chemical Substances or Chemical Mixtures	<p>Directive 96/82/EC on the control of major accident hazards involving dangerous substances</p> <p>DCFTA: Article 230(2)</p> <p>Helsinki Convention</p>	<p>Environmental Protection and Natural Resources Committee</p> <p>Committee on European Integration</p>	<p>Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture of Georgia</p>	Spring-Autumn session 2019	Law adopted

10. Elaboration and review of the draft Law on Fishing	DCFTA: Article 234	Environmental Protection and Natural Resources Committee Committee on European Integration	Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture of Georgia	Spring-Autumn session 2019	Law elaborated and adopted	
11. Consideration of the draft Law on Industrial Emissions	Directive 2010/75/EU on industrial emissions	Environmental Protection and Natural Resources Committee Committee on European Integration	Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture of Georgia	Periodically from 2019 to 2026	Law adopted	
12. Consideration of draft amendments to the Waste Management Code of Georgia	Directive 2008/98/EC on waste	Environmental Protection and Natural Resources Committee Committee on European Integration	Government of Georgia Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture of Georgia Environmental Protection and Natural Resources Committee Sector Economy and Economic Policy Committee	Spring session 2019	Amendments adopted	
13. Consideration of draft laws on amendments to the Law of Georgia on Licenses and Permits, on amendments to the Law of Georgia on Fees for the Use of Natural Resources, and on amendments to the Law of Georgia on Regulatory Fees	Articles 234-238 of the Association Agreement	Environmental Protection and Natural Resources Committee Committee on European Integration	Government of Georgia Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture of Georgia Environmental Protection and Natural Resources Committee Sector Economy and Economic Policy Committee	Spring session 2019	Amendments adopted	

14. Elaboration and consideration of the Law of Georgia on Environmental Protection	DCFTA Article 302	Environmental Protection and Natural Resources Committee Committee on European Integration	Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture of Georgia	Spring session 2020	Law adopted
15. Elaboration and adoption of the Law of Georgia on Mining Waste	Directive 2006/21/EC on the management of waste from extractive industries	Environmental Protection and Natural Resources Committee Committee on European Integration	Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture of Georgia	Spring session 2020	Law adopted
ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THE CLIMATE					
16. Consideration of the Law of Georgia on Fluorinated Greenhouse Gases	Regulation (EC) No 842/2006 on certain fluorinated greenhouse gases	Environmental Protection and Natural Resources Committee Committee on European Integration	Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture of Georgia	Autumn session 2019	Law adopted
17. Consideration of the draft law on amendments to the Law of Georgia on Ambient Air Protection	Regulation (EC) No 1005/2009 on substances that deplete the ozone layer	Environmental Protection and Natural Resources Committee Committee on European Integration	Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture of Georgia	Autumn session 2019	Amendments adopted

 ENERGY	
<p>18. Elaboration and consideration of the Law of Georgia on Energy</p>	<p>Association Agreement; Article 300, Annex XXV, Electricity</p> <p>Article 2 of the Energy Community Treaty</p> <p>Directive 2009/72/EC concerning common rules for the internal market in electricity</p> <p>Regulation (EC) No 714/2009 on conditions for access to the network for cross-border exchanges in electricity and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1228/2003</p> <p>Regulation (EC) No 715/2009 on conditions for access to the natural gas transmission networks and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1775/2005</p> <p>Directive 2009/73/EC concerning common rules for the internal market in natural gas</p> <p>Directive 2005/89/EC concerning measures to safeguard security of electricity supply and infrastructure investment</p>
<p>Sector Economy and Economic Policy Committee</p> <p>Committee on European Integration</p>	<p>Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development</p> <p>United States Agency for International Development (USAID)</p> <p>EU4Energy</p>
<p>Spring session 2019</p>	<p>Law elaborated and adopted</p>
<p>19. Consideration of the Law of Georgia on Energy Performance of Buildings</p>	<p>Directive 2010/31/EU on the energy performance of buildings</p>
<p>Sector Economy and Economic Policy Committee</p> <p>Committee on European Integration</p> <p>Committee on Human Rights Protection and Civil Integration</p>	<p>Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia</p>
<p>Spring session 2019</p>	<p>Law adopted</p>

20. Consideration of the Law on Energy Efficiency	Directive 2012/27/EU on energy efficiency	Sector Economic and Economic Policy Committee Committee on European Integration	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia	Spring session 2019	Law adopted
21. Consideration of the draft Law on Energy Labelling	Directive 2010/30/EU on the indication by labelling and standard product information of the consumption of energy and other resources by energy-related products	Sector Economic and Economic Policy Committee Committee on European Integration Human Rights and Civil Integration Committee	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia	Spring session 2019	Law adopted
22. Consideration of the draft law on amendments to the Law of Georgia on Oil and Gas	Directive 94/22/EC on the conditions for granting and using authorizations for the prospecting, exploration and production of hydrocarbons	Sector Economic and Economic Policy Committee Committee on European Integration	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia	Spring session 2019	Amendments adopted
23. Consideration of legislative amendments on the production of energy from renewable sources and promotion of its use	Directive 2009/28/EC on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources	Sector Economic and Economic Policy Committee Committee on European Integration	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia Kingdom of Norway	Spring session 2019	Law adopted
24. Consideration of legislative amendments related to measures to safeguard the security of Georgia's gas supply	Regulation (EU) 2017/1938 concerning measures to safeguard the security of gas supply Directive 2004/67/EC concerning measures to safeguard security of natural gas supply	Sector Economic and Economic Policy Committee Committee on European Integration	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia	Autumn session 2020	Amendments adopted

