



Georgia

Extended Migration Profile

2013



EUROPEAN UNION

GEORGIA

Extended Migration Profile

Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons From the Occupied Territories, Accommodation and Refugees of Georgia (MRA)

Ministry of Justice / Public Services Development Agency (PSDA)

Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA)

Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA)

The Office of the State Minister of Georgia on European and Euro-Atlantic Integration

The Office of the State Minister of Georgia for Diaspora issues

Purpose of the report and disclaimer

This Extended Migration Profile was first drafted in the framework of the “Building Migration Partnerships” initiative funded by the European Union’s Thematic Program and running between January 2009 and December 2010. Following the “Building Migration Partnerships” (BMP) Ministerial Conference on April 28, 2009, the Prague Process political initiative emerged with the adoption of the Joint Declaration on principles and initiatives for promoting close migration partnerships based on comprehensive, balanced, and pragmatic approach that respects human rights of migrants and their family members, as well as of refugees. The BMP Joint Declaration, prepared by participating states with the active participation of several EU bodies and international organizations, established the following five areas as a basis for cooperation and the last, sixth area was added after the endorsement of the Prague Process Action Plan 2012–2016 in Poznan in November 2011:

- preventing and fighting illegal migration;
- integration of legally residing migrants;
- readmission, voluntary return and sustainable reintegration;
- migration, mobility and development;
- legal migration with a special emphasis on labour migration;
- Asylum and international protection.

The main aim of the Prague Process is to promote migration partnerships between states of the European Union/Schengen area, Western Balkans, Eastern Partnership, Central Asia, Russia and Turkey, in line with the Global Approach to Migration and Mobility (GAMM), which constitutes the overarching framework for the external dimension of EU migration policy. The Process is led by Poland, while the Core Group, comprised of 19 states, the European Commission and ICMPD, supports the Senior Officials’ Meetings, which constitute the decision making body of the Prague Process.

The gathering, analysis and provision of migration related information is considered the main task of the Prague Process. Based on the conviction that sound decision making requires a sound knowledge base, the Prague Declaration defined the elaboration of migration profiles and the development of an IT-based information exchange tool as two objectives of the first phase of the dialogue (2009–2012). Georgia, among other countries participating in the Prague Process, has

confirmed its readiness to continue work on the Extended Migration Profile within the framework of the Prague Process. At the present day, the Knowledge Base of the Prague Process contains a total of 16 migration profiles and visualisations of other relevant information, available on the Prague Process website (www.pragueprocess.eu) and the Prague Process section of the iMap (<https://www.imap-migration.org>).

The Extended Migration Profiles elaborated in the framework of the Building Migration Partnerships Initiative address a number of development related aspects as well, such as the “socio-economic context of migration”, “diasporas”, “remittances”, “economy/economic climate”, “labour market analysis”, or “human capital”. The results directly find their way in the further programming of the dialogue.

This Extended Migration Profile has been elaborated in the framework of the Building Migration Partnerships Initiative, the first phase of the Prague Process, on the basis of a template prepared by the European Commission. The profile was endorsed by the State Commission on Migration Issues (SCMI) in 2010. Later, the profile was updated and actualised by the respective Georgian institutions and agencies.

The present version of the Migration Profile is a result of joint efforts of the SCMI members and its Secretariat which is currently supported by Pilot Analytical unit. The unit is established in the framework of the EU-funded project “Enhancing Georgia’s Migration Management” (ENIGMMA) implemented by the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD). The Extended Migration Profile on Georgia in its version of 2014 builds upon the methodology of the Prague Process and contributes to the Prague Process Knowledge base striving for a collection of comparable data on migration. The Prague Process Knowledge base can be found on the web site www.imap-migration.org and the www.pragueprocess.eu.

Part A of the Profile aims at setting the scene regarding how the migration has evolved during the last years. Furthermore, it gives a brief summary of key migration trends and issues in the last decade.

Part B of the Profile provides with an overview of the socio-economic conditions of the state in order to understand possible push/pull factors of migration in the country.

Part C on the one hand analyses migration patterns and recent trends, and on the other hand provides with an overview of existing data such as number and types of immigrants/emigrants, irregular immigrants/emigrants as well as diasporas abroad and remittances. It also identifies data gaps.

Based on the information and data presented in Parts A, B and C, Part D summarises the key migration trends indicating main push and pull factors driving migration. Furthermore, the linkages between

different demographic and socio-economic factors and their implications for migration are explored and indications on future migration developments are elaborated.

Part E describes the special interests and priorities of the country.

Migration policies and programmes and their effectiveness in managing migration and development challenges are described in Part F.

Part G aims at providing with an overview of impacts of migration on the socio-economic development and the effectiveness of migration related policies. The main findings and analysis are presented in Part H of the Profile. It also indicates existing data gaps and possible strategies to improve migration statistics. Furthermore, it proposes suggestions on how to ensure the update of the migration Profile regularly, and presents key recommendations for policy makers to improve the current migration management.

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General country information¹



Capital:	Tbilisi
Area:	total: 69, 700 sq. km
Land boundaries:	total: 1,461 km (border countries: Armenia 164 km, Azerbaijan 322 km, Russian Federation 723 km, Turkey 252 km)
Population:	4483.8 thousand persons
Ethnic groups:	Georgian 83.8%, Azeri 6.5%, Armenian 5.7%, Russian 1.5%, other 2.5% (Population Census 2002)
Languages:	Georgian 84,1% (official language), Abkhaz (state language in the Autonomous Republic of Abkhazia); Russian 1,9%, Armenian 5,4%, Azerbaijani 6,5%, other 2,1% (Population Census 2002) National Statistics Office)
President:	Giorgi Margvelashvili
Head of Government:	Irakli Garibashvili

¹ Map and general country information: CIA World Factbook (<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/gg.html>)

Government type:

A. Introduction

A1. Recent migration patterns: a brief summary

- Migration is a global phenomenon and represents many challenges for many countries, due to its impact on social-economic development, security and stability of the states. Georgia is no exception. Moreover, considering Georgia's geo-political location, managing migration processes is one of the country's top priorities. According to different studies, Georgian emigration rate varies from 8% to 20% of the entire population.
- According to the different studies, the major receiving countries for Georgian emigrants are Russia, Turkey, USA, Greece and other EU member states;
- When the Russian Federation introduced a visa regime for Georgia in 2001, the migrants from Georgia were forced to find other countries of destination;
- Currently, according to official data, remittances from foreign countries to Georgia exceed 1 billion USD².
- In the 1990s and in 2008, Russian occupation of nearly 20% of Georgia's territory left homeless thousands of families.
- In response to increasing numbers of IDPs, their legal status was revised, which improved the implementation of specific socio-economic programs, in an effort to assist the needs of the IDPs more effectively.
- Georgia is a participant party of the 1951 Geneva Convention and the 1967 New York protocol regarding the refugee status; it has introduced procedures for asylum seekers and established the status of a refugee, accordingly.
- According to the official data, currently there are 345 refugees in Georgia, mainly from the Russian Federation.
- For further institutionalization and improvement of migration management process a State Commission on Migration Issues had been established in 2010;

² National Bank of Georgia

- Georgia became a part of the 1954 Convention Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons in December 2011, and amended its domestic legislations in June 2012;
- From March 1, 2011, Georgia launched an implementation of readmission and visa facilitation agreement with the EU;
- On June 4, 2012 the EU launched a visa dialog with Georgia;
- In February 2013, a visa liberalization action plan has been passed to the government of Georgia for the further elaboration and implementation.
- In November 2013, an Association Agreement with EU has been initiated.

The following list is a description of the main challenges in the field of migration, considering the demographic, socio-economic and political conditions of the last decade in Georgia:

- According to different studies, Georgian emigration rate varies from 8% to 20% of the entire population. In 2008, two regions of Georgia - Abkhazia and South Ossetia were occupied and unemployment stipulated an intellectual drain from the domestic workforce;
- Russia-Georgia war of August 2008 caused a new wave of IDPs from the occupied territories. The Georgian government revised laws affecting the well-being of the IDPs, in order to improve their condition;
- Number of immigrants is relatively low while comprising only 2% of the country population. Due to the social-economic and political development of the country, Georgia becomes more and more attractive for foreigners with touristic, educational, labor and other purposes. That's why, in terms of migration, Georgia is considered to be a country of origin, destination and transit.

B. Analysis of socio-economic context of migration

B1. Demographic changes

- **Population volume**

According to the information of the National Statistics Office of Georgia, population of the country constituted 4,497,600 in 2012 (2,143,800 males and 2,353,800 females). National Statistics Office of Georgia reports that in 2012 the net population number was positive.

Balance of population in Georgia, 2008 – 2012 (thousand persons)³:

Year	Population total	Population growth	Births	Deaths	Natural population growth	Migration balance
2008	4382.1	3.3	56.6	43.0	13.6	-10.2
2009	4385.4	51.0	63.4	46.6	16.8	34.2
2010	4436.4	32.8	62.6	47.9	14.7	18.1
2011	4469.2	28.4	58.0	49.8	8.2	20.2
2012	4497.6	-13.8	57.0	49.3	7.7	-21.5

- **Population by national and/or ethnic group**

According to the National census of 2002, population of Georgia consists of the following ethnic groups: Georgian (83.8%), Azeri (6.5%), Armenian (5.7%), Russian (1.5%) and other ethnic groups (2.5%)⁴.

- **Population distribution by age and sex**

Age, years	2009			2010			2011			2012		
	Total	Male	Female									
Total	4385.4	2080.8	2304.6	4436.4	2108.9	2327.5	4469.2	2127.3	2341.9	4497.6	2143.8	2353.8
-1	55.6	31.2	24.4	62.5	31.9	30.6	61.9	32.1	29.8	57.4	30.0	27.4
1 - 4	189.4	99.9	89.5	196.8	105.8	91.0	213.5	113.4	100.1	228.6	120.8	107.8
5 - 9	229.4	121.0	108.4	228.7	120.5	108.2	229.7	121.2	108.5	232.0	122.5	109.5
10-14	275.2	143.3	131.9	268.5	140.5	128.0	254.3	133.6	120.7	243.1	128.0	115.1

³ National Statistics Office of Georgia, Population Statistics, http://www.geostat.ge/index.php?action=page&p_id=152&lang=eng

⁴ Government of Georgia, http://government.gov.ge/index.php?lang_id=ENG&sec_id=52

15-19	355.2	180.5	174.7	341.4	174.1	167.3	322.2	165.0	157.2	303.6	156.5	147.1
20-24	360.7	182.4	178.3	363.7	184.0	179.7	368.2	186.6	181.6	372.0	188.6	183.4
25-29	333.4	167.0	166.4	342.6	172.2	170.4	352.2	177.4	174.8	359.3	181.2	178.1
30-34	311.9	153.1	158.8	318.0	156.7	161.3	323.0	159.8	163.2	329.3	163.7	165.6
35-39	298.9	144.1	154.8	307.3	149.4	157.9	310.3	151.6	158.7	314.5	153.8	160.7
40-44	298.0	140.4	157.6	294.8	139.5	155.3	296.8	141.3	155.5	301.2	144.5	156.7
45-49	335.0	155.3	179.7	337.1	156.4	180.7	328.5	152.1	176.4	318.9	148.0	170.9
50-54	291.7	134.0	157.7	301.4	139.2	162.2	315.2	145.8	169.4	325.0	150.5	174.5
55-59	251.0	113.5	137.5	259.7	117.8	141.9	262.5	119.3	143.2	271.4	123.0	148.4
60-64	169.7	75.6	94.1	192.0	85.7	106.3	214.3	95.3	119.0	225.4	100.0	125.4
65-69	179.8	73.6	106.2	153.8	62.7	91.1	132.0	54.0	78.0	124.8	52.0	72.8
70-74	191.6	77.1	114.5	200.5	80.1	120.4	206.8	81.9	124.9	202.5	79.4	123.1
75-79	129.6	50.0	79.6	129.0	49.7	79.3	126.7	49.2	77.5	136.0	52.4	83.6
80-84	88.9	30.2	58.7	91.4	31.9	59.5	97.3	34.6	62.7	92.8	33.4	59.4
85 +	40.4	8.6	31.8	47.2	10.8	36.4	53.8	13.1	40.7	59.8	15.5	44.3

- **Population density:**

Population density in Georgia is 65 persons per 1 sq. km.

- **Urbanization rate⁵:**

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Population for the beginning of the year (thousands)	4 382.1	4 385.4	4 436.4	4469.2	4497.6

⁵ National Statistics Office of Georgia, Population Statistics,
http://www.geostat.ge/index.php?action=page&p_id=152&lang=eng

Urban (thousands)	2 303.8	2 309.1	2 350.5	2371.3	2391.7
Rural (thousands)	2 078.3	2 076.3	2 085.9	2097.9	2105.9

Conclusion

The Georgian population has become demographically aged. As of 2010, 14.02% of the population was over 65 years of age (16.6.2% female, 11.2% male).

B2. Economy and economic climate

- **Main macroeconomic indicators⁶:**

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
GDP at current prices, mil. GEL	16,993.8	19,074.9	17,986.0	20,743.4	24,344.0	26,167.3
GDP at current prices, mil. USD	10,171.9	12,800.5	10,767.1	11,636.5	14,438.5	15,846.8
GDP real growth, (the same period of the last year =100)	112.3	102.3	96.2	106.3	107.2	106.2
GDP per capita (at current prices), GEL	3,866.9	4,352.9	4101.3	4,675.7	5,447.1	5,818.1
GDP per capita (at current prices), USD	2,314.6	2,921.1	2455.2	2,623.0	3,230.7	3,523.4

- **ECONOMIC REFORMS**

⁶ National Statistics Office of Georgia, Gross Domestic Product statistics, http://www.geostat.ge/index.php?action=page&p_id=119&lang=eng

According to the Government Program “For Strong, Democratic, United Georgia”, economic policy of the government of Georgia is based on the free market general economic principles, that imply the protection of property rights, free competition on the market and free private sector in terms of effective and transparent government”.

During the last years, Government of Georgia (GoG) implemented significant economic reforms, which were addressed to stipulate attractive business environment in order to enhance foreign direct investment inflow, create new jobs, stimulate entrepreneurial activities in various fields of economy and increase the welfare of citizens.

Due to the economic deregulation policy, number of state regulated spheres sharply decreased, regulation procedures were simplified as well.

Promoting the development of private sector is one of the main goals of country's economic policy. Economic reforms are addressed to liberalization and provision of sustainable economic growth based on the private sector development. In this direction, (GoG) made several important steps:

- **Liberal Tax Code** – number of taxes and rates as well were significantly reduced. According to the Georgian Tax Code, currently, the number of taxes is only 6, including 5 state taxes (income tax, profit tax, import tax, value added tax and excise) and 1 local tax (property tax).

Since January 2011 the new Tax Code came into force. It is a unified document of the old tax and customs codes. The new Tax Code aims at increasing confidence towards the Georgian tax system and enhancing trust in the Georgian tax authorities, by:

- Improving communication between taxpayers and the tax authorities;
- Protecting the taxpayers' rights,;
- Making administration more efficient;
- Harmonizing the Georgian laws with the best international tax practices and EU directives.

The new Tax Code offers low tax rates on existing few taxes, or total exemption. Withholding taxes on interest and dividends will be annulled by 2014. Micro and Small Business status shall reduce overall administrative and tax burden on individual taxpayers.

Extended filing periods, automatic refunds, and simplified taxation on imports comprise the constantly expanding list of benefits offered to taxpayers. Noteworthy, Georgia already started convergence to European tax standards, in that it has recognized the technical regulations of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), and has introduced the generally accepted transfer

pricing rules within the new Tax Code. This fact will consequently promote the development of the business environment and cross-border trading. The tax administration system has been simplified and advanced, offering a wide range of E-services to taxpayers, as well as tax penalties reduced significantly. Communication between a taxpayer and the tax authorities will be improved by the newly introduced Advance Tax Ruling, Private Tax Agent, and Tax Deal mechanisms. The new function of a Tax Ombudsman secures the protection of taxpayers' rights and takes the responsibility to facilitate a healthy tax environment in Georgia, in this respect. Besides, according to the amendments and changes made recently in the Tax Code the non-taxable minimum of income tax is determined, which is not less than the subsistence minimum.

