

# NO TOPHOBIA!

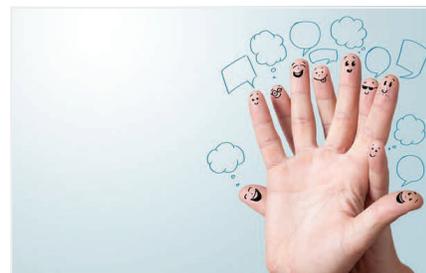
WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF MEDIA DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION AND GEORGIAN DEMOCRACY INITIATIVE

## MAIN OBSERVATIONS

During the period of 25 August -7 September instances of discrimination were relatively less frequent. The following cases have been noted:

- Incitement of hatred by the Editor-in-Chief of Saqinform; Hate speech by the anchor of the media union Obiektivi;
- Asaval-Dasavali newspaper was discriminating against Jehovah's Witnesses;
- There were instances of xenophobia directed at foreigners by some respondents;
- Former Deputy Speaker of Parliament made homophobic statements together with other respondents;
- There were unfounded statement about the sexual orientation of various public figures;
- Anti-Western statements were mostly made by the media union Obiektivi and their respondents.

# 24, 25 AUGUST-7 SEPTEMBER



## INCITEMENT OF HATRED

### SAQINFORM, 27 AUGUST

**ARNO KHIDIRBEGISHVILI, Editor-in-chief of Saqinform:** "The fascists [meaning Ukrainian combatants] are already in Georgia! Tomorrow they will invade our homes and tear the medals with St George ribbons from the old people – just like today they are terrorizing Russian tourists, who soon will not come to Georgia any more! They will ambush anyone who speaks Russian and who they think is pro-Russian, they will abuse them in all ways, torture and abuse their children!..

Young Georgian fascists will horribly humiliate your [President Margvelashvili] daughter, because she lived and studied in Moscow! They will deal with you too, because once you said that Russian language is a part of the Georgian culture! Yes, today this is just a small glory-seeking unfortunate group (by the way, a half of them are non-Georgians), which Saakashvili bought for 100 dollars and which attacks our guests. But you must understand – the fascism will get wider and won't stop by itself, it must be stopped, like our fathers and grandfathers did it!"  
<http://bit.ly/1uyLDOl>

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Incitement of violence	2
Religious discrimination	2
Xenophobia	2
Homophobia	3
Unfounded statements about sexual identity	4
Anti-Western sentiments	4-6

WWW.MDFGEORGIA.GE

WWW.GDI.GE



The newsletter was made possible by the generous support of the American people rendered through the USA Agency for International Development (USAID). The contents of the newsletter are the responsibility of Media Development Foundation (MDF) and Georgian Democracy Initiative do not necessarily reflect the views of the USAID or the USA.

## INCITEMENT OF VIOLENCE

OBIEQTIVI, NIGHT STUDIO, 6 SEPTEMBER

**BONDO MDZINARASHVILI, anchor:** „I agree, let them (the public) go out to the streets and categorically demand the punishment for the National criminals, even by physically beating them”...

[http://www.myvideo.ge/?video\\_id=2407209](http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2407209)

## RELIGIOUS DISCRIMINATION

ASAVAL-DASAVALI, 25-31 AUGUST

**GIORGI GIGAURI, journalist:** "In one night in Tbilisi large signboards appeared on the wall of the house, which popularize the dark activities of the Jehovah's Witnesses!

... This Jehovah movement is a classic total sect!

Dangerous for the health of people!

Damaging and destructive for the soul!..

Then the “Adventists”, “50iers”, “Satanists” will just freely post their own signboards in the capital.

No one can hinder these Jehovah's Witnesses from gathering in their private property, but putting advertisement signboards on the walls – this is too much!"

## XENOPHOBIA

OBIEQTIVI, NIGHT STUDIO, 17 AUGUST

**TV viewer [phoning in]:** "It is more than 20 years after Georgians have run away from Georgia. You make those who remain starve, the foreigners are coming in, the foreign ethnicities are taking over Georgia. And you talk about NATO, you want to get into this trap very much, right?"