<p>25. Consideration of legislative amendments related to introduction of the rules on eco-design requirements</p>	<p>Commission Regulation (EC) No 1275/2008 implementing Directive 2005/32/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to eco-design requirements for standby and off mode electric power consumption of electrical and electronic household and office equipment</p> <p>Commission Regulation (EC) No 641/2009 implementing Directive 2005/32/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to eco-design requirements for glandless standalone circulators and glandless circulators integrated in products</p> <p>Commission Regulation (EU) No 1015/2010 implementing Directive 2009/125/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to eco-design requirements for household washing machines</p> <p>Commission Regulation (EC) No 640/2009 implementing Directive 2005/32/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to eco-design requirements for electric motors</p> <p>Commission Regulation (EC) No 643/2009 implementing Directive 2005/32/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to eco-design requirements for household refrigerating</p> <p>Commission Regulation (EC) No 642/2009 implementing Directive 2005/32/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to eco-design requirements for televisions</p> <p>Commission Regulation (EU) No 1016/2010 implementing Directive 2009/125/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to eco-design requirements for household dishwashers</p> <p>Commission Regulation (EC) No 107/2009 implementing Directive 2005/32/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to eco-design requirements for simple set-top boxes</p>	<p>Sector Economy and Economic Policy Committee</p> <p>Committee on European Integration</p>	<p>Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia</p>	<p>Spring-Autumn session 2019-2020</p>	<p>Amendments adopted</p>
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26. Consideration of legislative amendments related to the introduction of the rules of labelling in compliance with EU standards	Regulation (EC) No 106/2008 on a Community energy-efficiency labelling programme for office equipment	Sector Economic and Economic Policy Committee Committee on European Integration	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia	Spring-Autumn session 2020	Amendments adopted
27. Consideration of legislative amendments on labelling of tyres	Regulation (EC) No 1222/2009 on the labelling of tyres with respect to fuel efficiency and other essential parameters	Sector Economic and Economic Policy Committee Environmental Protection and Natural Resources Committee Committee on European Integration	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia	Spring-Autumn session 2019	Amendments adopted
TRANSPORT					
28. Consideration of draft laws on amendments to the Law of Georgia on Traffic, and to the Law of Georgia on the Fees and Time Limits for Services Provided by LEPL Service Agency of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia	Directive 2006/126/EC on driving licenses	Sector Economic and Economic Policy Committee Committee on European Integration	Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia	2019	Amendments adopted
			LEPL Service Agency of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia		
29. Consideration of amendments to the Law of Georgia on Auto Transport, to the Law of Georgia on Licenses and Permits, and to the Law of Georgia on License and Permit Fees	Regulation (EC) No 1071/2009 establishing common rules concerning the conditions to be complied with to pursue the occupation of road transport operator	Sector Economic and Economic Policy Committee Committee on European Integration	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia	Spring session 2019	Amendments adopted
			LEPL Land Transport Agency		


30. Consideration of legislative package of amendments to the Railway Code of Georgia	Regulation (EC) No 1370/2007 on public passenger transport services by rail and by road	Sector Economic and Economic Policy Committee Committee on European Integration Budget and Finance Committee	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia	Spring session 2019	Amendments adopted
			Georgian Railway		
31. Consideration of legislative amendments related to the organization of the working time of persons performing mobile road transport activities	Directive 2002/15/EC on the organization of the working time of persons performing mobile road transport activities	Sector Economic and Economic Policy Committee Committee on European Integration	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia	Spring session 2019	Amendments adopted
			LEPL Land Transport Agency LLC Georgian Railway		
32. Consideration of legislative amendments related to safety conditions in the field of road and railway transport in Georgia in compliance with EU legislation	Directive 2006/22/EC concerning social legislation relating to road transport activities Regulation (EU) No 913/2010 concerning a European rail network for competitive freight Directive 2007/59/EC on the certification of train drivers operating locomotives and trains on the railway system in the Community Directive 2008/68/EC on the inland transport of dangerous goods	Sector Economic and Economic Policy Committee Committee on European Integration Human Rights and Civil Integration Committee	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia	Spring and Autumn sessions 2019	Amendments adopted
			LEPL Land Transport Agency		
			LLC Georgian Railway		
33. Consideration of legislative amendments related to bringing the interoperability of the railway system in line with European standards	Directive 2008/57/EC on the interoperability of the rail system within the Community	Sector Economic and Economic Policy Committee Committee on European Integration	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia	Spring and Autumn sessions 2020	Amendments adopted
			LLC Georgian Railway		

INTERNATIONAL MARITIME TRANSPORT

34. Consideration of draft law on amendments to the Maritime Code of Georgia	Regulation (EC) No 392/2009 on the liability of carriers of passengers by sea in the event of accidents	<p>Sector Economic and Economic Policy Committee</p> <p>Committee on European Integration</p> <p>Human Rights and Civil Integration Committee</p>	<p>Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia</p> <p>LEPL Maritime Transport Agency</p>	Spring session 2019	Amendments adopted
35. Consideration of the draft law on amendments to the Code of Administrative Offences of Georgia	Regulation (EC) No 336/2006 on the implementation of the International Safety Management Code within the Community	<p>Sector Economic and Economic Policy Committee</p> <p>Committee on European Integration</p>	<p>Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia</p> <p>LEPL Maritime Transport Agency</p>	Spring-Autumn session 2019	Amendments adopted
36. Consideration of legislative amendments related to the implementation of safety rules for passenger ships	Directive 2009/45/EC on safety rules and standards for passenger ships	<p>Sector Economic and Economic Policy Committee</p> <p>Committee on European Integration</p>	<p>Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia</p> <p>LEPL Maritime Transport Agency</p>	Spring-Autumn session 2019	Amendments adopted
37. Ensure that the amendments on organization of working hours of seafarers are reflected in the legislation	<p>Directive 1999/63/EC concerning the Agreement on the organization of working time of seafarers</p> <p>Directive 1999/95/EC concerning the enforcement of provisions in respect of seafarers' hours of work on board ships calling at Community ports</p>	<p>Sector Economic and Economic Policy Committee</p> <p>Committee on European Integration</p> <p>Human Rights and Civil Integration Committee</p>	<p>Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia</p> <p>LEPL Maritime Transport Agency</p>	Spring-Autumn session 2019	Amendments adopted

38. Consideration of legislative amendments for purposes of approximation with EU legislation in the field of maritime transport	<p>Directive 1999/35/EC on a system of mandatory surveys for the safe operation of regular ro-ro ferry and high-speed passenger craft services</p> <p>Directive 2001/96/EC establishing harmonized requirements and procedures for the safe loading and unloading of bulk carriers</p> <p>Directive 2000/59/EC on port reception facilities for ship-generated waste and cargo residues</p> <p>Directive 2010/65/EU on reporting formalities for ships arriving in and/or departing from ports of the Member States</p>	<p>Sector Economic and Economic Policy Committee</p> <p>Committee on European Integration</p>	<p>Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia</p> <p>LEPL Maritime Transport Agency</p>	Spring-Autumn session 2019	Amendments adopted
AIR SPACE ¹⁰					
39. Consideration of legislative amendments for purposes of approximation with EU legislation in the field of air space	<p>Association Agreement Annex XXIV - Air Transport</p> <p>Common Aviation Area Agreement Annex III</p>	<p>Sector Economic and Economic Policy Committee</p> <p>Committee on European Integration</p>	<p>Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia</p> <p>LEPL Civil Aviation Agency</p>	Spring-Autumn session 2019	Amendments adopted
40. Consideration of draft law on amendments to the Air Code of Georgia	<p>Common Aviation Area Agreement Annex III</p> <p>Commission Regulation (EU) No 1321/2014 on the continuing airworthiness of aircraft</p>	<p>Sector Economic and Economic Policy Committee</p> <p>Committee on European Integration</p>	<p>Government of Georgia</p> <p>Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia</p> <p>LEPL Civil Aviation Agency</p>	Spring session 2019	Amendments adopted

¹⁰ The timeframe is defined by the Order of the Government of Georgia N2494 dated 26 December 2014. The mentioned timeframe is not defined by the agreement between Georgia and the EU and its Member States on common air space.