- **Customs Reform** established simplified customs procedures. Customs Tariffs Reform significantly simplified and sharply reduced the costs connected to the foreign trade. Number of import tariffs was abolished on approximately 90% of products and only 3 tariff rates (0%, 5%, and 12%) exist instead of previous 16. Georgia sets import taxes on only several kinds of agricultural goods and industrial products. In addition, there are no quantitative restrictions (quotas) on imports and exports.
- **Modernized system of Licenses and Permits** – Due to the reform of the system of licenses and permits, the number licenses and permits was reduced by 84%. Currently, licenses and permits are only used in the production of highly risky goods and services; also usage of natural resources and specific activities. The procedures of issuing licenses and permits were significantly simplified, the “one-stop shop” and “silence is consent” principles were introduced which implies that if person is not notified with well-grounded rejection about issuance of license in limited framework, the license is considered as issued from the relevant body.
- **Creation of Free Industrial Zones (FIZs)**. A law on “Free Industrial Zones” was adopted. According to government’s decision or on a basis of an initiative of physical person/legal entity, such zone can be created on more than 10 hector territory. Companies, acting within the zone, are free from profit, property and value added taxes. Besides, the import of goods, produced in the free industrial zone to the other territory of Georgia (outside the free industrial zone), as well as the export of foreign goods to the free industrial zone is free from customs tax.

Three FIZs are already established in the western part of Georgia – Poti, Kutaisi and Kulevi.

- **The reform of Technical Regulation System** – the removal of technical barriers for Georgian goods and services on international market is an inevitable precondition for further economic development of Georgia. In order to reach this goal, the reform of technical regulation system was implemented in Georgia, which ensured:

- The removal of technical barriers in international trade;
- The improvement of investment environment;
- The protection of consumer rights;
- The increase of access of Georgian goods to the foreign markets;
- The implementation of obligations under the requirements of WTO, which basically includes the transformation of national mandatory standards into the voluntary standards;
- The eradication of corruption;
- Service transparency in the field of technical regulation;

As a result of the reform, national mandatory standards system was replaced by the voluntary standards and the state regulating role in this system was declined. This process will significantly facilitate the expansion of entrepreneurial activity.

- **Privatization of State Property** – Starting from 2004, provision of aggressive and transparent privatization policy was one of the most important reforms of Georgian Government that addressed the denationalization of the remained state property in order to attract foreign investments, increase and develop the private sector and effective use of country resources.
- **Competitive Trade Regimes** – starting from 2003, Georgian foreign trade turnover is characterized with upward tendency that is supported by the liberal trade policy provided in the country.

Competitive trade regimes in Georgia:

- Free Trade Regime – with CIS countries and Turkey (since November 1, 2008)
- Most Favored Nation Regime (MFN) – with World Trade Organization (WTO) member countries
- Preferential Regime (GSP) – with USA, Canada, Japan, Switzerland, Norway
- Preferential Regime (GSP+) – with EU (7200 items) since 2005

Georgia has concluded double taxation treaties with 45 countries and has bilateral treaties on investment promotion and protection with 32 countries.

The positive results of implemented reforms and initiatives in Georgia are reflected in various international researches and evaluations:

- „**Doing Business 2014**” – **Report** (this year’s report data cover regulations measured from June 2012 through May 2013) placed Georgia on **8th place** among 189 countries according to the easiness of doing business, instead of 112st in 2006. According to „**Doing Business 2014**” Georgia is in a 10 top countries in the following areas: Registering property (1st position), Dealing with Construction Permits (2nd position), Getting Credits (3rd position) and Starting a Business (8th position).
- “**Index of Economic Freedom 2013**”, provided by the “Heritage Foundation”, placed Georgia on the **21st** position among 179 countries instead of 34th position in 2011. In 2012 Georgia moved from the Moderately Free group to the **Mostly Free group**.
- According to “**Corruption Perception Index 2013**”, designed by the organization “Transparency International”, Georgia takes **55th** position among 177 countries in 2013. Corruption Perception Index ranks countries in terms of the degree to which corruption is perceived to exist among public officials and politicians. In 2005 Georgia's rank was 130th.
- “**Index of Economic Freedom 2013**” of “Fraser Institute”, placed Georgia on the **25th** position in 2011 up from 45th position in 2007. In 2011, Georgia improved its position in the following areas: Size of Government, Sound Money, Freedom to Trade Internationally, Regulations.
- “**The Enabling Trade Index 2012**” by World Economic Forum, placed Georgia on the **38th** position among 125 countries worldwide. The Enabling Trade Index measures countries by: Market Access, Border Administration, Transport and Communication Infrastructure and Business Environment.
- „**Fitch Rating 2013**”: Country’s Long-term foreign and local currency Issuer Default Ratings (IDRs) is “**BB-**”, Short-term foreign currency – at “**B**”, Country Ceiling – at “**BB**“, Local Currency Long Term Issuer Default Rating – “**BB-**“. The outlook on the ratings is **stable**.
- „**Standard & Poor’s Rating 2013**”: Georgia’s long-term foreign and local currency sovereign credit rating is “**BB-**“. At the same time, the short-term sovereign credit rating is “**B**”, Transfer&Convertibility assessment – “**BB**“. The outlook on the ratings is **stable**.

Capital investments⁷:

	2008		2009		2010		2011		2012	
	Mln., GEL	Per cent								
Agriculture, hunting and forestry, fishing	391.4	9.6	372.0	13.5	457.8	11.4	520.4	9.5	714.3	11.0
Industry	763.6	18.6	213.3	7.7	426.9	10.6	729.3	13.3	613.6	9.4
Construction	411.6	10.0	163.9	5.9	99.8	2.5	206.3	3.8	495.0	7.6
Trade, repair or motor vehicles and personal and household goods	279.5	6.8	146.5	5.3	352.9	8.8	586.8	10.7	578.7	8.9
Hotels and restaurants	57.6	1.4	30.1	1.1	24.9	0.6	51.6	0.9	87.6	1.3
Transport and communication	450.8	11.0	245.9	8.9	348.6	8.7	623.3	11.4	909.1	14.0
Financial intermediation	111.3	2.7	70.2	2.5	69.1	1.7	112.7	2.1	144.5	2.2
Real estate, renting and business activities	280.8	6.9	115.1	4.2	441.8	11.0	710.1	13.0	821.7	12.6
Education	34.5	0.8	33.1	1.2	60.2	1.5	87.4	1.6	108.4	1.7

⁷ National Statistics Office of Georgia, Education,
<http://www.geostat.ge/index.php?action=wnews&lang=eng&npid=223>

Health and social work	59.2	1.4	73.1	2.7	79.5	2.0	118.9	2.2	195.8	3.0
Community, social and personal service activities	210.6	5.1	115.2	4.2	91.5	2.3	160.2	2.9	286.4	4.4
Public administration and common use assets (roads, engineering structures)	826.7	20.2	1,041.4	37.8	1,320.9	32.9	1,298.0	23.7	1,219.0	18.8
Personal use assets (dwellings, cottages and household structures and equipment)	220.9	5.4	135.6	4.9	235.2	5.9	269.5	4.9	322.7	5.0
Total	4,098.5	100	2,755.4	100	4,009.0	100	5,474.3	100	6 496.8	100

Foreign direct investments⁸:

Year	Mln. USD
2004	499.1
2005	449.8
2006	1 190.4
2007	2 014.8

⁸ National Statistics Office of Georgia, Foreign Direct Investments, http://www.geostat.ge/index.php?action=page&p_id=140&lang=eng

2008	1 564.0
2009	658.4
2010	814.5
2011	1117.2
2012	911.6

Foreign direct investments by country (thousand USD)⁹:

Countries	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total	2,014,841.6	1,563,962.4	658,400.6	814,496.6	1,117,244.1	911,564.3
of which:						
EU countries	1,132,726.1	476,655.2	224,722.2	248,211.4	554,239.0	440,348.3
Austria	11,384.4	51,463.4	29,709.0	10,045.0	28,517.2	13,499.9
Belgium	1,563.7	62.0	112.7	23.4	-19.5	-844.8
Bulgaria	20.6	12.7	-291.4	-90.0	916.4	2,234.6
Cyprus	148,643.6	26,165.8	-1,612.1	40,387.7	10,358.7	38,684.6
Czech Republic	227,926.4	34,857.6	45,679.0	24,213.5	46,598.3	8,031.4
Denmark	158,126.2	256.3	-427.3	18.1	97,170.4	6,558.1
Estonia	594.0	-210.8	5,723.2	-51.9	-332.5	385.5
Finland	-	-	-	1,533.3	993.0	1,085.7
France	43,726.0	8,179.7	11,958.4	-7,820.1	7,353.1	25,863.8

⁹ National Statistics Office of Georgia, Foreign Direct Investments,
http://www.geostat.ge/index.php?action=page&p_id=140&lang=eng

Germany	56,987.8	40,590.6	21,345.0	12,848.0	25,512.9	138,812.5
Greece	1,349.7	-1,850.4	1,521.6	4,485.3	1,184.8	177.9
Hungary	1,010.1	1,025.3	-46.9	-	-	-32.5
Ireland	-1,663.2	223.5	64.6	316.2	278.5	206.5
Italy	15,228.1	6,047.8	1,683.8	5,140.8	-5,233.3	529.2
Latvia	3,102.1	756.5	-18.0	-0.5	-103.0	1,052.4
Lithuania	327.3	-113.9	3,560.3	2,441.1	-1,847.1	578.4
Luxembourg	9,245.7	5,731.0	9,496.6	7,059.9	43,284.0	42,031.6
Malta	-	-	-	16,767.9	6,186.3	32,204.2
Netherlands	299,277.2	135,870.2	32,586.4	73,362.2	241,819.1	35,368.2
Poland	19.1	22.9	10.8	53.0	152.3	-13.6
Portugal	13.2	117.2	24.4	21.6	-3.7	167.9
Romania	-	5,430.6	-	-11.2	41.3	-
Slovakia	-	-	23.3	8.8	20.1	3,686.3
Spain	3,590.2	5,474.8	137.0	91.4	30.2	941.9
Sweden	6,779.1	7,634.8	-8,831.4	-1,596.1	-3,615.2	-4,464.5
United Kingdom	145,474.8	148,907.6	72,313.2	58,964.2	54,976.7	93,603.1
CIS countries	238,389.0	94,695.6	1,024.4	91,155.6	193,048.3	86,736.5
Azerbaijan	41,368.1	23,942.7	29,824.4	57,962.0	138,016.1	59,006.6
Armenia	-4,895.4	-15,061.4	-5,378.0	-16,515.1	-12,383.6	5,930.9
Belarus	52.8	102.4	-223.4	-92.0	151.8	-257.1
Kazakhstan	88,486.2	65,941.7	-31,972.6	-16,574.4	5,174.5	401.3

Kyrgyzstan	-	0.0	-6.3	14,075.0	5,029.4	2,670.7
Moldova	-	-	-84.8	-	41.9	-103.8
Russia	88,996.5	26,212.2	10,253.4	47,881.0	55,435.2	20,486.1
Turkmenistan	-	-	-	-	-	7.1
Ukraine	24,380.8	-6,442.0	-1,563.5	4,396.1	1,648.2	-1,198.7
Uzbekistan	-	-	175.3	23.0	-65.2	-206.6
Other countries	629,432.6	968,960.7	390,847.9	429,943.5	275,060.3	321,024.8
Argentina	40.6	-90.2	-	-	-	-
Australia	207.5	109.2	99.2	-238.2	95.6	139.5
Bahamas	-3.2	-	-	-	184.4	417.9
Belize	10,306.5	37,822.5	3,100.7	689.1	28,118.0	14,907.4
Virgin Islands, British	187,815.5	156,847.3	35,434.2	40,235.9	42,119.9	19,804.0
Canada	1,388.8	-104.0	-96.3	362.0	3,124.6	1,034.9
Cayman Islands	3,104.9	-7,007.3	2,161.1	12,332.3	21,660.4	6,529.1
China	6,877.1	-2,271.4	-2,237.0	-7,882.0	9,643.1	36,126.1
Gibraltar	6,127.5	5,307.0	4,089.0	-23,573.7	-802.9	-630.0
Iceland	181.7	0.0	185.1	715.8	117.1	-62.9
India	61.9	26,998.4	271.1	14,886.6	16,269.9	5,149.7
Iran	108.3	1,448.5	1,188.1	1,083.9	1,059.1	889.0
Iraq	35.4	-	-	-	-	-
Israel	9,496.0	-2,047.7	1,230.0	7,954.4	5,584.6	9,825.1

Japan	34,368.3	11,655.4	-30,808.7	17,492.5	23,010.6	13,850.4
Jordan	-	-	-78.8	-4,086.3	-692.5	453.1
Korea	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lebanon	135.9	212.1	-	102.3	1,250.2	-460.9
Libya	-	-	-45.6	-	-	-
Liechtenstein	2,662.7	5,016.0	1,912.9	35,044.6	-8,466.3	1,678.7
Mauritius	-	-	-	-98.5	13,701.4	5,029.4
Norway	34,200.1	2,693.4	1,005.3	2,022.6	3,048.9	4,120.2
Marshall Islands	1,450.4	1,501.2	2,766.6	7,788.7	10,728.2	4,996.2
Panama	6,177.7	-2,470.0	74,742.2	-5,025.0	2,181.5	9,802.7
Philippines	-	-	-	1,620.3	-	-
Saint Kitts and Nevis	-	-	-	-	-107.1	-5,435.4
Saudi Arabia	-	-	-2.1	-	2,037.7	39,475.4
Seychelles	4,688.3	4,350.5	1,481.6	5,467.5	8,637.3	8,761.5
Switzerland	10,854.7	89,958.6	-11,984.0	21,885.1	27,910.0	10,029.3
Syrian	3.9	9.2	12.8	63.3	103.4	-10.3
United Arab Emirates	130,858.7	306,576.3	162,756.5	55,530.7	-52,357.5	24,419.5
Turkey	93,871.1	164,525.1	97,939.7	91,786.5	75,523.7	81,059.8
Egypt	-	-	55,750.6	18,000.0	11,787.5	-
United States	84,412.2	167,920.7	-10,026.0	135,818.5	28,106.3	20,254.0

Other countries	-	-	-	-35.3	1,483.0	8,871.0
Unknown	-	-	11,066.8	-	-	-
International Organizations	14,293.9	23,651.0	30,739.2	45,186.0	94,896.5	63,454.7

Foreign direct investments by Economic Sectors (thousand USD)¹⁰:

Sectors	2010	2011	2012
Total	814,496.6	1,117,244.1	911,564.3
of which:			
Agriculture, fishing	8,631.9	14,907.6	16,119.3
Mining	53,435.9	40,219.6	4,862.2
Manufacturing	175,334.5	120,339.7	167,906.5
Energy sector	21,877.9	203,951.6	179,402.6
Construction	4,705.9	48,112.2	41,839.2
Hotels and restaurants	17,121.8	22,705.6	17,652.3
Transports and communications	215,116.2	126,517.2	72,828.9
Real Estate	119 253,0	224 776,3	52 805,6
Health and social work	1,182.4	16,827.0	17,550.8
Other sector	90,430.7	131,185.5	178,044.8
Financial sector	107,406.4	167,701.8	162,552.2

¹⁰ National Statistics Office of Georgia, Foreign Direct Investments,
http://www.geostat.ge/index.php?action=page&p_id=140&lang=eng

- **Trade:**

Generally, Georgia has negative external trade balance; however, the trade balance in 2013 as compare to 2007 has improved by 16%. The main trade partners of Georgia are traditionally among the CIS countries, although importance of the trade partners from the other countries including EU Member States increased.

