

Resolution on the Draft Law on "Transparency of Foreign Influence" in Georgia

Reiterating the IDC-CDI's support for Georgia's Euro-Atlantic integration, peaceful and democratic development, economic advancement, and the aspirations of the Georgian people to live in a free and secure country,

Recalling the recent announcement by Georgia's ruling party to reintroduce a draft law on "Transparency of Foreign Influence". Noting with concern the failure to adhere to the previous commitment made by the Georgian government and the ruling party to "unconditionally withdraw" such legislation, as stated last year.

Joining in the calls from international organizations, the EU, US, other European institutions and leaders, representatives of parliaments, civil society, and human rights organizations criticizing the above-mentioned legislation. Expressing regret over the disregard for strong public and international opposition to this proposal in March 2023, and its subsequent reconsideration,

Emphasising the fundamental importance of creating and maintaining an environment conducive to the operation of civil society organizations and ensuring media freedom, both integral to democracy and vital for Georgia's EU accession process,

Recognizing that the European Council granted Georgia candidate status based on the aspiration of Georgian society and the understanding that specific steps outlined in the Commission's recent recommendations. Affirming that transparency should not be used as a means to curtail the ability of civil society to function freely,

Urges the Georgian authorities to abstain from adopting legislation on regulations which are not in line with international standards and are similar to Russian legislation, to enact reforms aligned with the objective of EU membership, which enjoys the support of a vast majority of Georgian citizens, to uphold its commitment to promoting democracy, the rule of law, free and fair elections, and human rights,

Requests the European institutions and other viable international actors to closely monitor developments regarding the draft law on "Transparency of Foreign Influence" in Georgia and take further appropriate action as necessary to safeguard democratic principles.

General Assembly meeting – Marrakech 13.04.24