 CONSUMER POLICY						
41. Elaboration and consideration of the Law of Georgia on Consumers' Rights Protection	Directive 98/6/EC on consumer protection in the indication of the prices of products offered to consumers	Sector Economic and Economic Policy Committee	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia	Periodically 2019-202	Law adopted	
	Directive 2009/22/EC on injunctions for the protection of consumers' interests					
	Directive 2005/29/EC concerning unfair business-to-consumer commercial practices in the internal market ('Unfair Commercial Practices Directive')	Committee on European Integration	LEPL Competition Agency			
	Regulation (EC) No 2006/2004 on cooperation between national authorities responsible for the enforcement of consumer protection laws (the Regulation on consumer protection cooperation)					
	Directive 2006/114/EC concerning misleading and comparative advertising	Human Rights and Civil Integration Committee				
	Directive 1999/44/EC on certain aspects of the sale of consumer goods and associated guarantees 1999/44/EC					
	Directive 93/13/EEC on unfair terms in consumer contracts	Sector Economic and Economic Policy Committee				
	Directive 2011/83/EU on consumer rights					
42. Consideration of draft law on amendments to the Civil Code of Georgia	Directive (EU) 2015/2302 on package travel and linked travel arrangements	Committee on European Integration	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia	Spring-Autumn session 2019	Amendments considered	
	Directive 2008/122/EC on the protection of consumers in respect of certain aspects of timeshare, long-term holiday product, resale and exchange contracts					
		Human Rights and Civil Integration Committee	LEPL Competition Agency			

43. Consideration of legislative amendments in the field of credit agreements for consumers and distance marketing of consumer financial services	Directive 2002/65/EC concerning the distance marketing of consumer financial services Directive 2008/48/EC on credit agreements for consumers	<p>Sector Economic and Economic Policy Committee</p> <p>Committee on European Integration</p> <p>Budget and Finance Committee</p> <p>Human Rights and Civil Integration Committee</p>	<p>Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia</p> <p>LEPL Competition Agency</p>	Spring-Autumn session 2019	Amendments considered	
EMPLOYMENT, SOCIAL POLICY AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES						
44. Consideration of draft law on amendments to the Labor Code of Georgia	<p>Directive 2000/43/EC implementing the principle of equal treatment between persons irrespective of racial or ethnic origin</p> <p>Directive 2000/78/EC establishing a general framework for equal treatment in employment and occupation</p>	<p>Legal Issues Committee</p> <p>Sector Economic and Economic Policy Committee</p> <p>Healthcare and Social Issues Committee</p> <p>Human Rights and Civil Integration Committee</p> <p>Committee on European Integration</p>	<p>Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Health, Labor and Social Affairs of Georgia</p> <p>Ministry of Justice of Georgia</p>	Spring-Autumn session 2019	Amendments adopted	

<p>45. Consideration of a legislative package of amendments to the Labor Code of Georgia, amendments to the Law of Georgia on Public Service, amendments to the Law of Georgia on Gender Equality, amendments to the Law of Georgia on Labor Migration, amendments to the Code of Administrative Offences of Georgia, and amendments to the Law of Georgia on Control of Entrepreneurial Activity</p>	<p>Directive 91/533/EEC on an employer's obligation to inform employees of the conditions applicable to the contract or employment relationship</p> <p>Directive 1999/70/EC concerning the framework agreement on fixed-term work concluded by ETUC, UNICE and CEEP;</p> <p>Directive 97/81/EC concerning the Framework Agreement on part-time work concluded by UNICE, CEEP and the ETUC - Annex: Framework agreement on part-time work;</p> <p>Directive 2002/14/EC establishing a general framework for informing and consulting employees in the European Community — Joint declaration of the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on employee representation</p> <p>Directive 2006/54/EC on the implementation of the principle of equal opportunities and equal treatment of men and women in matters of employment and occupation;</p> <p>Directive 92/85/EEC on the introduction of measures to encourage improvements in the safety and health at work of pregnant workers and workers who have recently given birth or are breastfeeding (tenth individual Directive within the meaning of Article 16(1) of Directive 89/391/EEC);</p> <p>Directive 79/7/EEC on the progressive implementation of the principle of equal treatment for men and women in matters of social security.</p>	<p>Healthcare and Social Issues Committee</p> <p>Committee on European Integration</p> <p>Human Rights and Civil Integration Committee</p> <p>Sector Economy and Economic Policy Committee</p> <p>Legal Issues Committee</p>	<p>Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Health, Labor and Social Affairs of Georgia</p> <p>Ministry of Justice of Georgia</p> <p>International Organizations (ILO, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung)</p> <p>European Union</p>	<p>Spring-Autumn session 2019</p>	<p>Amendments adopted</p>
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46. Consideration of draft law on amendments to the Labor Code of Georgia	Directive 98/59/EC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to collective redundancies Directive 2001/23/EC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the safeguarding of employees' rights in the event of transfers of undertakings, businesses or parts of undertakings or businesses	<p>Healthcare and Social Issues Committee</p> <p>Committee on European Integration</p> <p>Human Rights and Civil Integration Committee</p> <p>Legal Issues Committee</p>	<p>Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Health, Labor and Social Affairs of Georgia</p> <p>Ministry of Justice of Georgia</p> <p>International Organizations (ILO, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung)</p>	Spring-Autumn session 2019	Amendments adopted	
47. Consideration of draft law on amendments to the Law of Georgia on Labor Safety	Directive 89/391/EEC of 12 June 1989 on the introduction of measures to encourage improvements in the safety and health of workers at work	<p>Healthcare and Social Issues Committee</p> <p>Committee on European Integration</p> <p>Human Rights and Civil Integration Committee</p> <p>Legal Issues Committee</p>	<p>Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Health, Labor and Social Affairs of Georgia</p> <p>International Organizations (ILO, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung)</p>	Spring-Autumn session 2019	Amendments adopted	
48. Consideration of draft law on amendments to the Labor Code of Georgia	Directive 91/383/EEC supplementing the measures to encourage improvements in the safety and health at work of workers with a fixed-duration employment relationship or a temporary employment relationship Directive 2003/88/EC concerning certain aspects of the organization of working time	<p>Healthcare and Social Issues Committee</p> <p>Committee on European Integration</p> <p>Human Rights and Civil Integration Committee</p> <p>Legal Issues Committee</p>	<p>Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Health, Labor and Social Affairs of Georgia</p> <p>LEPL Technical and Construction Supervision Agency</p> <p>Tripartite Commission on Social Partnership</p>	Spring-Autumn session 2020	Amendments adopted	