Total imports and exports from/to Georgia and trade balance (million USD)¹¹:

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
External Trade Turnover	6,444.3	7,796.9	5,633.9	6,934.6	9,246.9	10,219.6
Export (FOB)	1,232.1	1,495.3	1,133.6	1,677.5	2,189.1	2,377.5
Import (CIF)	5,212.2	6,301.5	4,500.2	5,257.1	7,057.8	7,842.1
Balance	-3,980.0	-4,806.2	-3,366.6	-3,579.7	-4,868.6	-5,464.7

Georgian export by groups of countries (thousand USD)¹²:

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Exports - total	1,232,110.5	1,495,345.2	1,133,622.4	1,677,472.1	2,189,135.8	2,377,455.0
of which:						
European Union countries (EU_27)	268,530.3	335,153.8	237,546.8	309,513.4	424,294.8	353,068.3
Commonwealth of Independent States countries	461,895.5	540,884.8	416,162.3	676,672.7	1,052,741.9	1,245,777.2

¹¹ National Statistics Office of Georgia, External Trade statistics, http://www.geostat.ge/index.php?action=page&p_id=137&lang=eng

¹² Detailed information on Georgian export is provided in the Annex II

(CIS)						
Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization countries (BSEC)	634,403.1	884,007.9	697,233.7	898,155.6	1,184,651.4	1,330,542.9
Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development countries (OECD)	612,353.9	751,937.5	521,245.4	741,182.8	814,192.3	789,883.5
GUAM countries	232,465.6	338,714.6	251,184.6	374,376.5	577,590.5	805,335.2

Georgian import by group of countries (thousand USD)¹³:

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Imports - total	5,212,150.2	6,301,540.3	4,500,244.1	5,257,122.4	7,057,759.7	7,842,108.9
of which:						
European Union countries (EU_27)	1,538,897.3	1,756,449.6	1,335,506.6	1,467,162.8	2,053,080.8	2,427,137.3
Commonwealth of Independent States countries (CIS)	1,849,368.8	1,998,028.6	1,298,324.1	1,587,618.3	1,941,585.5	1,996,598.4
Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization	2,653,234.8	2,981,452.8	2,288,121.3	2,620,187.6	3,553,319.7	3,761,305.5

¹³ Detailed information on import to Georgia is provided in the Annex II

countries (BSEC)						
Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development countries (OECD)	2,360,620.1	3,068,695.3	2,303,230.5	2,515,635.5	3,387,515.3	3,929,815.5
GUAM countries	961,083.5	1,269,415.1	835,352.4	1,050,120.7	1,322,580.9	1,240,746.1

Annual consumer price index¹⁴:

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Annual Average to the Annual Average	109.2	109.2	110.0	101.7	107.1	108.5	99.1
December Over December of previous year	108.8	111.0	105.5	103.0	111.2	102.0	98.6
Annual Inflation Rate	8.8	11.0	5.5	3.0	11.2	2.0	-1.4

B3. Labour market analysis

- **Main labour market indicators (thousand persons)¹⁵:**

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Active population (labour force), thousand persons	2041.0	2023.9	2021.8	1965.3	1917.8	1991.8	1944.9	1959.3	2029.1
Employed, thousand persons	1783.3	1744.6	1747.3	1704.3	1601.9	1656.1	1628.1	1664.2	1724.0

¹⁴ National Statistics Office of Georgia, CPI,

http://www.geostat.ge/index.php?action=page&p_id=128&lang=eng

¹⁵ National Statistics Office of Georgia, Employment and unemployment,

http://www.geostat.ge/index.php?action=page&p_id=146&lang=eng

Unemployed, thousand persons	257.6	279.3	274.5	261.0	315.8	335.6	316.9	295.1	305.1
Unemployment rate, percentage	12.6	13.8	13.6	13.3	16.5	16.9	16.3	15.1	15.0

Distribution by economic status of the female population age of 15 and older (thousand persons)¹⁶:

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Active population (labour force), total	949.5	935.9	933.5	889.7	920.5	907.9	915.6	947.7
Employed	829.4	826.8	816.2	746.3	778.6	776.7	795.3	816.9
Hired	286.4	287.4	293.5	259.2	278.5	300.2	297.9	303.0
Self-employed	542.8	539.0	522.6	487.0	500.0	475.6	493.2	509.7
Not-identified worker	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.8	4.3	4.2
Unemployed	120.1	109.1	117.3	143.4	141.9	131.2	120.3	130.8
Population outside labor force	749.5	808.9	763.6	772.9	774.4	728.1	725.3	703.4
Unemployment rate (percentage)	12.6	11.7	12.6	16.1	15.4	14.5	13.1	13.8
Economic activity rate (percentage)	55.9	53.6	55.0	53.5	54.3	55.5	55.8	57.4
Employment rate (percentage)	48.8	47.4	48.1	44.9	45.9	47.5	48.5	49.5

Distribution by economic status of the male population age of 15 and older (thousand persons)¹⁷:

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Active population (labour force),	1074.4	1085.8	1031.8	1028.0	1071.3	1037.1	1043.6	1081.

¹⁶ National Statistics Office of Georgia, Employment and unemployment, http://www.geostat.ge/index.php?action=page&p_id=146&lang=eng

¹⁷ National Statistics Office of Georgia, Employment and unemployment, http://www.geostat.ge/index.php?action=page&p_id=146&lang=eng

total									4
Employed	915.2	920.4	888.1	855.6	877.6	851.4	868.9	907.2	
Hired	314.1	316.5	331.9	313.1	317.4	318.3	334.1	359.6	
Self-employed	600.5	602.6	556.2	541.5	559.0	531.5	532.2	544.3	
Not-identified worker	0.6	1.4	0.0	1.0	1.2	1.6	2.5	3.2	
Unemployed	159.2	165.4	143.7	172.4	193.7	185.6	174.8	174.2	
Population outside labor force	386.6	419.1	374.9	372.2	364.9	355.3	320.6	301.8	
Unemployment rate (percentage)	14.8	15.2	13.9	16.8	18.1	17.9	16.7	16.1	
Economic activity rate (percentage)	73.5	72.2	73.3	73.4	74.6	74.5	76.5	78.2	
Employment rate (percentage)	62.6	61.2	63.1	61.1	61.1	61.2	63.7	65.6	

- Average monthly income¹⁸:

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Average monthly nominal salary, Gel	156.6	204.2	277.9	368.1	534.9	556.8	597,6	636,0	712.5

- Average monthly nominal salary of employees by economic activity and sex¹⁹:

	2009			2010			2011			2012		
	total	female	male									

¹⁸ National Statistics Office of Georgia, Wages,
http://www.geostat.ge/index.php?action=page&p_id=149&lang=eng

¹⁹ Ibid

Total, in Gel	556,8	398,3	690,8	597,6	426,6	742,8	636,0	460,2	771,1	712,5	517,9	859,6
Agriculture, hunting & forestry	264,0	251,9	268,8	279,2	289,1	276,1	392,6	336,3	407,9	424,6	375,7	438,7
Fishing	257,2	194,4	268,6	341,4	171,0	363,2	271,1	252,0	273,5	388,9	154,0	414,2
Mining & quarrying	677,7	393,3	722,2	812,3	559,9	849,4	838,6	551,9	876,2	874,5	574,7	910,5
Manufacturing	447,9	332,0	507,6	510,6	373,2	577,2	552,2	392,7	629,0	623,0	438,5	706,0
Electricity, gas & water supply	766,8	724,6	786,7	822,9	716,0	849,8	877,0	846,5	884,1	919,9	892,7	926,0
Construction	626,1	453,7	637,9	671,0	470,0	683,3	738,5	513,7	753,7	890,8	611,5	908,3
Wholesale & retail trade; repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles & personal & household goods	517,7	407,5	603,5	583,6	439,3	699,7	548,9	402,0	662,8	650,0	478,7	791,1
Hotels & restaurants	364,7	307,2	459,7	377,5	326,9	458,7	342,4	292,5	427,2	397,5	342,2	497,9
Transport & communication	729,	610,	765,	787,	556,	859,	873,	686,	933,	943,	759,	1002

ons	3	3	1	6	4	4	8	2	2	4	1	.6
Financial intermediation	1319,0	1023,7	1748,6	1276,7	1008,8	1668,2	1386,3	1120,1	1762,4	1402,3	1153,8	1777,2
Real estate, renting & business activities	640,3	478,2	730,7	596,5	507,7	634,3	674,3	552,7	731,2	843,5	655,4	929,3
Public administration & defence; compulsory social security	888,8	816,0	909,3	973,0	855,5	1010,8	998,8	903,2	1030,6	1031,2	944,2	1062,6
Education	269,3	255,9	320,2	305,1	288,5	367,6	319,6	299,2	389,8	355,1	331,7	434,4
Health & social work	366,7	317,2	552,9	446,8	361,2	725,6	522,9	444,3	765,5	599,5	515,3	796,1
Other community, social & personal service activities	411,1	357,6	465,3	460,1	392,3	529,8	511,5	423,9	599,7	602,1	481,2	713,6

B4. Human Capital

According to the Human Development Index 2010, Georgia ranks 63rd out of 177 countries, but the adult literacy rate is 99.0% of population over 15 years, which is a component of one of the three dimensions of the HDI²⁰.

- Levels of Education ²⁴

ISCED	International Standard Classification of Education	Georgian National Classification of Education
ISCED 0	Pre-primary education on zero stage – all kinds of education before primary education	Early childhood education and care
ISCED 1	Primary education – education on primary level	Primary education - first stage of General education Entrance age – 5-6 years, duration - 6 years. Compulsory education.
ISCED 2	Lower secondary or second stage – education on lower secondary stage.	
ISCED 2A	General Education	Basic education - general education Entrance age – 11-12 years, duration - 3 years, Minimum entrance requirement - primary education. Compulsory education. Basic Education Diploma at the end of the programme, Leads to programmes of secondary education or to labour market
ISCED 3	Upper secondary education	

ISCED 3A	Secondary (general) education with graduation (High school)	<p>Secondary education - Entrance age – 14-15 years, duration -3 years, Minimum entrance requirement - Basic education.</p> <p>Basic Education Diploma, General Secondary Diploma at the end of programmes.</p> <p>It is possible to obtain additionally Diploma of vocational qualification.</p> <p>Leads to the post-secondary non-tertiary education and training (4B), first stage of tertiary (5A) - Bachelor programmes 4 years (240 ECTS), Programmes of certified physician - 6 years (360 ECTS), certified veterinarian - 5 years (300 ECTS) and certified dentist 5 years (300 ECTS) or to Labour market</p>
ISCED 3C	Vocational education	<p>Entrance age – varied (starting from 14-15, depends on the requirements of the professional standard), duration is different, Minimum entrance requirement - Basic Education Diploma.</p> <p>Leads directly to labour market.</p> <p>It is possible to attend programmes of general education (3A) simultaneously or preparatory general education programmes to pass examinations of general secondary education or pass examination without attending lectures and obtain General Secondary Diploma</p>

- Enrollment in General Education²¹

²¹ Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia

Grade/ Level	Male				Female			
	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014
1	27425	27946	24300	21913	24170	24543	21658	24266
2	24021	27456	27974	21512	21248	23598	24550	24174
3	24246	23806	27574	24510	21769	20761	23715	27916
4	25044	24063	23944	23675	22298	21254	20914	27535
5	25256	24877	24277	20921	22562	21888	21395	23945
6	25238	25055	25026	21362	22262	21998	22016	24232
7	27725	25042	25178	22001	24841	21833	22117	25019
8	28436	27323	25141	22092	25455	24222	21896	25224
9	28474	28164	27350	21909	26323	24924	24256	25141
10	25637	22638	22152	22080	24737	22357	21580	23535
11	24680	22370	19472	20686	23475	22111	19717	21147
12	25677	20266	21152	19014	24395	19991	21235	18835
Total	311859	299006	293540	261675	283535	269480	265049	290969

- Enrollment in Vocational Education

Year	2010	2011	2012
Number of Students	5300	6500	12746

- Enrollment in Tertiary Education

BA programs²²

	Male			Female		
	2010/2011	2011/2012	2012/2013	2010/2011	2011/2012	2012/2013
Number of students	10442	11950	14265	14476	15469	16427

MA programs²³

	Male			Female		
	2010/2011	2011/2012	2012/2013	2010/2011	2011/2012	2012/2013
Number of students	1687	2117	2015	2334	2765	2506

PhD Programs

	Male			Female		
	2010/2011	2011/2012	2012/2013	2010/2011	2011/2012	2012/2013
Number of Students	478	428	448	656	582	509

Levels of Schooling and Education

Enrollment rate in general education²⁴

	2010	2011	2012	2013
Enrollment in general education schools, thousands	595,4	568,5	558,6	552,6

²² Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia

²³ Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia

²⁴ Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia

- **The education system expenditure:**

Public expenditure on education as share of GDP remains lower than the OECD and EU-19 average. But it is approximately comparable with the situation in the neighbouring South Caucasus countries²⁵. In 2012, State expenditure on education constituted 2.9% of GDP²⁶.

C. Analysis of the migration situation in the country

C1. Immigrants

C1.1 Total number of immigrants

Regulation of granting short-term entry to Georgia was indeed liberal for an impressive number of countries for almost a decade. It implied visa-free entry of citizens from more than 118 countries and enables them to stay in Georgia for 360 days. However, based on researches and analyses, this approach had been a subject of revision and new “Law on Aliens and Stateless Persons” is adopted by the parliament of Georgia. The law will enter into force from 1 September 2014. The law also envisages suitable environment for development of tourism and investment opportunities, but it also gives opportunity to relevant state authorities for better management of migration flows in the country. GoG is going to conduct an appropriate information campaign concerning the new regulations introduced by the new law. For the long-term stay, following major types of visas are issued students, work, and family reunification.

Resident Permits ²⁷

²⁵ European Training Foundation, ENPI 08-14 Black Sea Labour Market Reviews, Georgia Country Report, 2010,

[http://www.etf.europa.eu/pubmgmt.nsf/\(getAttachment\)/B8B57962E91F8695C12576EF002E304F/\\$File/NO TE868FGP.pdf](http://www.etf.europa.eu/pubmgmt.nsf/(getAttachment)/B8B57962E91F8695C12576EF002E304F/$File/NO TE868FGP.pdf)

²⁶ UNDP, International Human Development Indicators, Georgia, Country Profile,

<http://hdrstats.undp.org/en/countries/profiles/GEO.html>

²⁷ Public Service Development Agency

Country of Origin	2010	2011	2012	Work			Study			Family Reunification			Other		
				2010	2011	2012	2010	2011	2012	2010	2011	2012	2011	2012	
Afghanistan	7	10	12	7	2	4	0	2	2	0	6	6	0	0	0
Albania	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Algeria	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Argentina	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Armenia	7	12	39	6	9	23	0	1	9	0	1	7	1	1	0
Australia	3	3	3	3	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Austria	2	2	3	2	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Azerbaijan	92	115	147	78	95	108	2	4	5	12	16	33	0	0	1
Bangladesh	3	24	12	1	18	9	2	6	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Belarus	5	11	16	4	8	12	1	0	0	0	3	4	0	0	0
Belgium	2	3	3	2	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bolivia	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bosnia and Herzegovina	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bulgaria	1	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Burkina Faso	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Cambodja	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Cameroon	15	8	16	12	7	4	0	1	0	3	0	12	0	0	0
Canada	5	5	5	5	4	5	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
China	793	1568	1905	781	1489	1871	5	38	11	3	15	22	4	26	1
Colombia	0	1	4	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0
Congo	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Croatia	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Czech Republic	0	1	8	0	1	7	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Egypt	16	28	409	16	24	367	0	0	2	0	4	39	0	0	1
Estonia	1	3	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
Ethiopia	0	1	2	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Finland	2	2	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
France	16	13	29	16	6	23	0	0	1	0	5	5	0	2	0
Gana	1	10	9	1	10	7	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Germany	21	27	35	20	23	17	0	0	4	0	1	2	1	3	12
Great Britain	26	12	27	22	11	22	1	1	1	1	0	2	2	0	2
Greece	3	3	5	2	1	4	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0
Guinea	0	2	3	0	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
India	1466	915	751	526	404	350	858	397	331	27	30	16	55	84	54
Indonesia	2	2	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Iran	103	107	753	99	100	623	2	5	25	2	58	104	0	2	1

		3			8										
Iraq	5	10	60	1	9	46	2	0	3	1	1	11	1	0	0
Ireland	1	1	4	1	1	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Israel	4	1	7	3	0	6	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Italy	11	16	7	11	15	6	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
Ivory Coast	37	36	31	37	36	31	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jamaica	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Japan	6	1	6	5	1	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jordan	4	4	4	4	4	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kazakhstan	47	37	52	27	19	23	1	1	4	1 7	16	24	2	1	1
Kenya	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kirgizstan	5	8	8	5	8	7	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Latvia	3	2	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	1	1
Libya	10	7	15	10	5	13	0	1	2	0	1	0	0	0	0
Lithuania	5	7	6	3	4	4	0	1	0	2	2	2	0	0	0
Macedonia	0	1	4	0	1	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Maldives	0	1	4	0	0	2	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Malta	9	10	1	3	4	1	0	0	0	6	6	0	0	0	0
Mauritius	6	5	0	1	0	0	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mexico	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Moldova	4	5	4	4	5	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Mongolia	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Montenegro	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Morocco	3	1	4	2	1	4	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Myanmar	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nepal	95	35	39	7	18	28	86	15	7	0	0	2	2	2	2
Netherland	5	5	5	5	5	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
New Zealand	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Niger	0	2	2	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nigeria	15	27	181	9	22	26	6	3	15 2	0	2	1	0	0	2
Norway	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Pakistan	31	20	30	23	16	23	6	3	2	2	0	5	0	1	0
People's Republic of Korea	2	1	5	2	1	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Peru	2	3	0	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Philippines	27	6	26	23	6	20	0	0	0	0	0	6	4	0	0
Poland	7	6	6	7	6	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Republic Korea	5	3	2	5	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Romania	3	7	2	2	7	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Russia	207	165	152	89	87	85	13	6	13	8 7	62	55	20	8	1
Saint- Christopher	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

and Nevis															
Serbia	7	9	4	7	6	1	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	0	0
Slovakia	1	1	3	1	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Slovenia	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
South Africa	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Spain	2	1	8	2	1	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sri-Lanka	46	126	148	1	0	15	42	126	13 3	0	0	0	3	0	0
Sudan	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Swaziland	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sweden	2	3	5	2	3	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Syria	31	43	79	18	34	58	8	3	10	5	5	11	0	1	0
Tajikistan	7	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	2	0	0
Tanzania	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Thailand	11	16	13	11	16	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Trinidad and Tobago	5	1	0	0	0	0	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Turkey	866	112 8	932	771	960	786	26	81	48	6 7	85	94	2	1	5
Turkmenistan	8	14	2	5	9	0	3	4	1	0	1	1	0	0	0
Uganda	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ukraine	66	73	85	39	49	63	1	3	2	2 3	19	19	2	0	1

USA	100	104	63	91	100	57	1	1	1	8	1	2	0	2	3	
Uzbekistan	10	4	11	7	3	9	0	0	2	3	1	0	0	0	0	
Zimbabwe	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Total	432	582	623	286	461	486	108	714	78	2	7	349	495	104	138	90
	8	5	4	9	7	8	0		5	4						

C 1.2 Type of immigrants

As a result of the military conflict in Chechnya, in 1999 Georgian Government granted entry to over 9000 persons fleeing from the Chechen Republic of the Russian Federation. The Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Accommodation and Refugees of Georgia granted them refugee status on a “prima facie” basis in Georgia. Most refugees were accommodated in Pankisi Valley, mainly populated by the ethnic Chechens - Kists. The above mentioned fact fosters co-existence of Chechens and Kists in the Valley and minimizes the conflict on an ethnic basis. Small part of refugees was accommodated in Tbilisi and other regions of Georgia as well.