[http://www.myvideo.ge/?video\\_id=2400237](http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2400237)

KVIRIS CHRONIKA, 1-7 SEPTEMBER

**GELA NIKOLAISHVILI, lawyer:** „Very few people come to Georgia from Europe and civilized countries. Mostly they come from the African countries – Nigeria, from Asian countries, and we see them everywhere, they beg or commit crimes when they have no means to



**GIORGI GIGAURI, jour-**

**nalist:** ... This Jehovah movement is a classic total sect!

*Dangerous for the health of people!*

*Damaging and destructive for the soul!..*

Continued on p.3

## XENOPHOBIA

**Beginning from p. 2**

exist. These people can be seen even in the markets, they work for minimal salaries and take potential jobs from the already unemployed population.“

**Alliance:** „In these [NATO] training centers the trainers won't be Americans, or French, or Germans... Mostly they will be the Turks...”

**OBIEKTIVI, NIGHT STUDIO,  
6 SEPTEMBER**

Just like there mostly were Turks until now, which I never liked and still don't.“

[http://www.myvideo.ge/?video\\_id=2406791](http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2406791)

**DAVID TARKHAN-MOURAVI, Patriots'**

## HOMOPHOBIA

**KAVKASIA, SPEQTRI, 5 SEPTEMBER**

**VAKHTANG RCHEULISHVILI, former Deputy Speaker of parliament:** „In my youth there was a joke question: if behind you there are man's genitals and in front of you a knife – whence will you move? I would move aside. If you don't learn this and if you want to make a choice, moving on either a knife or man's genitals, then you will always lose, you will be either a pederast or a dead man...”

[http://www.myvideo.ge/?video\\_id=2407211](http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2407211)

**KAVKASIA, SPEKTRI, 28 AUGUST**

**SIMON MASKHARASHVILI, historian:** "When you give prize on the Cannes festival to “Adel”, to the film about the love of two lesbians, and let the film about underage lesbians win – you will not be able to raise a Napoleon, or a courageous man... The main pain of the humanity – two lesbians, whores ...

**DAVID AKUBARDIA, anchor:** They were not whores...

**SIMON MASKHARASHVILI:** If she is a lesbian, how can she not be a whore?!"

[http://www.myvideo.ge/?video\\_id=2401226](http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2401226)

**KVIRIS CHRONIKA, 1-7 SEPTEMBER**

**LADO SADGOBELASHVILI, Motherland, Language, Religion:** „Is this not the Free Zone that fights against the Mother Church? The one that supports the propaganda of pederasty?“



**VAKHTANG RCHEULISH-**

**VILI, former Deputy Speaker**

**of parliament:** „If you don't learn this and if you want to make a choice, moving on either a knife or man's genitals, then you will always lose, you will be either a pederast or a dead man...”

Continued on p.4

## HOMOPHOBIA

Beginning from p. 3

ALIA, 2 SEPTEMBER

**GIORGI RAZMADZE, deacon:** "Our parliamentarians were saying that we should not be afraid, there would be no marriages, and if there will be, we will leave the Parliament. Now I will remind Beselia, Kobakhidze and others – where is the fulfillment of the promise? Why are they still in the Parliament? There already is the fact – a man has married another man, a woman has married another woman, a man with an animal. Why are they silent?"

## UNFOUNDED STATEMENTS ABOUT SEXUAL IDENTITY

ASAVAL-DASAVALI, 25-31 AUGUST

als, his life, his sexual orientation, his traits as a Georgian, or his authority?!..

**REZO AMASHUKELI, poet:** "All "Kmara" consisted of sick and defective people, some of them have sexual deviations, others have other illnesses..."

That Koridze should better look after his old sister!

...Zviad Koridze and Oleg Panfilov are old sisters!

And why is Margvelashvili appointing Zviad Koridze to be the Chairman of the Pardon Commission?! Because of his mor-

But before that I want to fulfill the promise to Akaki Minashvili – make him run on Rustaveli in the pink tights!"

## ANTI-WESTERN SENTIMENTS

OBIEQTIVI, NIGHT STUDIO, 25 AUGUST

**ELIZBAR JAVELIDZE, People's Council:** "If we look at it in the globalist context, we will see that Georgia is a country which must be destroyed as a nation, and there are numerous examples, and we are being conquered not just with weapons but also it is happening by more democracy, our friend America comes with the so called democratic principles and does in 7 years what Russia could not do in 150 years – they have take our youth".