49. Consideration of draft Law on Employment Promotion Services	Association Agenda 2017-2020	<p>Healthcare and Social Issues Committee</p> <p>Sector Economic and Economic Policy Committee</p> <p>Budget and Finance Committee</p> <p>Committee on European Integration</p> <p>Human Rights and Civil Integration Committee</p>	<p>Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Health, Labor and Social Affairs of Georgia</p> <p>Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia</p> <p>Ministry of Finance of Georgia</p>	Spring-Autumn session 2019	Law adopted
 PUBLIC HEALTH					
50. Consideration of draft law on amendments to the Law of Georgia on the Donation of Blood and its Components	<p>Directive 2002/98/EC setting standards of quality and safety for the collection, testing, processing, storage and distribution of human blood and blood components</p> <p>Directive 2004/33/EC as regards certain technical requirements for blood and blood components</p> <p>Directive 2005/62/EC implementing Directive 2002/98/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards Community standards and specifications relating to a quality system for blood establishments</p> <p>Directive 2005/61/EC implementing Directive 2002/98/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards traceability requirements and notification of serious adverse reactions and events</p>	<p>Healthcare and Social Issues Committee</p> <p>Committee on European Integration</p> <p>Human Rights and Civil Integration Committee</p>	<p>Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Health, Labor and Social Affairs of Georgia</p> <p>LEPL L. Sakvarelidze National Center for Disease Control and Public Health</p>	Spring-Autumn session 2019	Amendments adopted

<p>51. Consideration of draft law on amendments to the Law of Georgia on Human Organ Transplants</p>	<p>Directive 2004/23/EC on setting standards of quality and safety for the donation, procurement, testing, processing, preservation, storage and distribution of human tissues and cells</p> <p>Directive 2006/17/EC implementing Directive 2004/23/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council</p> <p>Directive 2006/86/EC implementing Directive 2004/23/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards traceability requirements, notification of serious adverse reactions and events and certain technical requirements for the coding, processing, preservation, storage and distribution of human tissues and cells</p> <p>Directive 2010/53/EU on standards of quality and safety of human organs intended for transplantation</p>	<p>Healthcare and Social Issues Committee</p> <p>Committee on European Integration</p> <p>Human Rights and Civil Integration Committee</p>	<p>Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Health, Labor and Social Affairs of Georgia</p>	<p>Spring-Autumn session 2019</p>	<p>Amendments adopted</p>
<p>52. Consideration of draft law on amendments to the Law of Georgia on Tobacco Control</p>	<p>Directive 2001/37/EC on the approximation of the laws, regulations and administrative provisions of the Member States concerning the manufacture, presentation and sale of tobacco products</p> <p>Recommendation on the prevention of smoking and on initiatives to improve tobacco control (2003/54/EC)</p>	<p>Healthcare and Social Issues Committee</p> <p>Committee on European Integration</p> <p>Human Rights and Civil Integration Committee</p> <p>Legal Issues Committee</p>	<p>Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Health, Labor and Social Affairs of Georgia</p>	<p>Spring-Autumn session 2020</p>	<p>Amendments adopted</p>

53. Consideration of draft Law on Medical Devices	<p>Directive 93/42/EEC concerning medical devices</p> <p>Directive 98/79/EC on in vitro diagnostic medical devices</p> <p>Directive 90/385/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to active implantable medical devices</p>	<p>Healthcare and Social Issues Committee</p> <p>Committee on European Integration</p> <p>Human Rights and Civil Integration Committee</p>	<p>Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia</p> <p>Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Health, Labor and Social Affairs of Georgia</p>	Spring-Autumn session 2019	Law adopted	
EDUCATION						
54. Consideration of a legislative package of amendments to the Law of Georgia on Development of Quality of Education, amendments to the Law of Georgia on General Education, amendments to the Law of Georgia on Higher Education, and amendments to the Law of Georgia on Vocational Education	<p>Recommendation 98/561/EC on European cooperation in quality assurance in higher education</p> <p>Recommendation 2008/C 111/01 on the establishment of the European Qualifications Framework for lifelong learning</p> <p>Recommendation 2006/962/EEC on key competences for lifelong learning</p> <p>Recommendation 2009/C 155/01 on the establishment of a European Quality Assurance Reference Framework for Vocational Education and Training</p> <p>Decision No 2241/2004/EC on a single Community framework for the transparency of qualifications and competences (Europass)</p> <p>Recommendation 2006/143/EC on further European cooperation in quality assurance in higher education</p>	<p>Education, Science and Culture Committee</p> <p>Committee on European Integration</p>	<p>Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of Georgia</p>	Spring-Autumn session 2019	Amendments adopted	

ACCOUNTING AND AUDITING, AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

<p>55. Consideration of a legislative package of amendments to the Law of Georgia on Accounting, Reporting and Auditing, and amendments to the Law of Georgia on Entrepreneurs</p>	<p>Directive 2013/34/EU on the annual financial statements, consolidated financial statements and related reports of certain types of undertakings</p>	<p>Budget and Finance Committee Sector Economy and Economic Policy Committee Committee on European Integration</p>	<p>Ministry of Finance of Georgia Service for Accounting, Reporting and Auditing Supervision</p>	<p>Spring-Autumn session 2019</p>	<p>Amendments adopted</p>
<p>56. Consideration of draft Law on Entrepreneurs</p>	<p>Directive 2007/36/EC on the exercise of certain rights of shareholders in listed companies Directive 2012/30/EU on the minimal standards of formation and alteration of capital of the public limited liability companies Directive 2011/35/EU concerning mergers of public limited liability companies on the territory of the EU Directive 82/891/EEC concerning the division of public limited liability companies Directive 89/666/EEC concerning disclosure requirements in respect of branches opened in a Member State by certain types of company governed by the law of another State Directive 2009/101/EC on coordination of safeguards which, for the protection of the interests of members and third parties, are required by Member States of companies</p>	<p>Budget and Finance Committee Sector Economy and Economic Policy Committee Legal Issues Committee Committee on European Integration</p>	<p>Ministry of Finance of Georgia</p>	<p>Spring-Autumn session 2019</p>	<p>New law adopted</p>

57. Consideration of draft law on amendments to the Law of Georgia on the Securities Market	Directive 2004/25/EC on takeover bids	<p>Budget and Finance Committee</p> <p>Sector Economy and Economic Policy Committee</p> <p>Legal Issues Committee</p> <p>Committee on European Integration</p>	<p>Ministry of Finance of Georgia</p> <p>Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia</p>	Spring session 2020	Amendments adopted	
🔌 RULES RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL SERVICE						
58. Consideration of draft Law on Additional Supervision of Financial Conglomerates	Directive 2002/87/EC on the supplementary supervision of credit institutions, insurance undertakings and investment firms in a financial conglomerate	<p>Budget and Finance Committee</p> <p>Committee on European Integration</p>	<p>Ministry of Finance of Georgia</p> <p>National Bank of Georgia</p> <p>LEPL Insurance State Supervision Service of Georgia</p>	Spring-Autumn session 2019	Law adopted	