Since the 2007, Temporary Residence Permits and Travel Documents have been issued to the persons having refugee status.

In December 2011, based on the international conventions and the Constitution, the Parliament of Georgia adopted the Law on Refugees and Humanitarian Status. The above mentioned Law envisions the possibility of granting a humanitarian status to the asylum seekers who are not eligible for refugee status according to the 1951 Geneva Convention on Refugee Status, but whose deportation does not seem to be reasonable due to humanitarian grounds.

Besides the refugees registered on a “prima facie” basis in the database of the Ministry, in Georgia there are refugees who have been granted the refugee status on an “individual basis”.

Currently, 345 persons have been granted refugee status, including 297 refugees on a “prima facie” basis and 48 - on an “individual basis”.

The number of refugees has drastically declined due to the following circumstances: some refugees have been repatriated in their homeland through the Migration Service of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia and the Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons From the Occupied Territories, Accommodation

and Refugees of Georgia, some of them have been resettled in the third countries under the patronage of UNHCR, and some have been granted Georgian Citizenship.

- **Persons Having Refugee and Humanitarian Status in Georgia**

Country	2010	2011	2012
Russia	673	464	327
Afghanistan	3	3	3
Iraq	5	5	9
Tajikistan	3	3	3
Azerbaijan	2	2	2
Turkey	1	1	1
Total	687	478	345

- **Persons seeking asylum in Georgia**

The number of persons seeking asylum in Georgia is increasing year by year. In the 2010 the Reception and Temporary Accommodation Centre for Asylum-seekers has opened which can accommodate up to 60 asylum-seekers at present.

Country	2010	2011	2012
Afghanistan	-	1	2
Armenia	-	-	5
Azerbaijan	6	-	3
Bangladesh	-	-	1
Belarus	-	-	1
Cameroon	1	-	1
Congo	-	-	2

Egypt	-	-	22
Ethiopia	-	-	1
India	-	-	1
Iran	4	29	42
Iraq	1	-	443
Ivory Cost	4	-	1
Jordan	-	-	1
Kazakhstan	-	-	3
Kyrgyzstan	-	1	5
Lebanon	-	-	1
Morocco	-	-	2
Nepal	-	3	-
Nigeria	4	7	-
Pakistan	-	-	3
Romania	-	-	1
Russia	32	35	36
Serbia	-	1	-
South Africa	-	-	1
Syria	-	-	18
Tajikistan	-	1	-
Tunisia	-	1	-
Turkey	-	-	1

Ukraine	2	-	1
Uzbekistan	3	-	1
Total	57	79	599

- **Natural Disaster Victims**

One of the directions of internal migration processes in the country is to resettle natural disaster victim population at relatively safe places.

Due to geographic landscape of Georgia, most part of the country is mountainous. Accordingly in some populated points of such regions are periodically happening disasters like heavy snowfall, flood, landslide etc.

Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Accommodation and Refugees of Georgia provides resettlement of families, who are victims of natural disasters in less risky regions.

- **Internally displaced persons in Georgia²⁸**

Since 2012 significant efforts have been made in the direction of improving IDP housing. About 25 000 IDP families have been provided with durable housing solution and 5 000 IDP families with financial support for the purpose of acquiring private housing. However, about 50 000 families still remain without durable housing solution. In addition to the housing needs, IDPs face other acute problems related to the reintegration in the society, such as – unemployment, limited access to healthcare, education and other social and economic opportunities.

Primarily, in order to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the support planning and implementation process, the Ministry of IDPs from the Occupied Territories of Georgia, Accommodation and Refugees has initiated to conduct a census of all IDPs and an assessment of their needs. The current statistics on IDPs is not accurate as the census has not been conducted for more than 10 years. Collection of accurate data on the number of IDPs, as well as the social-economic profile of this group would improve the government response to their accommodation needs, their access to jobs and income-generation activities, healthcare services and adequate education. The process of registration started in July and finished in December 2013.

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²⁸ Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Accommodation and Refugees of Georgia, IDP Figures, http://www.mra.gov.ge/index.php?lang_id=ENG#index/ENG/210

The afore-mentioned draft law introduces a landmark change in the definition of an “IDP”. The previous version of the Law envisaged granting the IDP status only to those persons that were displaced from the ‘occupied territories’, thus it put at a disadvantage those living along the Administrative Boundary Line (ABL), who are not able to go back home due to the threat posed by the Russian occupants. According to the draft amendment to the Law, the ground for granting an IDP status was extended and now applies also to those, who were forced to leave the permanent place of residence on the grounds of threat to their family member’s life, health or freedom caused by the occupation of the territory by a foreign state, aggression, armed conflict, mass violence or massive human rights violations obstructing their return to their permanent place of residence.

The draft changes in the law also strive to improve the social-economic conditions of IDPs. The previous version of the law envisaged that IDPs receiving the IDP allowance were not eligible to the state social support. The proposed amendment allows IDPs to receive the IDP allowance together with the social support in case they are qualified as ‘extremely poor’ on the poverty measurement scale.

- **IDP 2012 Data²⁹**

²⁹ Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons From the Occupied Territories, Accommodation and Refugees of Georgia

Region/AR	Number of IDPs	Number of Families
Adjara AR	6708	2326
Guria	526	170
Tbilisi	101842	34314
Imereti	25937	8299
Kakheti	1552	497
Mtskheta-Mtianeti	11185	3531
Racha-Lechkhum-Qyemo Svaneti	920	353
Samegrelo-Zemo Svaneti	90199	27727
Samtskhe-Javakheti	2406	940
Shida Qartli	29256	9076
Tskhinvali	451	171
Abkhazia AR	384	171
Total	271366	87575

- Arrivals of non-resident visitors at the national borders of Georgia by country of citizenship³⁰

³⁰ Department of Tourism and Resorts of Georgia, Statistics, <http://www.dotr.gov.ge/eng/statistics.php>

Country	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total	1051749	1290108	1500049	2031717	2822363	4428221
EUROPE	1009254	1243408	1447517	1956552	2695235	4225635
Central and Eastern Europe	681301	811766	974871	1317444	1830148	2541032
Armenia	243133	281463	351049	547510	699382	921929
Azerbaijan	281629	344936	418992	497969	714418	931933
Belarus	1601	1981	2503	5016	5344	7972
Bulgaria	9104	8547	7123	8738	10309	10668
Czech Republic	1648	1947	2290	3060	3897	4984
Estonia	2102	2482	1754	2207	2749	4366
Hungary	693	826	808	836	1130	1337
Kazakhstan	5098	4523	5531	8411	18565	15115
Kyrgyzstan	736	787	1107	2222	3183	2626
Latvia	3454	3643	2588	3525	4802	5693
Lithuania	2183	3029	2448	2916	4081	5319
Moldova	1185	1261	1880	2390	2737	4001
Poland	4491	4479	4634	7105	12082	20563
Romania	1340	1782	1614	1933	2347	3597
Russia	91361	114459	127937	170584	278458	513930
Slovakia	544	520	861	976	1085	1300
Tajikistan	150	194	237	333	540	687
Turkmenistan	451	468	375	1287	1126	2550

Ukraine	28932	32988	39339	47596	58966	76610
Uzbekistan	1466	1451	1801	2830	4947	5852
Northern Europe	14538	13947	16523	18168	21130	26211
Denmark	937	859	1036	1370	1452	2130
Finland	680	774	944	1227	1460	2236
Iceland	57	37	45	47	161	102
Ireland	759	663	804	884	970	1330
Norway	888	942	894	1184	1483	1894
Sweden	1442	1721	2167	2471	2991	3714
United Kingdom	9775	8951	10633	10985	12613	14805
Southern Europe	19085	19544	23191	27710	32188	37286
Albania	142	113	161	329	258	403
Andorra	2	2	2	6	9	13
Bosnia and Herzegovina	128	151	203	206	340	503
Croatia	418	408	533	623	1307	839
Gibraltar	1	0	1	0	0	
Greece	12380	12914	14300	16424	17664	19777
Holy See	40	36	35	36	35	38
Italy	4113	3920	4994	5886	6873	8438
Macedonia	130	65	165	177	241	375
Malta	53	61	86	167	91	102
Montenegro	58	53	406	574	194	136

Portugal	199	210	283	448	559	863
San Marino	10	5	15	74	35	41
Serbia	0	0	12	3	593	1223
Slovenia	244	284	410	528	833	777
Spain	1167	1322	1585	2229	3156	3758
Western Europe	29630	29061	31491	37878	47839	56617
Austria	2376	2614	1794	2488	3144	4737
Belgium	1287	1309	1622	1991	2391	2795
France	5958	6186	6941	8486	10695	12004
Germany	14081	13267	15351	17619	22204	26448
Liechtenstein	11	19	9	7	11	21
Luxembourg	26	72	65	111	126	165
Monaco	1	5	6	2	7	1
Netherlands	4143	4054	4145	5198	6883	7437
Switzerland	1747	1535	1558	1976	2378	3009
East/Med Europe	264700	369090	401441	555352	763930	1564489
Cyprus	222	267	202	312	407	402
Israel	16450	17413	16757	19447	25438	30851
Turkey	248028	351410	384482	535593	738085	1533236
AMERICAS	16884	17552	19659	24656	29286	33898
Caribbean	87	141	177	1291	1028	497
Anguilla	0	0	0	0	1	1

Antigua and Barbuda	15	63	67	1046	682	173
Bahamas	1	0	31	44	147	24
Barbados	0	2	2	1	1	4
Bermuda	0	0	1	0	0	
British Virgin Islands	0	0	0	22	26	26
Cayman Islands	0	0	0	0	0	
Cuba	9	26	15	30	37	57
Dominica	0	0	0	2	0	6
Dominican Republic	5	1	9	1	11	15
Federation of Saint Kitts and Nevis	0	0	1	2	6	52
Grenada	4	0	1	0	0	2
Guadeloupe	0	0	1	1	0	
Haiti	0	1	1	11	3	6
Jamaica	7	7	7	26	6	30
Netherlands Antilles	0	0	0	0	0	1
Puerto Rico	0	0	2	2	9	1
Saint Lucia	0	0	0	1	0	9
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	0	1	0	9	12	11
Trinidad and Tobago	46	40	39	56	58	44
Turks and Caicos Islands	0	0	0	18	15	21
US Virgin Islands	0	0	0	19	14	14

Central Amer.	104	121	48	284	321	314
Belize	2	0	2	5	4	4
Costa-Rica	18	11	5	8	21	58
El Salvador	56	48	7	26	9	36
Guatemala	9	3	6	2	22	30
Honduras	11	21	15	34	27	37
Nicaragua	4	1	1	2	3	5
Panama	4	37	12	207	235	144
North Amer.	16294	16982	18924	22232	26716	31697
Canada	1376	1276	1913	2052	2345	2951
Mexico	100	54	77	99	135	233
United States of America	14818	15652	16934	20081	24236	28513
South Amer.	399	308	510	849	1221	1390
Argentina	65	79	158	97	164	203
Bolivia	32	11	9	15	10	35
Brazil	114	102	169	257	311	428
Chile	24	10	13	31	48	70
Colombia	62	21	37	72	70	103
Ecuador	9	20	50	33	135	62
French Guiana	0	0	0	155	332	305
Guyana	3	2	2	0	3	2
Paraguay	0	0	1	13	12	14

Peru	39	20	29	72	65	71
Suriname	1	0	0	2	0	13
Uruguay	26	34	7	9	40	18
Venezuela	24	9	35	93	31	66
EAST ASIA/PACIFIC	20554	23204	25945	42302	85686	123987
North-East Asia	3856	3620	4152	5807	10862	15929
China	1693	1771	2013	2725	6522	9995
Hong Kong (China)	0	3	5	21	14	34
Japan	1457	1209	919	1798	2419	3447
Mongolia	22	46	106	86	128	167
North Korea	0	0	0	8	1	3
Republic of Korea	651	536	662	935	1419	1763
Taiwan (Province of China)	33	55	447	234	359	520
Oceania	1069	882	1197	1351	1857	2229
American Samoa	0	0	7	9	6	9
Australia	830	644	949	956	1319	1658
Fiji	1	2	3	2	0	41
French Polynesia	0	0	0	0	3	2
Kiribati	9	5	0	1	0	
Marshall Islands	0	0	1	68	164	48
Nauru	0	0	0	2	0	0
New Caledonia	1	0	0	0	0	

New Zealand	214	202	204	237	299	436
Northern Mariana Islands	1	0	0	0	0	
Palau	0	0	0	0	0	2
Papua New Guinea	0	0	0	1	4	1
Samoa	3	1	1	5	31	5
Solomon Islands	0	2	3	9	8	5
Tonga	0	0	5	1	2	1
Tuvalu	3	24	21	2	10	3
Vanuatu	7	1	2	50	11	7
Wallis and Futuna	0	1	1	8	0	11
South Asia	10873	13457	14572	27810	66073	97925
Afghanistan	66	34	55	45	63	111
Bangladesh	78	140	130	77	495	135
Bhutan	0	0	0	0	0	1
India	2355	2712	3674	5653	4578	6833
Iran	7986	10038	9848	21313	60191	89697
Maldives	4	11	10	9	5	12
Nepal	25	38	244	284	145	178
Pakistan	283	414	329	220	316	401
Sri Lanka	76	70	282	209	280	557
South-East Asia	4756	5245	6024	7334	6894	7904
Brunei Darussalam	1	0	0	3	6	

Cambodia	19	25	6	7	11	8
Indonesia	94	152	188	600	311	389
Laos	3	4	4	5	1	7
Malaysia	58	81	58	67	112	281
Myanmar	102	398	202	92	84	74
Philippines	4363	4465	5386	6342	6114	6310
Singapore	54	68	53	115	84	237
Thailand	58	45	92	45	110	252
Vietnam	4	7	35	58	61	346
MIDDLE EAST	2496	3247	3308	3427	5663	17141
Bahrain	5	3	8	5	19	110
Egypt	494	602	391	431	733	2596
Iraq	41	76	157	126	599	6947
Jordan	131	208	155	172	216	318
Kuwait	24	66	46	59	110	374
Lebanon	195	175	249	272	481	742
Libya	0	21	13	24	26	70
Oman	4	4	13	21	14	154
Palestine	6	2	10	14	7	18
Qatar	16	2	4	22	21	72
Saudi Arabia	20	39	19	189	166	1169
Syria	1476	1970	2135	2021	3115	4020