[http://www.myvideo.ge/?video\\_id=2400673](http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2400673)

Continued on p.5

## ANTI-WESTERN SENTIMENTS

Continued from p. 1

**KAVKASIA, SPEKTRI,  
28 AUGUST**

**SIMON MASKHARASH-**

**VILI, historian:** "When you make Konchita a hero and impose this on others, you have no dignity, so why am I saying that if someone like Stalin were in the place of Putin, he would go right to Spain? Because when such perverted whores rule the Western society and impose this sort of values... I will say it openly: anti-Christian, anti-religion, including anti-Islam, anti-Judaism, such unholy way of thinking causes what? That tomorrow your soldiers will be good for nothing as soldiers "...

[http://www.myvideo.ge/?video\\_id=2401226](http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2401226)

**OBIEKTIVI, NIGHT  
STUDIO, 30 AUGUST**

**TV viewer [phoning in]:**

"They [the West] don't like our religion? What harm does our religion cause?... Is it perversion, rape or what is so terrible in those 10 commandments? Let our Western partners explain this to us, and then other things would become clear too... Otherwise we'll have no other option than to make the same choice as Garsevan and Erekle II made [to choose Russia as a partner]."

[http://www.myvideo.ge/?video\\_id=2401597](http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2401597)

**OBIEKTIVI, NIGHT  
STUDIO, 27 AUGUST**

**BONDO MDZINARASH-**

**VILI, anchor:** "Yes, Hussein was no angel either. Neither Kaddafi was nor Assad is such, but we know how people used to live there. Just like in North Korea we know how people

live, right?... [America] went there and, let us say, those who lived now exist, and those who existed are killed... Can we see such country as a strategic partner that will bring democratic values to our country by methods accepted in the civilized countries of the world?"

[http://www.myvideo.ge/?video\\_id=2400234](http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2400234)

**ASAVAL-DASAVALI, 1-7  
SEPTEMBER**

**TENGIZ KITOVANI, former Minister of Defense:**

„...It is all clear, the National Movement, which means America and the Masons, have destroyed both the Georgians and Ukraine. So, not Putin, but the Georgian people should hang Saakashvili by his balls for inflicting this on this country.“

Continued on p.6



**BONDO MDZINARASH-**

**VILI, anchor:** [America]

went there and, let us say, those who lived now exist, and those who existed are killed...

## ANTI-WESTERN SENTIMENTS

Continued from p. 1

### KAVKASIA, SPEKTRI, 5 SEPTEMBER

**ZVIAD CHITISHVILI, businessman:** „I think we don't need anyone's help, either of Americans or Europeans...

But have you seen what is happening in Ukraine?!.. They made us, one family, each others' enemies, and now we are killing each other... And they look at us from afar and stage experiments, how to use this or that weapon...“

[http://www.myvideo.ge/?video\\_id=2407212](http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2407212)

### OBIEKTIVI, NIGHT STUDIO, 4 SEPTEMBER

**TV viewer [phoning in]:** "America brings not democracy, America brings its own hegemony, and it is not democracy when they, both government and America, decide everything without asking people anything. It is no exercises, it is war. It is shame that because of NATO there will be no Georgia... After this rotten America entered our country, like it enters everywhere and destroys everything, Ukraine was destroyed by Europe and America. Now it is our turn.”

[http://www.myvideo.ge/?video\\_id=2406660](http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2406660)

### OBIEKTIVI, NIGHT STUDIO, 4 SEPTEMBER

**TV viewer:** „When Russia invaded in 2008, with our permission... America said this, word by word: We are ready to defend Baku-Jeihan oil pipeline, they did not say they would defend Georgian people.“

[http://www.myvideo.ge/?video\\_id=2406668](http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2406668)

### INTERPRESSNEWS, 3 SEPTEMBER

**ELGUJA SHAVADZE, Mountaineers' Union:** "NATO brought no good to the country besides their concerns... We have lost our territories, we are losing our country, the people have become poor, relations with NATO have brought no good for Georgia."

<http://www.interpressnews.ge/ge/regioni/295677-bathumshi-nato-s-satsinaaghmdego-erthkaciani-aqciagaimartha.html?ar=A>