<p>59. Consideration of legislative amendments for purposes of approximation with EU legislation in the field of financial services</p>	<p>Directive 2009/103/EC relating to insurance against civil liability in respect of the use of motor vehicles, and the enforcement of the obligation to insure against such liability</p> <p>Regulation (EC) No 924/2009 on cross-border payments in the Community</p> <p>Directive 2002/47/EC on financial collateral arrangements</p> <p>Directive 98/26/EC on settlement finality in payment and securities settlement systems</p> <p>Directive 2009/44/EC amending Directive 98/26/EC on settlement finality in payment and securities settlement systems and Directive 2002/47/EC on financial collateral arrangements as regards linked systems and credit claims</p> <p>Directive 97/9/EC on investor-compensation schemes</p> <p>Directive 2009/138/ on the taking-up and pursuit of the business of Insurance</p> <p>Directive 2009/65/EC on the coordination of laws, regulations and administrative provisions relating to undertakings for collective investment in transferable securities (UCITS)</p> <p>Directive 2007/16/EC implementing Council Directive 85/611/EEC on the coordination (amendment) of laws, regulations and administrative provisions relating to undertakings for collective investment in transferable securities (UCITS) as regards the clarification of certain definitions</p> <p>Directive 91/674/EEC on the annual accounts and consolidated accounts of insurance undertakings</p> <p>Directive 94/19/EC on deposit-guarantee schemes</p>	<p>Budget and Finance Committee</p> <p>Sector Economic and Economic Policy Committee</p> <p>Committee on European Integration</p>	<p>Ministry of Finance of Georgia</p> <p>National Bank of Georgia</p> <p>LEPL Insurance State Supervision Service of Georgia</p>	<p>Spring session 2019-Autumn session 2020</p>	<p>Amendments adopted</p>	
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PUBLIC PROCUREMENT					
60. Consideration of legislative amendments for purposes of approximation with EU legislation in the field of public procurement	Directive 2014/24/EU on public procurement and repealing Directive 2004/18/EC	Sector Economic and Economic Policy Committee Budget and Finance Committee Committee on European Integration	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia	2019 -2020	Amendments adopted
	Directive 2014/25/EU on procurement by entities operating in the water, energy, transport and postal services sectors and repealing Directive 2004/17/EC		Ministry of Finance of Georgia		
	<p>Directive 89/665/EEC on the application of the dispute consideration procedures related to the supply of goods and state procurement of works, on implementation the relevant regulations (directive on disputes in the field of state procurement)</p> <p>Directive 92/13/EEC coordinating the laws, regulations and administrative provisions relating to the application of Community rules on the procurement procedures of entities operating in the water, energy, transport and telecommunications sectors (directive on disputes in the field of sectors)</p> <p>Directive 2007/66/EC amending Council Directives 89/665/EEC and 92/13/EEC with regard to improving the effectiveness of review procedures concerning the award of public contracts</p>				

APPROXIMATION OF CUSTOMS LEGISLATION					
61. Discussion of the Customs Code of Georgia	Regulation (EEC) No 2913/92 establishing the Community Customs Code	Budget and Finance Committee	Ministry of Finance of Georgia	Spring session 2019	Code adopted
	Regulation (EC) No 1186/2009 setting-up a Community system of reliefs from customs duty	Agrarian Issues Committee Education, Science and Culture Committee Healthcare and Social Issues Committee Sector Economy and Economic Policy Committee Committee on Legal Issues Committee on European Integration	LEPL Revenue Service		
TAXATION					
62. Consideration of draft law on amendments to the Tax Code of Georgia	Directive 2011/64/EU on the structure and rates of excise duty applied on manufactured tobacco	Budget and Finance Committee	Ministry of Finance of Georgia	Spring-Autumn session 2019	Amendments adopted
	Directive 2006/112/EC on the common system of value added tax	Committee on European Integration	LEPL Revenue Service		

TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES			
63. Consideration of draft law on amendments to the Law of Georgia on Electronic Communications	<p>Chapter IV of the Association Agreement, Annex XV-B; Rules defined for the telecommunication services</p> <p>Directive 2002/58/EC concerning the processing of personal data and the protection of privacy in the electronic communications sector</p> <p>Directive 2002/19/EC on access to, and interconnection of, electronic communications networks and associated facilities</p> <p>Directive 2002/21/EC on a common regulatory framework for electronic communications networks and services (Framework Directive), that was amended with the Directive 2009/140/EC</p> <p>Directive 2002/20/EC on the authorization of electronic communications networks and services (Authorization Directive) that was amended with Directive 2009/140/EC</p>	<p>Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia</p> <p>Georgian National Communications Commission</p>	<p>Spring session 2019</p> <p>Amendments adopted</p>
<p>Sector Economic and Economic Policy Committee</p> <p>Committee on European Integration</p>	<p>Sector Economic and Economic Policy Committee</p> <p>Committee on European Integration</p>	<p>Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia</p> <p>Georgian National Communications Commission</p> <p>European Bank for Reconstruction and Development</p>	<p>Spring-Autumn session 2019</p> <p>Amendments adopted</p>
64. Consideration of legislative amendments for purposes of approximation with EU legislation in the field of telecommunications services	<p>Directive 2002/22/EC on universal service and users' rights relating to electronic communications networks and services</p>	<p>Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia</p> <p>Georgian National Communications Commission</p> <p>European Bank for Reconstruction and Development</p>	<p>Spring-Autumn session 2019</p> <p>Amendments adopted</p>
<p>Sector Economic and Economic Policy Committee</p> <p>Committee on European Integration</p>	<p>Sector Economic and Economic Policy Committee</p> <p>Committee on European Integration</p>	<p>Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia</p> <p>Georgian National Communications Commission</p> <p>European Bank for Reconstruction and Development</p>	<p>Spring-Autumn session 2019</p> <p>Amendments adopted</p>

65. Consideration of draft Law on E-Commerce	Chapter IV of the Association Agreement, Annex XV-B	Sector Economic and Economic Policy Committee Committee on European Integration	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia United States Agency for International Development (USAID)	Spring session 2019	Law adopted	
 RULES FOR POSTAL AND COURIER SERVICES						
66. Discussion of the Law of Georgia on Postal Services	Directive 97/67/EC on common rules for the development of the internal market of Community postal services and the improvement of quality of service Directive 2002/39/EC on the further opening to competition of Community postal services Directive 2008/6/EC on full accomplishment of the internal market of Community postal services	Sector Economic and Economic Policy Committee Legal Issues Committee Committee on European Integration	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia	Spring-Autumn session 2019	Law adopted	