United Arab Emirates	77	58	72	60	147	498
Yemen	7	21	36	11	9	53
AFRICA	904	677	1090	3397	4229	7110
East Africa	141	114	210	2242	1878	3789
Burundi	0	1	3	0	0	5
Comoros Islands	0	2	0	0	2	8
Djibouti	0	0	0	2	1	7
Eritrea	0	0	4	0	1	9
Ethiopia	4	11	17	32	17	36
Kenya	14	23	16	26	18	53
Madagascar	10	15	16	41	18	36
Malawi	2	1	2	4	6	7
Mauritius	5	13	14	19	4	28
Mayotte	2	1	3	4	1	1
Mozambique	25	7	4	1	0	8
Reunion	3	0	12	55	18	15
Rwanda	6	5	14	9	9	17
Seychelles	15	6	2	445	403	546
Somalia	28	10	15	56	47	48
Tanzania	8	5	7	12	13	13
Uganda	9	6	12	21	25	31
Zambia	5	2	8	252	173	274

Zimbabwe	5	6	61	1263	1122	2647
West Africa	339	257	394	624	1368	1660
Benin	2	2	0	4	2	15
Burkina Faso	0	0	8	1	2	3
Cape Verde	6	18	7	80	23	10
Cote d'Ivoire	16	55	200	87	49	68
Gambia	2	3	7	1	0	13
Ghana	19	27	68	17	62	84
Guinea	5	10	16	1	11	11
Guinea-Bissau	0	0	0	0	1	5
Liberia	7	48	9	295	822	389
Mali	0	5	9	1	10	11
Mauritania	1	3	0	0	4	6
Niger	3	0	0	2	5	11
Nigeria	268	71	60	67	325	958
Senegal	6	7	4	59	43	63
Sierra Leone	4	8	4	3	7	10
Togo	0	0	2	6	2	3
South Africa	246	130	197	248	536	990
Lesotho						
Botswana	0	0	6	4	0	2
Lesotho	1	0	0	0	1	

Namibia	0	0	1	16	7	15
South Africa	244	130	179	228	525	973
Swaziland	1	0	11	0	3	0
North Africa	94	81	114	213	358	582
Algeria	39	26	13	44	34	58
Morocco	17	16	46	96	262	342
Sudan	27	14	28	37	28	49
Tunisia	11	25	27	36	34	133
Central Africa	84	95	175	70	89	89
Angola	0	1	2	4	1	4
Cameroon	33	34	130	38	63	60
Central African Republic	5	10	1	4	2	3
Chad	3	0	0	1	1	2
Congo	14	14	12	8	13	14
Gabon	24	32	19	15	9	6
Sao Tom and Principe	5	4	11	0	0	
OTHER	1657	2020	2530	1383	2264	20450
Others	1334	1695	2244	798	1592	19756
UN	323	325	286	585	672	694

C1.3 Irregular immigrants

- Development of illegal migration 2010-2012³¹

	2010	2011	2012
Illegal border crossing	129	114	120

- Overview of illegal migration (illegal border crossing, illegal stay)

	2010	2011	2012
Georgia-Turkey border	25	18	41
Georgia-Azerbaijan border	13	1	3
Georgia-Armenia border	57	26	11
Georgia-Russia border	3	-	1

- Overview of illegal border crossing by border type³²

	2010	2011	2012
Land border	98	45	56
Border - Airport	18	57	55
Sea Port	13	12	9
Total	129	114	120

- Overview of illegal border crossing by nationalities³³

.....
³¹ Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia

³² Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia

Nationality	Total	2010	2011	2012
Algeria	1	-	-	1
Armenia	71	34	26	11
Azerbaijan	12	6	3	3
Bangladesh	1	-	-	1
Belarus	1	1	-	-
Belgium	1	-	-	1
Cameroon	3	-	2	1
China	2	-	1	1
Congo	1	-	1	-
Egypt	3	-	-	3
France	1	-	1	-
Georgia	95	42	21	32
Ghana	1	1	-	-
India	4	-	4	-
Iran	46	3	21	22
Iraq	4	-	2	2
Kazakhstan	3	-	2	1
Kirgizia	6	4	1	1
Lebanon	3	-	-	3
Malaysia	3	-	3	-

³³ Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia

Moldova	1	-	1	-
Morocco	2	-	2	-
Nigeria	1	-	-	1
Pakistan	1	-	1	-
Russia	42	26	10	6
Saint-Kitts	1	-	1	-
Somalia	1	-	1	-
South Africa	5	-	-	5
Sri Lanka	1	-	-	1
Sweden	1	-	1	-
Syria	8	2	-	6
Tajikistan	1	-	1	-
Turkey	19	7	3	9
Ukraine	5	3	2	-
Uzbekistan	10	-	1	9
Persons without citizenship	2	-	2	-

- Refusal of entry at the external border (Land Border and Airports) by nationalities³⁴

³⁴ Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia

Nationality	Total	2010	2011	2012
Afghanistan	4	3	-	1
Albania	2	2	-	-
Algeria	20	-	18	2
Angola	6	-	1	5
Armenia	51	11	30	10
Azerbaijan	201	112	61	28
Bangladesh	53	9	29	15
Belarus	2	2	-	-
Benin	1	-	-	1
Brazil	1	1	-	-
Burma	7	2	5	-
Cameroon	64	27	9	28
Cape Verde	1	1	-	-
China	45	17	16	12
Columbia	1	-	1	-
Congo	37	9	8	20
Croatia	2	-	2	-
Djibouti	2	-	-	2
Ecuador	2	-	-	2
Egypt	7	-	3	4
Estonia	1	1	-	-

France	7	3	-	4
Gambia	8	4	2	2
Germany	2	-	1	1
Ghana	92	16	27	49
Greece	4	1	2	1
Guinea	14	4	3	8
Honduras	5	-	5	-
India	733	485	96	152
Indonesia	13	12	1	-
Iran	52	20	22	10
Iraq	39	30	2	7
Israel	3	2	1	-
Ivory Coast	128	34	58	36
Japan	1	-	1	-
Kazakhstan	16	8	3	5
Kenya	3	-	2	1
Kyrgyzstan	23	10	8	5
Kosovo	4	2	1	1
Lebanon	26	18	1	7
Liberia	4	2	-	2
Libya	4	-	1	3
Mali	5	1	1	4

Moldova	14	8	4	2
Morocco	2	2	-	-
Namibia	5	5	-	-
Nepal	88	29	26	33
Nigeria	448	30	86	326
North Cyprus	1	1	-	-
Pakistan	65	44	20	1
Palestine	4	-	1	3
Philippines	8	1	6	1
Russia	458	340	400	58
Senegal	16	2	8	6
Serbia	2	-	1	1
Sierra-Leone	3	1	-	2
Somalia	3	-	2	1
South Africa	1	1	-	-
Sri Lanka	76	28	10	38
Sudan	2	-	-	2
Switzerland	1	-	-	1
Syria	30	7	16	7
Tanzania	2		2	-
Togo	2	1	-	1
Tunisia	2	2	-	-

Turkey	177	75	57	45
Turkmenistan	26	3	-	23
Tuvalu	1	1	-	-
USA	1	1	-	-
Uganda	2	-	1	1
Ukraine	1328	594	730	4
United Arab Emirates	1	-	-	1
Uzbekistan	97	15	50	32
Person without citizenship	6	1	1	4
Total		2041	1842	1021

- Trafficking in Persons (TIP)

	2010	2011	2012	Total
All TIP Cases	11	10	5	26

	01.01.2012 - 31.12.2012 (TIP)
Investigation	10 ³⁵
Prosecution	1
Cases sent to the Court	1

³⁵ Qualification of two cases has been modified to Article 253 (Involving someone in prostitution) of CCG and Article 254 (Providing venue for prostitution)

Conviction	1
Convicted Traffickers	1

C2. Emigrants

C2.1 Number of Georgian emigrants³⁶

For the Consular Department there are two main sources to identify the number of Georgian emigrants abroad: data of consular registration and information provided by the respective migration authorities of the receiving State. But it has to be mentioned, that the number of Georgian citizens registered in Diplomatic Representations and Consular Posts of Georgia as well as data provided by migration authorities of foreign countries significantly differ from real picture.

C2.2 Remittances of nationals living abroad

Starting from 1999 (when the National Bank of Georgia began to account for remittances), the volume of remittances has been increasing annually, with only one year – 2009, being an exception. Due to the 2008 World Economic crisis, the amount of remittances sent to Georgia in 2009 decreased by about 15%, as compared to the previous year. However, the recovery was achieved already in 2010, and in 2012 a record 1.3 billion USD remittances was transferred to Georgia by Georgian migrants. Still, unlike many post-soviet or developing countries, Georgian economy could not be considered as over-dependent on remittances, since the share of remittances in the country’s GDP during the last several years has been fluctuating between 7.8% (2008) and 9% (2010),, and in 2012 constituted roughly 8.4% of Georgian GDP.

Russia, Greece, Italy, USA, Turkey, Spain and UK are among the leading countries from where Georgian emigrants remit³⁷.

³⁶Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia

³⁷ <http://diaspora.gov.ge/files/GIZ%20For%20web.pdf>, p. 41

<i>Year</i>	<i>National Bank of Georgia (thousands USD)</i>
1999	29,338
2000	63,269
2001	69,559
2002	96,501
2003	196,634
2004	259,123
2005	403,134
2006	553,250
2007	866,156
2008	1002,122
2009	841,775
2010	1,052,227
2011	1,268,127
2012	1,334,174

Development potential of remittances constitutes a topic for debates, but one thing remains clear - remittances do serve as a powerful poverty-alleviating measure that helps thousands of remittance receiving households stay afloat and enjoy a relatively high quality of life. However, the stopping of the inflow of remittances can impose a threat to the well-being of the household if the latter fails to build on remittances and invest either in human capital or into starting an income-generating activity.

In case of Georgia, existing evidence suggests that partly due to lack of entrepreneurial skills and partly due to the existing investment climate, a rather small share of remittances is used for 'productive'

investments³⁸. Hence, their major share is spent on everyday needs, although investment in human capital or in health is quite frequent as well.

Therefore, taking into consideration the increasing amount of remittances, more targeted governmental policies need to be elaborated, in order to contribute to channelling remittances into the more productive usage.

D. Analysis of the factors driving migration in the country

D1. Main characteristics of current migration trends

According to different data sources from 8 to-20 per cent of the country's population migrated from Georgia as a result of important changes in 90s, caused by the collapse of the Soviet Union as well as intra-national conflicts and social-economic conditions.³⁹

The major parts of Georgian migrants remain in Russia, Turkey, USA, Greece and other EU countries.

Although recently due to several legislative reforms (economics, education, police, fight with organized crime and corruption, care for touristic infrastructure etc.) the situation in the country is more stable and socio-economic conditions improved compared to the late 1990s and early 2000s. Due to the above mentioned reasons, since the 2004, the return of qualified work force is notable, as well as the influx of foreign citizens with the purpose of employment and/or self-employment. Hence, Georgia is gradually transforming from an exclusively transit and sending country into a country of destination as well.

During the last decade, certain important measures have been taken to protect immigrants' rights. It should be mentioned that the proper legislative and practical mechanisms were put in place for combatting the trafficking in human beings.

It has to be mentioned that being at the cross border of Europe and Asia, Georgia serves as a transit route both for trans-Eurasian and intercontinental travellers.

Socio-economic conditions in the country still play a major role in fostering labor emigration from the country.

³⁸ International Organization for Migration (IOM), *Tianeti Household Census 2008 & Tianeti Emigrants to Greece 2008* (Tbilisi: IOM, 2009), <http://jcp.ge/iom/pdf/tianeti.pdf>, accessed on September, 29, 2011.

³⁹ Georgian Diaspora and Migrant Communities in Germany, Greece and Turkey: Transnational Realities and Ties with Georgia, 2014, ICMPD, p.13

As identified above, the collapse of the Soviet Union, intra-national conflicts, Russian occupation of Georgian territories, shortage of the employment opportunities, poor living conditions are the main reasons fostering emigration from the country.

D2. Possible future developments in migration

Proceeding from current situation, the reasons of emigration were changed significantly:

Since 2004 (to date) the causes of emigration have changed, as a result of following reasons:

- Development of socio-economic partnerships with various countries;
- Further development of cooperation with EU on visa liberalization process;
- Development of circular migration (migration of legal labor and qualified specialists) schemes with EU member states, implemented through the bilateral agreements.

E. Country specific Module, following the issue of special interest

The effective management of migration is considered to be one of the main priorities for the government of Georgia. As mentioned above, State Commission on Migration Issues (SCMI) was established in October 2010 under the government's decree.

During the recent years, important steps forward have been taken by the state for the improvement of migration management:

- In 2007, the Georgian government introduced a State Strategy Plan for IDPs, which was updated at the end of 2008, while its action plan was approved in 2009, and later on updated in 2010 by the Decree of the Georgian Government;
- Eastern Partnership with EU was signed on May 7, 2009;
- The “Mobility Partnership” agreement was signed on November 30, 2009, in which 16 countries of EU are participating;
- Agreements on the facilitation of the issuance of visas and readmission were signed with EU, and entered into force on 1 March, 2011;
- Noteworthy progress has been made in the area of private data protection. The Ministry of Justice elaborated a Law on Data Protection, which was approved by the Parliament in 2012;

- The number of asylum seekers in Georgia is increasing steadily. In order to address the issue, since 2010, an Asylum Seekers' Reception Centre started operation in the village of Martkhopi;
- Law of Georgia on the "Refugee and Humanitarian Status" is approved by the Parliament of Georgia in 2011.
- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) of Georgia, Public Service Development Agency (PSDA - Ministry of Justice) and Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA) had a project with IOM (International Organization on Migration) on "Support for the Authorities of Georgia to Implement the Readmission Agreement with EU" in.... One of the components' of the project was development of software, which should contribute to the exchange between MFA, PSDA and MIA. It will enhance migration data base in terms of consular issues. The project will further contribute to the improvement of the process of readmission application procession.
- Association Agreement between EU-Georgia has been initiated in November 2013
- Since 2010 Georgia started to issues biometric passports, and since the August 1, 2011 - the electronic ID cards to the citizens of Georgia. It is planed that second generation travel documents will be issued by the Georgian Diplomatic Missions and Consular Departments abroad starting from summer 2014. Temporary residence cards and travel documents were issued to the refugees. Also, the Law on Legal Status of Aliens and Stateless Persons envisages issuance of temporary ID for asylum seekers. The temporary ID also could be issued for other category of people defined by the decree of Minister of Justice of Georgia.

F. Migration policies and programs and their effectiveness in managing the migration and development challenges

F1. Overview of the national institutional and policy framework governing migration

F1.1 An overview of recent migration policy developments and analysis of policy coherence issues

A State Commission on Migration Issues (SCMI) unites the following entities:

- Ministry of Justice – Chair;
- Ministry of Internal Affairs – Co-Chair;
- Ministry of the Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Accommodation and Refugees;
- Office of the State Minister on European and Euro-Atlantic Integration;
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development;
- Ministry of Labor, Health and Social Affairs;
- Ministry of Education and Science;
- Ministry of Finances;
- Office of the State Minister for Diaspora Issues;
- LEPL – National Statistics Service;
- Ministry of Infrastructure and Regional Development.

The Commission was established with the purpose to support the implementation of state policy in the field of migration and improve the migration management system in Georgia.

The Commission aims at establishing an effective coordination system among the national institutions involved in migration management. The main objectives of SCMI are to increase level of coordination between the authorities, prepare recommendations on migration issues, support reintegration processes for returnees, foster cooperation on effective implementation of international agreements, exchange information between various institutions, etc. This governmental body is responsible for the definition of the migration policy of the country and contribute to the implementation of the agreement between Georgia and EU. In 2012 as a result of the EU assistance, the Commission was strengthened with the establishment of the Secretariat (hosted by PSDA) tasked to improve its actions and increase the

coordination capacities. Nowadays the Commission, apart of its 12 members, also hosts seven international and five national nongovernmental organizations, which have the consultative status and are invited to provide analytical opinion and expertise on various migration policy and migration management issues.

At this stage, advancement and monitoring of effective implementation of Readmission and Visa Facilitation Agreements are on the top of the State Commission's agenda.

The Commission convenes upon the necessity by the commission's Chair or 1/3 of member's initiative. PSDA provided all administrative, technical and organizational support to the Commission.

The Commission creates subject-based working groups, which are comprised of representatives of respective line ministries and various experts. As of today, five working groups have been created: WG on facilitation, reintegration and consolidation, WG for Migration Strategy and a WG on Statelessness; Working Group responsible for the planning and implementation of relevant activities prior to the entry into force of the new Law on Legal Status of Aliens and Stateless Persons; Working Group for setting up a Unified Migration Analytical System.