IMPLEMENTATION OF ASSOCIATION AGREEMENT: PARLIAMENTARY OVERSIGHT

Activity / Event	Compliance with the Association Agreement	Sectorial Committees	Other Stakeholders	Period	Indicator	Comment
1. Hearing of the report on the work of the Association Council	Articles 404-406 of the Association Agreement	Foreign Relations Committee on European Integration	Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia	Annually - within two months of holding the Association Council	Protocol of Committee hearings are approved; recommendations are developed	
2. Hearing of the report on the work of the Association Committee	Article 407 of the Association Agreement	Foreign Relations Committee on European Integration	Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia	Annually - within two months of holding the Association Council	Protocol of Committee hearing is approved; recommendations are developed	
3. Sitzings and meetings of the EU-Georgia Parliamentary Association Committee (PAC) and adoption of joint statements	Articles 410 and 411 of the Association Agreement	Committee on European Integration	The Parliamentary Delegation of the Parliamentary Association Committee of the European Parliament	Twice a year	Statements, protocols of meetings, recommendations are developed	
4. Hearing of the report of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia on the activities of the Ministry with regard to EU integration (including participation/engagement of Georgia in EU programs and agencies)		Foreign Relations Committee on European Integration	Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia	Twice a year	Protocol of a hearing is approved; recommendations are developed	
5. Hearing the report on the fulfilment status of obligations under the Association Agreement in the field of environmental protection and activities related to the climate		Environmental Protection and Natural Resources Committee on European Integration	Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture of Georgia	First quarter of each year Hearing of a six-months report September-October of each year	Protocol of a hearing is approved; recommendations are developed	

6. Hearing the report on fulfilment status of obligations under the Association Agreement in the field of food safety, veterinary and plant protection		Agrarian Issues Committee Committee on European Integration	Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture of Georgia	First quarter of each year Hearing of a six-months report September-October of each year	Protocol of a hearing is approved; recommendations are developed	
7. Hearing the report on fulfilment status of obligations in the field of energy under the Association Agreement and Energy Community Treaty		Sector Economic and Economic Policy Committee Committee on European Integration	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia	First quarter of each year Hearing of a six-months report September-October of each year	Protocol of a hearing is approved; recommendations are developed	
8. Hearing the report on fulfilment status of obligations under the Association Agreement in the field of transport		Sector Economic and Economic Policy Committee Committee on European Integration	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia	First quarter of each year Hearing of a six-months report September-October of each year	Protocol of a hearing is approved; recommendations are developed	
9. Hearing the report on fulfilment status of obligations under the Association Agreement in the fields of consumer protection, employment, social policy and equal opportunities as well as in the field of public health		Healthcare and Social Issues Committee Committee on European Integration	Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Health, Labor and Social Affairs of Georgia	First quarter of each year Hearing of a six-months report September-October of each year	Protocol of a hearing is approved; recommendations are developed	

10. Hearing the report on fulfillment status of obligations under the Association Agreement in the field of education		Education, Science and Culture Committee Committee on European Integration	Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of Georgia	First quarter of each year Hearing of a six-months report September-October of each year	Protocol of a hearing is approved; recommendations are developed	
11. Hearing the report on fulfillment status of obligations under the Association Agreement on the issues of justice, freedom and security		Legal Issues Committee Human Rights and Civil Integration Committee Committee on European Integration	Ministry of Justice of Georgia	First quarter of each year Hearing of a six-months report September-October of each year	Protocol of a hearing is approved; recommendations are developed	
12. Hearing the report on fulfillment status of obligations under the Association Agreement related to financial services, taxation and corporate governance		Sector Economy and Economic Policy Committee Budget and Finance Committee Committee on European Integration	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia Ministry of Finance of Georgia	First quarter of each year Hearing of a six-months report September-October of each year	Protocol of a hearing is approved; recommendations are developed	
13. Hearing the annual report on implementation of the National Action Plan for Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area Agreement (DCFTA) of the Association Agreement		Sector Economy and Economic Policy Committee Committee on European Integration	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia	First quarter - annually	Protocol of a hearing is approved; recommendations are developed	

14. Hearing the report on the execution of the Budget of Georgia, including with respect to the fulfilment of the Association Agreement		Budget and Finance Committee Committee on European Integration	Ministry of Finance of Georgia	Once a year	Protocol of a hearing is approved; recommendations are developed
15. Hearing of information on the state of enforcement of normative acts based on the Association Agreement		Committee on European Integration	Government of Georgia Line Ministries	2019-2020	Protocol of a hearing is approved; recommendations are developed
16. Request for information on decisions made by the Association subcommittees	Article 409 of the Association Agreement	Sector Economy and Economic Policy Committee	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia	Receive a report within two months of holding subcommittees' meetings	Receipt of meeting report
17. Hearing of the report prepared on the implementation of the Association Agreement and communication strategy relating to EU and NATO membership		Environmental Protection and Natural Resources Committee Agrarian Issues Committee Healthcare and Social Issues Committee Human Rights and Civil Integration Committee Committee on European Integration Foreign Relations Committee	Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture of Georgia Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Health, Labor and Social Affairs of Georgia Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia Ministry of Justice of Georgia Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia	Annually	Protocol of a hearing is approved; recommendations are developed

18. Hearing of the report on fulfillment of obligations relating to visa liberalization with the Schengen Area countries		Committee on European Integration Foreign Relations Committee	Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia Ministry of Justice of Georgia	Twice a year	Protocol of a hearing is approved; recommendations are developed	
19. Consideration of the 'shadow reports' prepared by civil society on the implementation of the Association Agreement		Committee on European Integration Respective Sectorial Committees	National Platform Other international organizations	During spring and autumn sessions (prior to hearing of relevant Government reports)	Protocol of a hearing is approved; recommendations are developed	
20. Regular update of the web-site www.aage.ge regulated by the Committee on European Integration		Committees Cabinet of the Speaker of the Parliament	Line Ministries	Regularly	Updates posted on the web portal	

COMMUNICATION STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN OF THE PARLIAMENT OF GEORGIA ON EU INTEGRATION

COMMUNICATION STRATEGY

The Communication Strategy of the Parliament of Georgia on EU integration (hereinafter, referred to as the Communication Strategy) includes the following key components:

- ✓ Communication vision
- ✓ Communication mission
- ✓ Strategic goals and objectives
- ✓ Target audience and messages
- ✓ Communication tools
- ✓ Communication management

Communication vision

The vision of the Communication Strategy defines the main objective of the implementation of the action plan. It also outlines the status that the Parliament should achieve, from the perspectives of both internal and external audiences, by the final stage of the strategy. Thus, the vision was officially formulated as follows:

By 2020, the Parliament of Georgia should represent an active link in the communication of issues of EU integration, should demonstrate positive changes, and should create an agenda within the information space for the issues related to EU integration.

Communication mission

The communication mission defines the main function to be fulfilled by the Parliament of Georgia in the information space during activities and communication with various groups on issues relating to EU integration. Accordingly, the following definition of the mission has been provided:

In line with its own functions, the communication mission of the Parliament of Georgia on the issues of EU integration is to raise the awareness of a wide audience encompassing different target groups and to unite the efforts of various stakeholders or involved parties to communicate positively to obtain a high level of support among society towards the process.

Strategic goals and objectives

The following strategic goals were defined to achieve the presented vision, as well as for purposes of communication support for the Parliament on European integration issues:

1. Raising awareness about EU integration process and its outcomes
2. Refinement and improvement of communication process management on EU integration issues

Target audience and messages

For effective implementation of the communication and public relations processes of the Parliament on EU integration issues, it is important that communication is targeted. This will focus on informing, educating and engaging with specific groups. This will, on the one hand, allow for the optimal use of resources and, on the other hand, encourage social discussion and conversations. Therefore, information will be kept up-to-date and reliable.

Target groups	Messages/arguments
Civil society organizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ The integration process implies the establishment of Georgia as a democratic, economically and socially sustainable European state with strong democratic institutions; ✓ The success of the integration process is in these organizations' common interests and it is important to unite their efforts in this regard; ✓ Cooperation in terms of informing and educating their beneficiaries will significantly help the process; ✓ The coordination of the process and maximum cooperation of these organizations is necessary to counter Russian propaganda; ✓ Answers can disprove the untruths of such propaganda, and we should spread these together to the population.
Representatives of local self-governments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Integration with the EU and free trade will be beneficial for residents of the regions of Georgia, and this needs to be explained clearly to them; ✓ Local self-government reform and strengthening of the regions will mostly depend on properly managed integration process; ✓ They have to confront false information spread by Russian propaganda, and use the local population's belief in them to achieve this; ✓ As the first point of contact with citizens, the representatives should clearly outline the immediate benefits of European integration: visa-free travel (and relevant conditions); free trade (and relevant conditions); better living environment (environmental protection, waste management, etc.); and encouragement of local initiatives.
Youth and school students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Effective implementation of the EU integration process is one of the key factors for the sustainable development of Georgia; ✓ The involvement of youth and students in accurate communication of the EU integration process is vital when informing and educating the older generations; ✓ The youth and students will be able to attain a better education and more diverse experiences as a result of the EU integration.

Business organizations and farmers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Meeting the requirements of the Association Agreement will, first of all, affect their activities, so they should be aware of all changes ✓ The regulations and preferences related to the EU integration process should be discussed and agreed with business organizations and farmers, hence their engagement in terms of communication is important; ✓ For Georgia, trade has grown steadily, especially in terms of exports to EU countries, in recent years; ✓ Since gaining independence the volume of investments in general from Europe and North America has increased over the years; ✓ Out of the sectors that have developed as a result of western investments, the agriculture sector, heavy industry and the mining industry have all undergone the most notable development; ✓ Various events and forums are carried out by western partners to support us; ✓ Trade statistics are improving with EU and North American countries; ✓ The number of subjects involved in trade, who benefit from trade with EU and North American countries has also increased over the years; and ✓ Dozens of new businesses are created annually with European and North American investment, thereby directly forming a basis for employment growth.
International organizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ The support of such organizations is important to ensure accurate communication and efficient delivery of benefits of the EU integration process to the population; and ✓ Communication activities shall be coordinated for achieving better results and preventing crisis
Media and journalists	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Readers and viewers are interested in issues related to EU integration so it is beneficial for media and journalists to cover such issues; ✓ The EU integration process is quite complex and multifaceted, thus requiring deep and detailed coverage; ✓ Citizens should see the benefits of EU integration for the country as a whole as well as at the individual level. The media and journalists are best placed to provide explain and convey these benefits; ✓ The most efficient weapon to fight against the establishment of false information spread via Russian propaganda is the full awareness and education of a population that depends on the media and journalists.

Educational institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ The participation of educational institutions in accurate communication of EU integration processes and comprehensively informing younger generations is decisive and necessary; ✓ The engagement of teachers and other educational personnel in the process of EU integration communication and proper training thereon is important; ✓ The EU integration process is reflected in every field, including education and the development of educational institutions can be boosted by such a process.
Social media opinion leaders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Initiation of public discussions is necessary to present the EU integration process in a positive context for which support from social media opinion leaders is vital; ✓ Human stories can be the most convincing, so social media opinion leaders can play a crucial and decisive role here.
MPs and office staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ MPs and their staff are the most aware of how hard the Parliament is working to lead the European integration process properly and it is important to deliver this information to others as well; ✓ EU integration represents the cornerstone of the development and progress of Georgia and we should deliver this information to the population.

Communication tools

It is important to educate the media regarding the EU integration process, which will have long-term and permanent consequences, to ensure correct and deep coverage. The focus should be on the engagement of representatives of national and regional media outlets in various types of educational and informational activities that will provide them with more detailed information about the benefits of the EU integration process. In this regard, it is necessary that the Committee on European Integration conducts informational meetings with media representatives on a regular basis on selected/actual issues of the European agenda. Furthermore, besides media-tours and seminars, it would be beneficial to involve journalists and other representatives of the media in the decision-making processes. Communication campaigns and similar activities should also be planned.

In the Georgian information space, false stereotypes about EU integration are particularly rife. This problem cannot be solved by unilateral communication, regardless of how reasonable and convincing the argument may be. Indeed, the audience's reception is limited if it does not participate itself in a variety of discussions and is not allowed to develop its own opinion related to certain issues. Thus, the initiation of public discussion is important to give prominence to the most important (acute) issues, and to provoke the thinking of members of different target groups. This should be carried out through social media networks and various media outlets. Clearly, the internet and local opinion leaders will play key roles in this process.

Carrying out campaigns

To ensure effective communication about EU integration issues, it is important to use the so-called "campaign approach." This is particularly helpful when adopting a new legislative amendment or when introducing a new regulation. Ultimately, it is important that such campaigning significantly improves the public processes and contributes to the fulfillment of the obligations of the Association Agreement. For this purpose, the identification of a specific issue, branding, elaboration of a specific activities' plan, and the implementation of such activities under a single umbrella is necessary. Doing so increases the likelihood, in the overloaded information space, of the population perceiving and remembering key messages.

In this regard, it is important to carry out specific campaigns on topics and issues such as environmental protection/waste management, protection of labor rights, food and toy safety. During the campaigning, intensive direct communications, especially in the regions, will be important.