On May 19, 2011 SCMI decided to develop Migration Strategy of Georgia, with support of EU funded project - „Support Reintegration of Georgian Returning Migrants and the Implementation of EU-Georgia Readmission Agreement“- and established a working group . The draft of the strategy for 2013-2015 was presented to the broader audience on August 2, 2012. After the expertise of international and local non-governmental organizations, the Strategy was approved by government on March 15, 2013. The Strategy Action Plan for 2013-2015 has been also elaborated and adopted by SCMI in June 2013. The EU's role in this process is outstanding. At the moment, there are ongoing and planned projects, mainly oriented on improvement of the management of migration processes in Georgia. Thematically these projects cover following spheres: supporting returning Georgian nationals in reintegration process, creation and development of small-scale legal migration schemes, further development of capacity of the state authorities as well as asylum and border management systems. In December 2012 the Commission had elaborated a concept paper on target oriented information campaign aiming at combating the illegal and supporting the legal migration.

The European Union and its Member States launched an initiative titled, “Mobility Partnership” in June, 2009. This initiative aims at supporting the management of legal migration, including circular and temporary migration. Additionally, the Agreement foresees supporting cooperation in the field of migration and economic development, encouraging readmission and return process, ensuring human rights protection and prevention of illegal migration, trafficking and smuggling.

To meet the responsibilities undertaken within the membership of the Council of Europe, the Georgian Parliament adopted a law on “Repatriation of Persons Forcibly Displaced by the Former USSR in the 40s of the 20th Century” that is based on the principles of historical justice, voluntary and dignified return.

F1.2 An overview of key domestic legislation

Constitution of Georgia⁴⁰

The Georgian Constitution was adopted on August 24, 1995. Article 22 of the Constitution provides that “everyone legally within the territory of Georgia shall, within throughout the territory of the country, have the right to freedom of movement and freedom to choose his/her residence” and “shall be free to leave Georgia. A citizen of Georgia may freely enter Georgia”. The Article provides as well that these rights may be restricted “only in accordance with law, in the interests of securing national security or public safety, protection of health, prevention of crime or administration of justice that is necessary for maintaining a democratic society”.

Article 47 of the Constitution provides the grounds of legal status of foreigners and stateless persons in Georgia. According to this Article, “foreign citizens and stateless persons residing in Georgia shall have the rights and obligations equal to the rights and obligations of citizens of Georgia with exceptions envisaged by the Constitution and law”. Paragraph 2 and 3 of article 47 introduce the right on asylum as well principle of non-refoulment. The article establishes that the asylum procedure is implemented in Georgia in accordance with universally recognized rules of international law and the procedure established by law”.

Article 30 of the Constitution was amended on December 27, 2005, providing that “On the basis of international agreements governing labor relations, the state shall protect the labor rights of the citizens of Georgia abroad”. This amendment was aimed at strengthening the prevention human trafficking, slavery and exploitation.

In December 2011 Georgia became a party to the UN 1954 Convention related to Status of Stateless Persons. With the view of harmonization of Georgian legislation with this Convention, the amendments have been introduced to a number of legislative acts: “On health protection”, “On general education”, “On the procedure of registration of Georgian citizens and aliens residing in Georgia, the issuance of ID (residence) card and passport of Georgian citizen” and to other laws.

Law on citizenship of Georgia⁴¹

⁴⁰ http://www.parliament.ge/index.php?lang_id=ENG&sec_id=68

The law defining the citizenship of Georgia was adopted on March 25, 1993 and was last amended on May 25, 2012. The Law prohibited dual citizenship, except for cases established in the Constitution (foreigners who have special merits before Georgia or granting citizenship if it is in interests of the state).

The Georgian citizenship may be acquired by birth or naturalization. A child is a citizen of Georgia, if:

- Both his/her parents are citizens of Georgia at the moment of the birth regardless of the place of birth;
- One parent is citizen of Georgia and:
 - a child was born on the territory of Georgia;
 - a child was born outside the borders of Georgia but either of his parents has a permanent place of residence on the territory of Georgia;
 - either of his parents is a citizen of Georgia at the moment of his birth, regardless of the place of birth, and the other parent is a stateless person or is unknown.
- He/she is a child of persons, who have the stateless status in Georgia, if he or she was born on the territory of Georgia;
- He/she is born on the territory of Georgia and both of parents are unknown, until the contrary is proved.
- A person may be granted citizenship by naturalization if:
 - He/she has been permanently residing within the territory of Georgia during the last five years;
 - He/she speaks the state language at the established minimum;
 - He/she is familiar with the history and legislation of Georgia at the established minimum;
 - He/she has a job or any real estate on the territory of Georgia.

⁴¹ http://www.ecoi.net/file_upload/1504_1216363918_organic-law-of-georgia-on-citizenship-of-georgia-as-amended-in-2006.pdf

Law on the Legal status of Aliens and Stateless persons⁴²

The law on the Legal status of Aliens and Stateless persons was adopted on December 27, 2005, and came into force on July 1, 2006. The Law “regulates legal grounds and mechanisms for aliens’ and stateless persons’ entry, stay, transit and leave Georgia and defines the rights and responsibilities of aliens and stateless persons, legal grounds for deportation of aliens residing in Georgia, the forms and procedure of deportation, as well as the field of competence and responsibilities of the state institutions participating in the process of deportation for the implementation of legal standards provided for in this Law” (Article 1, paragraph 2).

The Law establishes the list of countries, citizens of which are not required to have a visa for entering and staying in Georgia up to 360 days (Article 4 paragraph 5). The list of these countries is available on the official web-site of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia:

http://mfa.gov.ge/index.php?lang_id=GEO&sec_id=386

Additionally, the Law provides that an international agreement of Georgia with another state may provide a visa-free or simplified visa regime.

Georgian entry visa may be issued both at the diplomatic representations of Georgia abroad and at the border crossing points by the Patrol Police of Georgia. The Law establishes four types of visas:

- Diplomatic;
- Service;
- Ordinary;
- Study visa.

Residence permits in Georgia are issued by the Public Services Development Agency (PSDA) of Ministry of Justice. According to the Law, a foreigner may be granted a temporary residence permit (longer than 90 days and for no more than period of six years) and permanent residence permit.

Temporary residence permit may be issued on the grounds of work activities, medical treatment, study, invitation of a relevant governmental agency as a highly skilled expert or a cultural worker,

⁴² http://www.ecoi.net/file_upload/1504_1216308056_law-of-the-republic-of-georgia-on-the-legal-status-of-aliens.pdf

guardianship or custody of a Georgian citizen, being under guardianship or custody of a Georgian citizens, relationship with a foreigner residing in Georgia.

Permanent residence permit may be issued to an alien legally residing in Georgia for 6 years (except for residence permit for medical treatment and work within the diplomatic and equivalent representation), relative of a Georgian citizen (spouse, parent, child, adoptive parent or child, sister, brother or grandparents), highly qualified specialist, sportsman or artist whose arrival is in the interests of Georgian state.

On the ground of the amendments made to the law of 25.05.2012, the definition of a stateless person, the procedure of establishment and termination of the status, as well as legal state of a stateless person having the status in Georgia have been determined. Namely, a person is considered as stateless, if no one state considers him/her as its citizen under its legislation. The term for procedure of establishment the status of a stateless person shall not exceed 9 months. In case of positive decision on establishment of the status, a residence permit for 3 years term is issued to a person (till coming into force of this amendments, exceptions are persons registered in the database of the Agency as stateless, holding permanent residence cards. Permanent residence permits are reserved for them). The law stipulated that a stateless person granting the status in Georgia has legal regime determined for aliens established by this very law.

Section III of the Law established the procedure of deportation of aliens from the territory of Georgia. The alien may be deported from the state in cases where:

- “S/he has illegally entered to Georgia;
- There are no longer legal grounds to justify his/her further stay in Georgia;
- Her/his residence in Georgia contradicts the interests of national security and public order;
- Her/his deportation is necessary for the protection of public health, rights and legitimate interests those of Georgian nationals and other persons legally staying in Georgia;
- S/he regularly violates Georgian laws;
- S/he obtained legal grounds for entry and staying in Georgia through providing forged or invalid documents;

- S/he has committed one or several malicious crimes, after expiration of the term, for which s/he was sentenced to more than one year of imprisonment⁴³.”

Depending on the deportation grounds, the decision on deportation may be taken by the Ministry of Justice or court. Article 58 of the Law establishes the principle of non-refoulement as well as other humanitarian circumstances (such as long-term residence in Georgia, social and economic links, etc.) which should be taken into consideration while making a deportation decision.

Article 62 of the Law provides that the aliens may be detained due to administrative procedures in accordance with the Aliens Law. Such alien shall be presented to the court within 48 hours after the detention. If the court does not take a decision on detention within the next 24 hours after the person is presented to the court, the alien shall immediately set free.

Law on Internally displaced persons

The Law was adopted in 1996. According to the Article 1 of the Law, "IDP is a citizen of Georgia or a stateless person permanently residing in Georgia, who was forced to leave his/her place of permanent residence and seek asylum within the territory of Georgia due to the threat to his/her life, health and freedom or life, health and freedom of his/her family members, as a result of aggression of a foreign state, internal conflict of mass violation of human rights". The child whose both parents are IDPs may be granted IDP status based on consent of the parents.

The IDP status may be granted by the decision of the Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied territories, Accommodation and Refugees of Georgia. IDPs have a right to:

- reside at a temporary place of residence;
- enjoy free utilities at a place of compact settlement/ temporary place of residence?;
- receive other types of social assistance.

At the place of temporary residence IDP receives a monthly allowance, special social and other assistance (assist in temporary employment, solving their social and living problems, etc.) according to the rules established by the legislation of Georgia.

The Draft of new IDP Law was prepared and sent to the Parliament for adoption.

Law of Georgia on Refugees and Humanitarian status⁴⁴

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⁴³ Article 53 of the Aliens Law.

The Law on Refugee Status was adopted on February 18, 1998, and amended on April 27, 2005. The Law stipulates that the refugee status in Georgia may be granted to a person who is falling under the refugee definition provided in the 1951 Geneva Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 New York Protocol. Decision-making power on granting refugee status belongs to the Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied territories, Accommodation and Refugees of Georgia. The procedure of refugee status determination is established by the Provision on the Procedures for Granting Refugee Status approved by the Decree of the Ministry in 2003. This document establishes procedures on submission of applications for refugee status, interview, examination of documents, decision-making, etc.

During the individual examination of the case, upon the registration of the asylum application, a foreigner is recognized as an asylum seeker. The Department of Migration, Repatriation and Refugee Issues within the Ministry is responsible for examination of the case. The examination procedure involves an interview and completion of a questionnaire. The process of the examination of the case could last for up to four month. During this period, the Ministry, in cooperation with the international organizations, namely, with the UNHCR, provides applicants with the accommodation at the temporary settlement centre.

The President of Georgia makes the decision about granting political asylum. In such a cases, the Administration of the President forwards application to the Department of Migration, Repatriation and Refugee Issues for examination. The department proceeds with the examination of the individual case and submits the conclusion to the Administration of the President; based on the conclusion, the President of Georgia makes the final decision.

The Law on Refugees and Humanitarian Status was adopted on December 6, 2011. Georgian Law about Refugee Status, which has been adopted in 1998, did not correspond to the Geneva Convention of 1951 regarding the law on Refugee status, so that according to the obligations undertaken by Georgia in the framework of EU-Georgian cooperation, the ministry prepared a draft law on the Refugee and Humanitarian Status. The mentioned law has been adopted on December 6, 2011 and entered into force in March of 2012. According to the law on Refugee and Humanitarian Status: “refugee status is granted to the person, who is not the citizen of Georgia or person permanently residing in the country without citizenship and has the well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion and is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to return to the country of origin.”

⁴⁴ http://www.ecoi.net/file_upload/1504_1216364216_law-of-georgia-on-refugees-as-amended-in-2005.pdf

The mentioned law introduced the term “Humanitarian Status” as an element of additional protection. Humanitarian Status is granted to a person who is not the citizen of Georgia or permanently resides in the country without any citizenship and at the same time is not meeting the criteria for the Refugee status:

1. A person who has been forced to leave the country of origin because of violence, external aggression, occupation, internal conflicts, the mass violation of human rights or the violation of public order;
2. Based on the international engagements undertaken by Georgia (Article 3. Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms – Prohibition of torture, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment), considering other International Human rights protection Acts and bearing to mind the principle of non-refoulment persons who cannot return to their country of origin or any other third country, shall not be expelled or returned to the country of their origin.

Law of Georgia “On Repatriation of Persons Forcefully Sent into Exile from the Soviet Socialist Republic of Georgia by the Former USSR in the 40’s of the 20th Century”

The Law of Georgia “On Repatriation of Persons Forcefully Sent into Exile from the Soviet Socialist Republic of Georgia By the Former USSR in the 40’s of the 20th Century” was adopted on July 11, 2007 (entered into force on January 1, 2008), following the obligations assumed by Georgia in 1999, on its access to the Council of Europe. The Law offers a formal ground for the return of forced migrants deported from Georgia in 1944 and their descendants.

The legal framework of repatriation established by 2007 law of Georgia is based on the principles of historical justice and on worthy and voluntary return principles.

According to the procedures established by the Law, a person seeking the status of a repatriate, should fill out an application and submit all the necessary documents to the Department of Migration, Repatriation and Refugee Issues of the Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Accommodation and Refugees of Georgia. The applications review process started on 1 January 2010, which was the deadline for submission of application forms⁴⁵.

Law of Georgia “On Occupied Territories”

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⁴⁵ Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Accommodation and Refugees of Georgia, Repatriation Issues,
http://www.mra.gov.ge/index.php?lang_id=GEO&sec_id=1&lang_id=ENG#index/196/ENG

The law covering the breakaway Autonomous Republic of Abkhazia and Tskhinvali region (territory of the former Autonomous Republic of South Ossetia) was adopted in October 2008.

According to this law the term “the occupied territories and territorial waters” or “The Occupied Territories” covers the territories of the Autonomous Republic of Abkhazia, Tskhinvali Region (territory of the former South Ossetia Autonomous Region) and waters in the Black Sea located in the aquatic territory of the Black Sea, along Georgia’s state border with the Russian Federation, to the South of the Psou river, up to the administrative border at the estuary of the Engury River. The term also covers the air space over the aforementioned territories.

The law spells out restrictions on free movement and economic activity in the territories. In particular, according to the law, foreign citizens should enter the occupied territories only from Georgia. Entry to the territory of the Abkhazian Autonomous Republic should be carried out from the territory of Zugdidi Municipality and the territory of Tskhinvali region (territory of the former Autonomous Republic of South Ossetia) shall be entered from the territory of Gori Municipality. The major road leading to Tskhinvali region (territory of the former Autonomous Republic of South Ossetia) passes through the Gori District. Foreigners as well as stateless persons are prohibited to enter the occupied territories from any other directions.

The legislation also lists special cases in which entry into the breakaway regions will not be regarded as illegal. It stipulates that a special permit on entry into the occupied territories can be issued “in order to protect the state interests of Georgia, promote peaceful resolution of the conflict or serve the de-occupation or humanitarian purposes”.

Any economic activity (entrepreneurial or non-entrepreneurial) is prohibited regardless whether or not it is implemented for receiving profit, income or compensation, if under the Georgian legislation such activity requires a license, permit, authorization or registration or if, under the Georgian legislation, such activity requires an agreement but it has not been granted. Any transaction related to real estate property and concluded in violation of the Georgian law is deemed void from the moment of conclusion and does not give rise to any legal consequences.

The law prohibits international air traffic and maritime traffic, railway traffic and international automobile transportation of cargo. The law also prohibits the use of national resources and organization of cash transfer. The provision covering economic activities is retroactive, going back to 1990.

The law says that the Russian Federation – the state which has carried out military occupation – is fully responsible for the violation of human rights in the Autonomous Republic of Abkhazia and Tskhinvali region. The Russian Federation, according to the document, is also responsible for compensation of

material and moral damage inflicted on Georgian citizens, stateless persons and foreign citizens, who are in Georgia and enter the occupied territories with appropriate permits.

The law also says that uncontrolled state agencies and officials operating in the occupied territories are regarded by Georgia as illegal. The law will remain in force until "full restoration of the jurisdiction of Georgia." Violating this law will entail appropriate sanctions according to Georgian legislation.

Criminal Code of Georgia

In 2003 specific amendments to the Criminal Code of Georgia were made in order to criminalize Trafficking in Persons. Article 143¹ prohibits trafficking in person, while article 143² refers to the trafficking in minors. Additionally, use of service of trafficking victims was outlawed by article 143³ in 2007.