Communication management

Based on the present strategy, a long-term action plan has been prepared, and the Committee on European Integration shall be responsible for its implementation. However, the existing resources for the implementation of this strategy and action plan are not sufficient. Therefore, in the process of the implementation of the strategy by the Committee on European Integration, the capabilities and the efforts of different committees, as well as relevant structural entities (such as the Department of Public Relations and Information), must be unified.

To ensure better implementation of regional activities, the Parliament may use local bureaus of majoritarian MPs as a resource center for communications on EU integration and as a coordination link for activities to be conducted locally. For this purpose, the representatives of the bureaus must be trained and provided with special information materials and message-boxes. The employees of the bureaus of the majoritarian MPs may be trained together with the representatives of local self-governments.

Assessment reporting procedure

Regular monitoring and reporting of the Communication Strategy and Action Plan of the Parliament of Georgia on EU Integration is important. Every six months, a detailed report on the implementation of the action plan shall be prepared including the following information:

- ✓ Activities planned for the given period;
- ✓ Details of what was done and how over a given period;
- ✓ Reasons behind any activities failing to be accomplished;
- ✓ Recommendations for amendments to be made to adequately fulfill the plan and to neutralize any hindrances; and
- ✓ Any changes needing to be made to the plan.

Based on the contents of this report, if necessary, changes should be made both to the strategy and the action plan.

An assessment of the effectiveness of the realization of the communication strategy and tasks that should be carried out are outlined below:

Strategic Goals / Objectives	Performance Indicators	Checking Mechanisms
SG#1: Raising awareness about the EU integration process and its outcomes ✓ Media education ✓ Conduct thematic campaigns ✓ Celebrate Europe Day	✓ Issues awareness ✓ Professional media materials	✓ Sociological survey and targeted research ✓ Media monitoring
SG#2: Refinement of communication process management regarding EU integration issues ✓ Systematization of media relations ✓ Strengthening internet communication ✓ Improving direct communication ✓ Structural organization of the process ✓ Refinement of feedback and analysis mechanism	✓ Availability of a permanent system of information exchange ✓ Availability of a system providing access to information ✓ Quantity of novelties and activities ✓ Availability of an internal communication and reporting system ✓ Level of awareness among employees	✓ Sociological survey, internet and media monitoring ✓ Reports of events ✓ Analysis of statistical and quantitative data ✓ Study of documentation and reports

COMMUNICATION PLAN

Activity/event	Responsible Committee	Other Stakeholders	Period	Indicator	Comment
RAISING AWARENESS OF SOCIETY ABOUT THE EU INTEGRATION PROCESS AND ITS OUTCOMES					
1. A cycle of programs on the Public Broadcaster	Committee on European Integration	Department of Public Relations and Information of the Parliament	2019-2020	TV programs prepared and broadcasted	With donor support
2. A cycle of weekly radio programs in cooperation with the Public Broadcaster	Committee on European Integration	Department of Public Relations and Information of the Parliament	2019-2020	Radio programs prepared and broadcasted	With donor support
3. Develop a plan for regional meetings	Committee on European Integration	Public Broadcaster	2019	Plan schedule prepared and approved	
4. Meetings with the representatives of local self-government authorities	Committee on European Integration	Legal Issues Committee	Once every 6 months	Meetings are held and covered by media outlets	
5. Informational meetings with students	Committee on European Integration	Education, Science and Culture Committee	Once every quarter	Meetings are held and covered by media outlets	
6. Meetings with ethnic minority representatives	Committee on European Integration	Legal Issues Committee	Once every 6 months	Meetings are held and covered by media outlets	
7. Holding open lectures at schools	Committee on European Integration	Regional Policy and Self-Government Committee	Once every 6 months	Meetings are held and covered by media outlets	
8. Europe Door to Door — meetings with the populations in regions	Committee on European Integration	Education, Science and Culture Committee	Once every quarter	Meetings are held and covered by media outlets	
	Committee on European Integration	Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure of Georgia	Once every 6 months	Meetings are held and covered by media outlets	With donor support

9. Conduct thematic campaigns	Committee on European Integration	Human Rights and Civil Integration Committee Sector Economy and Economic Policy Committee Environmental Protection and Natural Resources Committee Agrarian Issues Committee Healthcare and Social Issues Committee Legal Issues Committee The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia LEPL Information Center on NATO and EU	2019-2020	Campaigns conducted, including on issues such as technical inspection of motor vehicles and waste management. Report produced	With donor support
10. Celebrate Europe Day	Committee on European Integration	Department of Public Relations and Information of the Parliament Legal Issues Committee Ministry of Foreign Affairs LEPL Information Center on NATO and EU	Annually on	Event carried out	With donor support
11. Organize competitions for students and high-school pupils dedicated to the EU integration theme	Committee on European Integration	Department of Public Relations and Information of the Parliament Legal Issues Committee	February-April, 2019-2020	Contests held at schools and universities — in Tbilisi and other cities	With donor support
12. Social media posts by opinion leaders and MPs with a common hashtag	Committee on European Integration	Department of Public Relations and Information of the Parliament	March-April, 2019-2020	Published social media posts with common hashtag	With donor support
13. Launch a 'challenge' in social networks	Committee on European Integration	Department of Public Relations and Information of the Parliament	April, 2019-2020	"Challenge" shared by users of social networks	With donor support

14. Organize photo and painting contests	Committee on European Integration	Legal Issues Committee	2019-2020	Contests held	With donor support
15. Hold media contest for regional mass media representatives	Committee on European Integration	Department of Public Relations and Information of the Parliament Legal Issues Committee	2019-2020	Media contest announced and held	With donor support
MANAGE AND IMPROVE THE PROCESS OF COMMUNICATION OF THE ISSUES RELATED TO EU INTEGRATION					
16. Establish and update a media database	Committee on European Integration	Department of Public Relations and Information of the Parliament	2019-2020	Database created	
17. Hold media seminars for journalists	Committee on European Integration		Three times a year	Media seminars held	With donor support
18. Meetings with media	Committee on European Integration		Twice a year	Meetings held	With donor support
19. Conduct media monitoring	Committee on European Integration		Once a month	Monitoring report prepared	
20. Disseminate press releases	Committee on European Integration		Twice a week	Press releases provided to media outlets	
21. Create social media presence on various platforms (Facebook.com, Twitter.com, YouTube.com, Slideshare.com, Wordpress.com)	Committee on European Integration		2019	Special pages have been registered and branded on four different social networks	With donor support
22. Upload updates and posts to the internet and social networks	Committee on European Integration		Twice a week	Posted updates on social networks and the website	
23. Photo and video archiving	Committee on European Integration		Once a month	Photo and video materials archived	
24. Submit and publish annual report on the activities of the Committee on European Integration for the public	Committee on European Integration		Annually		