The amendments of 2006 to the Criminal Code of Georgia have increased the sanctions and introduced criminal responsibility of legal entities for human traffickers. Articles 143¹, 143² and 143³ prescribe different sanctions: statutory minimum sentence of article 143¹ is imprisonment from seven years, whereas the article 143² sets as a minimum sanction - imprisonment for eight years. Statutory maximum of the above-mentioned offences differ as well. The Article 143¹ provides imprisonment up to 20 years, while article 143² prescribes punishment by life imprisonment. The use of services of victim of trafficking is punishable by imprisonment from 3 to 15 years term.

Criminal Code of Georgia does not differentiate between human trafficking for the purpose of labor exploitation, and/or sexual exploitation, etc. The scope of application of these articles covers internal (within territory of Georgia) as well as external forms of trafficking (trans-border). It is noteworthy, that trans-border trafficking is regarded as one of the most aggravating circumstances according to the criminal legislation of Georgia.

The results of the amendments to the criminal legislation, the definition of human trafficking has been brought in full compliance with the definition given in the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings. These conventions were ratified by the Parliament of Georgia in 2006⁴⁶.

Law of Georgia on Combating Trafficking in Persons

⁴⁶ Ministry of Justice of Georgia, http://www.justice.gov.ge/index.php?lang_id=ENG&sec_id=544

Together with the adoption of the strict sanctions in the Criminal Legislation for trafficking and elaboration of the specific mechanism for the protection of victims, on April 28, 2006, Parliament of Georgia adopted Law on Combating Trafficking in Persons. This Law defines legal and organizational grounds for prevention and suppression of trafficking in persons, provides competencies and responsibilities of respective State agencies, officials and legal entities, as well as rules of coordination of their activities. The law also determines the legal status of victims of trafficking and ensures legal and social guarantees of their protection.

Together with the adoption of the specific Law against Trafficking in Persons, numbers of amendments were made to other laws, such as Code of Administrative Offences, Law on Legal Status of Foreigners, Law on Social Assistance, Law on Border Police and others. Based on the Law on Combating Trafficking in Persons, new normative acts were introduced, which provide specific regulations for the implementation of the State policy within the process of combating trafficking.⁴⁷

Amendments to the Law on Combating Trafficking in Persons

On April 10, 2012 Law on Combating Trafficking in Persons was amended - new chapter IV¹ was inserted in the Law. The new chapter refers to the social and legal protection, assistance and rehabilitation of the child victims/statutory victims of trafficking.

Article 21². Legal protection of child victims/statutory victims of trafficking

1. Authorized Governmental Agencies take all appropriate measures to identify the child victim/statutory victim of trafficking, his/her nationality, parents and family whereabouts. Guardian may be appointed to the child victim/statutory victim of trafficking in accordance with Georgian legislation.
2. The identity and other personal data of child victim/statutory victim of trafficking is confidential (even for the media), except of the cases established under the Law, when the confidential information is necessary to identify his/her parents and family whereabouts and disclosure of the information doesn't endanger the safety of the child victim/statutory victim of trafficking.
3. Child victim/statutory victim of trafficking shall be informed regarding his/her rights, assistance and rehabilitation services. The information shall be transmitted to the minor in a language that he/she understands based (taking into consideration) on his/her age (maturity).

⁴⁷ Ibid.

4. The Law prohibits keeping child victim/statutory victim of trafficking in places of detention, such as pre-trial detention facilities and prisons in accordance with Article 15 of the present Law.

Article 21³. Social Protection, Assistance and Rehabilitation Mechanism of child victim/statutory victim of trafficking

1. Government of Georgia promotes social protection, assistance and rehabilitation of child victim/statutory victim of trafficking.

2. Child victim/statutory victim of trafficking shall be allocated to the shelters in accordance with the present Law. Child might be allocated to the shelter if one or both of his/her parents are victims of trafficking or statutory victims of trafficking. Internal regulation of the shelter establishes the conditions of the placement of child.

3. Internal regulation of the shelters determines the living, rest, assistance and rehabilitation conditions of child victim/statutory victim of trafficking. Shelters might provide the child victim/statutory victim of trafficking with education based on (taking into consideration) their age.

Article 21⁴. Status and repatriation of child victim/statutory victim of trafficking who are nationals of foreign states or stateless persons

1. Child victim/statutory victim of trafficking who is national of foreign state or is stateless person shall be provided with temporary residence permit under the motion of the shelter or the body in charge of the proceedings.

2. Child victim/statutory victim of trafficking who is national of foreign state or is stateless person shall not be returned to the foreign state if there is reasonable doubt that the safety and security of the child is endangered. Special needs, psychological and health conditions shall be taken into account.

3. Governmental agencies in cooperation with NGOs ensure assistance and rehabilitation programs for child victim/statutory victim of trafficking who are nationals of foreign states or stateless persons based on (taking into account) their needs and interests.

F1.3 a brief description of key institutional actors involved in migration and diaspora management

President of Georgia

In accordance with the Constitution of the state and other legal acts, President of Georgia takes following decisions in the migration-related matters:

- Granting, reinstatement, denunciation and loss of Georgian citizenship;

- Granting asylum in accordance with the Constitution;
- Declaration of foreigners as *Persona Non-grata*.

Besides, the President defines procedures on issuance, extension and suspension of Georgian visas, and on issuing residence permits to foreigners as well removal procedures.

Ministry of Justice / Public Services Development Agency (PSDA)

Public Services Development Agency of the Ministry of Justice is responsible for:

- Issuance of temporary and permanent resident permits;
- Registration of foreigners according the temporary address, and issuance of resident certificate;
- Issuance of travel document for stateless persons and refugees residing in Georgia;
- Consideration of citizenship cases and issuance of appropriate conclusions;
- Definition of stateless persons status;
- Issuance of emigration permits;
- Birth, marriage and death registration;
- Consideration of deportation of foreigners from the territory of Georgia;
- Issuance of ordinary visas for foreign nationals who are legally entering the territory of Georgia
- Conducting register of Georgian citizens and foreigners, residing in Georgia;
- Postponing the stay of foreigners in Georgia.
- Considers the application on obtaining the status of the compatriot residing abroad and issues appropriate certificate.

Since the start of reform of the Agency in 2005, a number of innovative systems were established and effectively used for migration management. For example, since 2008 the Face Recognition System (FRS) has been introduced and successfully used for providing one more cornerstone on fine-tuning the PSDA databases. The FRS is effectively used also throughout implementation of the Readmission Agreement

for establishing person's identity. Moreover, the FRS is used for data enrollment process, which increases personal identification capacity and excludes data duplication. Database contains photo material issued since 1993 and amounts 11,641,366 photos.

PSDA has taken significant steps towards improving document security. The PSDA launched issuing biometric passports since April 15, 2010. A number of passports issued for 2013 reached 639,897. The Agency has three biometric passport printing centres in accordance with the country's territorial division: one in the capital, one in the Eastern and another one in the Western part of Georgia. The biometric passport is equipped with an electronic data storage device containing two (four are enrolled and two best selected) finger prints, signature image and biometric photo. This information is read from the passport using a contactless reader. By combining visual and electronic security features bio-passport ensures high identification standards.

One of the most recent and the most important developments for the PSDA is issuance of electronic ID cards. New ID cards are available for the citizens of Georgia and aliens starting from summer, 2011. Number of ID cards issued by the end of 2013 reached 1,071,718.

All relevant authorities, who are responsible for migration management in Georgia, have established access to the PSDA database. The level of accessibility depends on functions of the respective institution.

Since 2012, a Secretariat of the State Commission on Migration Issues has been created at PSDA under the support of EU. Main objective of the Secretariat is to support the effective functioning of the Commission.

Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Accommodation and Refugees of Georgia (MRA)

The main functions of the Ministry related to migration issues are following:

- Establishment of the management system for migration processes and coordinated actions with executive bodies of the state, within its scope of competence;
- Regulation of migration flow of IDPs, asylum seekers, refugees or individuals with humanitarian status, repatriates and individuals, affected by emergency situations (natural hazards, epidemics and etc.), in accordance with state's political, socio-economic and demographic conditions, organization of their temporary or permanent accommodation, creation of conditions for adaptation-integration and social protection;
- Recording and registration of IDPs and refugees or individuals with a humanitarian status;

- Preparation of legislative basis for protection of social and legal rights of migrants, in cooperation with the corresponding central legislative and executive bodies of Georgia.
- Organization of migrants' reception-resettlement, emergency assistance, support for employment and adaptation-integration, along with the executive bodies and local authorities;
- Participation in development of international humanitarian aid programs for migrants and control of its implementation within its scope of competence;
- Organization of return of IDPs, refugees or individuals with humanitarian status, as well as temporarily migrating Georgian citizens to the permanent residence and cooperation with central and local self-governing authorities and international organizations in this field;
- Participation in development of the international treaties for protection of rights of refugees or individuals with a humanitarian status and temporarily migrating Georgian citizens;
- Elaboration of proposals for creation of proper socio-economic conditions for Georgian citizens returned from the migration;

Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA)

The Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia is involved in migration management as an agency, which, according to Georgian legislation, is responsible for border management and border protection of the country.

MIA Patrol Police Department (PPD) is responsible for effective functioning of border check-points.

The tasks of the Patrol Police Department at the border check-points are as follows:

Border-migration control at the border check-points;

To inspect the citizens of Georgia and foreigners on the state border check-points;

To observe and control the legal regime of the Georgian state border;

To prevent, reveal and eliminate trans-border organized crime and irregular migration, trafficking in human beings, smuggling of drugs, weapons, explosive devices and the movement of means of nuclear materials and other activities as defined by the legislation;

- PPD is authorized to issue the National Visa on the state border check-points;

- To detect the unlawfully staying aliens within the country. The migration service of PPD will also be responsible to organize their removal from the country.

In accordance with the President's Decree of April 26, 2011, the Ministry of Internal Affairs was assigned as a competent authority for implementation of the Readmission Agreement. Within the Ministry, the Patrol Police Department acts as a responsible authority for the implementation of the Readmission Agreement and is in charge of procedural and organizational issues.

Thus, the Border Police of Ministry of Internal Affairs remains responsible for control of border regime and security on the "green" border and the maritime space of Georgia.

Under the Migration Strategy and Action Plan, the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia took a responsibility to carry out the following activities:

- **Functioning of the Migration Main Division within the ministry** – one of the most important issues in the sphere of combating irregular migration is the functioning of the Migration Service. The above mentioned service ensures inspection/detection, voluntary return, expulsion and etc. of the irregular migrants on/from the territory of the state.
- **Existence of the Accommodation Centre for Irregular Migrants** – in order to ensure the protection of the basic rights and fundamental freedoms of migrants, the accommodation Centre for Irregular Migrants should be operating in accordance with the international standards. Detected irregular migrants will be placed in the Accommodation Centre until the enforcement of the expulsion. The period of time during which the irregular migrants will remain in the Accommodation Centres depends on the length of the procedures necessary for preparing the deportation documents. Accordingly, the existence of the above mentioned centre ensures the prevention of free movement of irregular migrants on the territory of the state.
- **Management of the detection system of irregular migrants** – the purpose of the system is to record and store data related to either legal or illegal presence of immigrants on the territory of the state. The system will identify the persons whose legal grounds for staying on the territory of the state expired. According to the detection system of irregular migrants the Migration Service will perform monitoring of the stay of foreign nationals on the territory of the state.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia and its representatives abroad, play important role in obtaining/using migration data.

Diplomatic Missions and Consular Posts are responsible for the following issues:

- Issuing Georgian visas;
- Issuing necessary documents for returning to Georgia;
- Consular registration of Georgian citizens abroad;
- Cooperate with Organizations, which provide projects for voluntary returnees;
- Helping Georgian citizens, who are victims of trafficking;
- Issuing Passports;
- Registration of Civil acts;
- Submission of Application on Citizenship issues;
- Submission of Application on temporary and permanent resident permits
- Participate in the Readmission Processes as required;

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia is observing the migration flows of Georgian citizens abroad, for the further analyse and evaluation.

Almost all Consular Posts are using the electronic data bases of Georgian state agencies. Among them are the databases of Civil Registry Agency, which are used while serving Georgian citizens.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia provides Georgian citizens with the information on legal migration issues.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia finished project with IOM (International Organization on Migration) – “Support for the Authorities of Georgia to Implement the Readmission Agreement with the EU”. The project envisaging creation of the respective software for the data on visas issued via consular representatives, data on consular register and data on other consular functions; the software is under testing regime and will be operational soon. Within the project Diplomatic Missions and Consular Posts are provided with the hardware to facilitate processing of biometric data, hardware will enhance issuing biometric passports by Georgian Diplomatic missions abroad, in terms of the project, implemented by IOM “Support for the Authorities of Georgia to Implement the Readmission Agreement with the EU”.

The Office of the State Minister of Georgia on European and Euro-Atlantic Integration

Develop, coordinate, and monitor a unified policy for implementation of the Georgia-EU Association Agreement, including, preparation of a National Action Plan for implementation of the Association Agreement.

Coordinate cooperation with the EU in the framework of the Mobility Partnership from the Georgian side, including cooperation of related programs and projects.

Coordinate cooperation with the EU in the framework of the Eastern Partnership from Georgian side, including migration related issues.

The Office of the State Minister of Georgia for Diaspora issues

The Office of the State Minister of Georgia for Diaspora Issues is responsible for developing relations with compatriots residing abroad. The State Minister's Office supports Georgian Diaspora in strengthening ties with their homeland, keeping Georgian language and national identity and facilitates engagement of emigrants for development of Georgia. For these purposes, the State Minister's Office competences cover:

- Communication with Diaspora Organizations and Georgian emigrant communities;
- Providing support to Georgian weekend schools functioning abroad;
- Providing support to Georgian folk ensembles and sport teams abroad;
- Providing updated information to overseas compatriots about ongoing developments in Georgia: economic and investment opportunities, informing about social and cultural updates; facilitate their engagement in the development of Georgia.

With an invaluable support of the European Union and international organizations, the State Minister's Office is currently developing Global Diaspora Network, an online platform that will enable access to updated information, services and products developed by state. The database of the Diaspora organizations, including their activities and interests will be created as part of the Global Diaspora Network. In addition, State Minister's Office works on the development of an online school - an interactive learning environment particularly useful to those emigrants who live far from the functioning weekend schools. Both initiatives have been developed to meet the priority goal: strengthening communication with overseas compatriots and engaging them in the development.

Ministry of Labor, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia

The main functions of the Ministry related to migration issues are following:

- Elaboration of proposals for the regulation of labor migration (internal and external);

- Preparation of drafts of relevant normative acts;
- Collaboration with the public institutions responsible for the implementation of migration strategy and action plan;
- Participation in the inter-agency work for the elaboration and effective implementation of migration regulatory framework;
- Preparation and legal analysis of the drafts of the international treaties;

F2. Regional and International Cooperation

- **Main international agreements of Georgia related to migration issues⁴⁸:**

Name of the treaty	Date of entering into force for Georgia
International Covenant On Social And Political Rights	3 August 1994
Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of discrimination Against Women	25 November 1994
Convention on the Rights of the Child	2 July 1994
International Covenant On Economic, Social And Cultural Rights	3 August 1994
Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment	25 November 1994
International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination 1966	2 July 1999
Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees signed in Geneva 28 July, 1951	7 November 1999

⁴⁸ Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia, <http://www.mfa.gov.ge>

Protocol relating to the Status of Refugee of 1967	9 August 1999
Optional Protocol on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography	28 July 2005
Convention On The Recognition Of Studies, Diplomas And Degrees Concerning Higher Education In The States Belonging To The Europe Region 21 December 1979	4 December 1992
The United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children	5 October 2006
Constitution of the International Organization for Migration	7 June, 2001
Convention for the protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms 1950	20 May 1999
European Convention For The Prevention Of Torture And Inhuman Or Degrading Treatment Or Punishment	10 October 2000
European Agreement Relating To Persons Participating In Proceedings Of The European Court Of Human Rights	1 July 2001
Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities	1 April 2006
Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications concerning Higher Education in the European Region 1997	1 December 1999
Convention on the Transfer of Sentenced Persons	1 February 1998
European Convention on Information on Foreign Law	19 June 1999
European Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters 1959	11 January 2000
European Convention on Extradition and its Protocols	13 September 2001
Statute of the Council of Europe 5 May 1949	27 April 1999
Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human	14 March 2007

Beings	
The Hague Convention of 5 October 1961 Abolishing the Requirement of Legalization for Foreign Public Documents (Hague Apostille Convention)	14 May 2007

- **Georgia – EU relations⁴⁹**

Since 2009, the “Eastern Partnership” (EaP), as a special Eastern dimension of the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP), is the main political framework for the EU-Georgia relations. Georgia is actively engaged in both – bilateral and multilateral formats of the EaP and effectively cooperates with the EU, making full use of the opportunities opened by the Partnership, such as conclusion of the Association Agreements, including DC FTAs; supporting mobility, gradual visa liberalization and enhancing sector cooperation.

Currently, the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement (PCA) constitutes the legal framework of the EU-Georgia cooperation since 1999. It will be replaced by the EU-Georgia Association Agreement upon its provisional application/entry into force. The EU-Georgia Association Agreement has been initiated in November, 2013. The Parties aim to sign the Agreement in summer 2014. The Association Agreement will be provisionally applied before it fully enters into force. The Agreement aims at political association and gradual economic integration of Georgia into the EU internal market. The EU-Georgia cooperation institutions, established by the PCA, will also be upgraded to association institutions in line with the enhanced political dialogue.

The EU-Georgia Association Agreement is a new generation agreement as it envisages significant, effective mechanisms of approximation with the EU and its legislation. The Agreement will further strengthen cooperation between the EU and Georgia in all priority areas.

In spring, 2014 the EU and Georgia plan to finalize negotiations on the Association Agenda, which aims to prepare and facilitate the implementation of the Association Agreement. The Association Agenda will replace the EU-Georgian European Neighbourhood Policy Action Plan (ENP AP).

The EaP and the “Association Agreement” have a strong focus inter alia on Justice, Liberty and Security (JLS) sector, which includes also border management, trans-border cooperation between Georgia, the European Union Member States and neighbouring countries, migration management (readmission, visas and asylum), fight against organized crime, trafficking in human beings, etc.

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⁴⁹ Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia, <http://www.mfa.gov.ge>

Since November 2007 EU-Georgia Cooperation Sub-committee on Justice, Freedom and Security has served as the forum for focusing on and guiding/monitoring the cooperation on JLS issues within the EU-Georgia political dialogue. The EU and Georgia concluded the visa facilitation and readmission agreements, which are in force since March 2011. The progress achieved by Georgia in the implementation of the mentioned agreements laid basis for EU's positive assessment and opening of visa dialogue in June 2012. The Visa Liberalization Action Plan (VLAP) was handed over to the Georgian side in February 2013, during the visit of Commissioner Cecilia Malmström to Georgia. Based on findings of the EU Experts' Mission in October 2013 and a number of progress reports provided by Georgia, the implementation of the VLAP was assessed as "very good" by the Commission and praised in the margins of EaP Vilnius Summit. Georgia intends to finalize implementation of the 1st (legislative) phase of the VLAP and move to the 2nd operational phase of the VLAP in summer 2014.

The EU plays an essential role in promoting security and stability in Georgia, especially after August 2008, through functioning of the EUMM and the EUSR for the South Caucasus and Crisis in Georgia; active participation in the Geneva discussions, effective non-recognition policy, etc.

The European Union concluded a Mobility Partnership with Georgia in November 2009. More precisely, it is not an international treaty, but a "soft law" Memorandum of Understanding between the European Commission, some of Member States and Georgia. This Mobility Partnership is a flexible, legally non-binding framework for enhanced dialogue and cooperation between the EU and Georgia, involving the coordinated and consistent implementation of practical initiatives in the field of migration, proposed by the Commission, the interested Member States and Georgia, according to their own competences. The goal of the Mobility Partnership is to ensure the responsible joint management of migratory flows in the interests of the Union, its partners and the migrants. The Mobility Partnership with Georgia facilitates the migration of Georgian nationals to interested EU Member States; it covers different forms of legal migration, such as migration for studies or other forms of training. Mechanisms to facilitate economic migration are based on the labor needs of interested Member States, as assessed by them, while fully respecting the principle of Community preference for EU citizens.

EU – Georgia Agreements on Visa Facilitation and Readmission of Persons Residing without Authorization

The Visa Facilitation Agreement between the EU and Georgia was signed on June 17, 2010 and entered into force on March 1, 2011. The visa facilitation agreement aims at making it easier for Georgian citizens, in particular those who travel most, to acquire short term visas for the EU. It provides a reduced visa fee of 35 Euro instead of 60 Euro for all Georgian citizens and a total exemption from the visa fee for certain categories of applicants (e.g. children below the age of 12, pensioners, disabled persons, students, close relatives and representatives of civil society organizations). Furthermore for certain persons (e.g.

businesspeople, students and journalists) there is a simplified application procedure with less necessary documents requested to support a visa application. Bona fide frequent travelers will be issued multi-entry visas with long periods of validity. Finally, the holders of diplomatic passports are exempt from the visa obligation. The agreement also obliges the Consulates to take a decision within 10 days on whether or not to issue a visa.

Within the framework of the EU-Georgia Visa Facilitation Agreement, Georgia is negotiating Visa Facilitation Agreements with Denmark, Iceland, Norway, Lichtenstein, UK, Switzerland and Ireland.

In the nearest period of time, Agreement between Georgia and Switzerland on the facilitation of visas will pass final procedures for the signature.

The Visa Facilitation Agreement goes hand-in-hand with the Readmission Agreement, which was also signed on June 17, 2010 and entered into force on March 1, 2011. The Readmission Agreement sets out clear obligations and procedures for authorities of the EU Member States and third countries concerned, as to when and how to return people who are residing there illegally. They cover not only illegally staying nationals of both parties but also third country nationals and stateless persons being in an irregular situation, provided that they have a clear link with the requested party (e.g. visa or resident permit).

In this regard, Georgia has already taken several significant steps. With the aim of proper implementation of the Readmission Agreement, within the framework of the EU-Georgia Readmission Agreement Georgia has signed Implementing Protocols with Bulgaria, Estonia, Hungary, Austria and Benelux (Belgium, Netherlands and Luxembourg). Draft Implementing Protocol is ready for signature with Slovak Republic, as well as draft implementing Protocols are under negotiations with Poland, Czech Republic, Lithuania and Portugal. Also Georgian side initiated draft Implementing Protocols with Cyprus, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Spain and Sweden through diplomatic channels.

The Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia was named as a competent authority for implementation of the Agreement.

Full respect of Human Rights as provided by the European Convention of Human Rights will also be guaranteed during the application of the Readmission Agreement.

Other Bilateral Readmission Agreements

Beside the EU, Georgia also has bilateral Readmission Agreements with Norway, Switzerland and Ukraine (together with its Implementing Protocol). Also draft Readmission Agreements is ready for the signature with Moldova (together with its Implementing Protocol) and Denmark. Draft Readmission

Agreements is under negotiations with Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia. As well as Georgian side initiated draft Readmission Agreements with Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka through diplomatic channels.

Other Bilateral Visa Agreements

Georgia is negotiating Agreements on Visa Free Travel for Holders of Service Passports with France, Germany, Luxembourg, Ireland, Switzerland, Belgium, UK, Netherlands, Austria, Denmark, Iceland, Malta, Norway, Sweden, Poland, Greece, Slovenia, Lichtenstein and Lithuania.

Agreements on Visa Free Travel for Holders of Diplomatic and Service Passports are under negotiations with Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Israel, Lebanon*(Diplomatic, Service and Special passports), Philippines, Sri Lanka, Jamaica, Argentine Republic, Bolivia, Guatemala, Grenada, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Columbia, Cuba, Mexico (only diplomatic), Panama, Paraguay, Saint Kits and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Uruguay, Chile, Trinidad and Tobago, Republic of India, Republic of Iraq, United Arab Emirates, Republic of Tunisia, Kingdom of Thailand, Sultanate of Oman, State of Kuwait, Republic of Indonesia, Syrian Arab Republic, Brazil (signed but not in force), Grenada, Saint Kits and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay and Republic of Korea.

Agreements on Visa Free Travel for Holders of Diplomatic and Service Passports are in force with Hungary, Bulgaria, Slovakia, Latvia, Cyprus and Romania, Turkey, Iran, Brazil (dip, service and special passports), Peru (dip, service and special passports), State of Qatar, Republic of Korea, Arab Republic of Egypt and People's Republic of China.

Georgia also has International Agreements on visa free travel with:

Azerbaijan	Armenia	Kyrgyzstan
Belarus	Ukraine	Uzbekistan
Iran	Kazakhstan	Tajikistan
Moldova	Turkey	

Visa regime of Georgia: The list of the countries whose nationals do not need to obtain Georgia visa when entering Georgia is available on the official web-site of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia: http://mfa.gov.ge/index.php?lang_id=GEO&sec_id=386

G. Evaluating the impacts of migration and migration policy on the socio-economic development

G1. Impacts of migration on the socio-economic development of Georgia⁵⁰

Impact on the labor market

As it was mentioned, Georgia faced a large-scale emigration during the period following independence and the break-up of the former Soviet Union in 1991: thousands of people migrated in a search of high-wage employment opportunities and/or social and political stability. Despite the fact that mainly unemployed persons were emigrating at the time and the pressure at the labor market was mitigated, a mass level of emigration negatively affected the labor market as it lost qualified labor force. The data collected in this profile shows that the negative effect of labor emigration from Georgia will continue as biggest part of potential migrants are not only highly qualified specialists, but are currently employed persons.

The state policy regulating the labor market in Georgia should react to the situation with the introduction of migration management mechanisms, which would affect migration through increasing job opportunities at the domestic labor market, facilitate the return of migrants, and regulate labour immigration to Georgia which could replace the lost labor potential in the near future.

- **The impact of brain drain**

The emigration of skilled and educated persons from Georgia lowers the human resource potential of the country, contributing to the brain drain experienced by Georgia. Consequently, the country also lost a significant part or all of its long-term investment in human resource-building as educated people leave the country.

Moreover, the situation in Georgia may be further complicated, by the so-called brain-waste effect, as many of qualified Georgian emigrants are ready to take employment abroad, which does not correspond to their qualification and education level. As a result, if they decide to return back to their country of origin, they will not be able to restore their previous position at the labor market.

- **Financial impact**

The immediate positive financial impact of migration for Georgia is the relatively high level of remittances sent home by labor migrants. However, studies of financial institutes show that biggest part of remittances are spent in Georgia for every-day needs, and only some part is related to the long-term investments on the micro level (education, small business, etc.). The state policy in this case should be oriented at creation of special educational and training programmes, institutions and financial

⁵⁰ ICMPPD – International Centre for Migration Policy Development

instruments that would stimulate and facilitate investments of remittances in businesses and entrepreneurship.

- **Impacts on demography**

The Georgian population has become demographically aged. As of 2010, 14.02% of the population was over 65 years of age (16.6.2% female, 11.2% male). Partly, this situation is stimulated by the emigration of young population from the country. According to projections, by 2050 almost one in four residents will be aged over 65. This situation will result in significant increase of the economic burden on the employed population and will require establishing an effective system for social assistance. Gender balance in the country can be also modified in the future since; women now constitute the bigger part among emigrants.

H. Conclusions

H1. Main findings on current migration trends

- After the dissolution of the Soviet Union, for almost two decades, Georgia had mainly been a labor emigration and transit country. However, recently the situation started to change, with more and more immigrants from a variety of countries starting to arrive and settle in Georgia. Hence, Georgia is gradually transforming into the immigrant receiving country as well, which calls for relevant changes in the existing migration policy and legislation in order to adequately react and reflect transforming realities;
- EU-Georgia cooperation in the field of migration management and migration policy development is strong and is continuously bringing positive results. There are several large-scale EU-funded projects being implemented in the country, with legislation in major harmonized with the EU standards, and the signature of the EU-Georgia Association Agreement being underway;
- The State Commission on Migration Issues was established in 2010 and since then has become the major force in shaping the migration policy and management in the country;
- A number of revisions have been made in the migration related legislation, notably, the new *Law on Legal Status of Aliens and Stateless Persons*, has been developed, which sets new regulations for entry and stay of foreign nationals and stateless persons to Georgia;
- The legal basis regulating migration management in the country is well-developed, however, more attention needs to be made on its implementation and adherence to EU standards;

- The Migration Strategy and its Action Plan elaborated with the assistance of EU experts could be considered as a major step forward with the view of establishing a well-managed system in the field. However, the document needs to be subjected to updates in parallel dynamics with developments taking place on the basis of active work undertaken by the Commission. It is also important to ensure the smooth implementation and fulfillment of the objectives set in the Action Plan by all involved bodies;
- Relevant Georgian State authorities are undertaking steps to promote legal migration. A pilot circular migration scheme with Germany is being developed in close cooperation with the relevant authorities. An agreement on circular migration was signed with France and will soon be enacted. Circular migration is considered to be a priority for the development of legal migration flows;
- Creation of electronic databases, Face Recognition System by the PSDA, and immigration database of the Ministry of Internal Affairs among them, can be considered as a big success, which contributes to the improvement of the migration management. Migration analytical system will be developed by 2016, and will provide reliable data for policy-making expertise. An important initiative in respect of emigration statistics will be creation of a Global Diaspora Network, to be developed and launched by the Office of the State Minister on Diaspora Issues;
- An Accommodation Centre for Irregular Migrants is being established, and will operate according to international standards to regulate expulsion and prevent free movement of irregular migrants on the territory of Georgia.

H2. Improvement of migration statistics

Availability of reliable national migration statistics still constitutes a big challenge in Georgia. That is the reason why often scholars and policy-makers have to rely on various types of estimations rather than on the hard data. However, it is expected that in the course of the 2014 National Census the respondents will be asked a special set of migration-related questions in order to elicit more reliable data on migration flows and stocks. Hence, although it will be still hard to reconstruct the migration dynamics for the last 20 years, 2014 National Census will serve as a starting point for building up reliable national statistical expertise in collecting migration data;

H3. Recommendations regarding migration management

Based on the analysis of the existing migration policy and management Following recommendation have been developed:

- Further support to ensure sustainability of the State Commission on Migration Issues;

- Systematic support to improve statistical services in the country, and specifically, migration statistical services;
- Support in harmonization migration legislation regulations with the EU standards;
- Support in development of circular migration schemes;
- Support in development of social transfer schemes for returned Georgian migrants;
- Support in creating of state return and integration schemes for migrants;
- Support in establishing the state schemes to channel remittances into investments and contribute to the local economic development.
- Further development of mechanisms to effectively fight irregular migration;
- Further development of mechanisms for effective implementation of asylum/refugee policies.

ANNEXES

STATISTICAL ANNEX for additional tables and figures

Georgian export by country (thousand USD)⁵¹:

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Exports - total	1,232,110.5	1,495,345.2	1,133,622.4	1,677,472.1	2,189,135.8	2,377,455.0
of which:						
EU countries	268,530.3	335,153.8	237,546.8	309,513.4	424,294.8	353,068.3
Austria	4,919.2	3,001.6	1,096.0	1,028.1	1,433.7	734.4
Belgium	17,737.7	7,190.8	13,519.5	22,074.6	33,647.9	60,446.5
Bulgaria	59,357.3	108,216.7	82,290.6	66,757.2	93,689.0	69,654.7
Cyprus	234.4	3,197.3	144.8	139.3	190.8	372.0
Czech Republic	6,111.2	4,349.9	7,093.1	8,056.5	9,428.2	9,852.8

⁵¹ National Statistics Office of Georgia, External Trade Statistics
http://www.geostat.ge/index.php?action=page&p_id=206&lang=eng

Denmark	808.6	1,046.7	624.5	3,612.1	2,327.4	1,200.2
Estonia	1,442.7	970.0	1,234.2	878.7	2,774.9	3,685.7
Finland	6,891.8	1,060.6	587.5	876.1	1,605.3	3,625.6
France	11,613.7	39,910.1	5,817.3	10,923.7	27,754.1	17,163.9
Germany	56,155.9	33,062.6	23,025.4	34,987.7	49,056.5	38,571.9
Greece	7,006.5	5,996.2	12,258.5	8,025.1	6,186.0	2,181.5
Hungary	38.0	103.3	249.6	209.5	2,160.6	308.1
Ireland	356.8	178.0	274.6	313.7	218.9	91.4
Italy	17,792.6	17,144.9	23,282.1	26,048.4	75,501.4	53,330.1
Latvia	4,502.0	5,407.6	3,431.9	6,506.2	7,666.0	6,145.1
Lithuania	6,040.2	8,763.2	9,884.8	11,256.1	18,525.5	19,030.7
Luxembourg	-	52.2	77.9	33.1	25.5	3.9
Malta	0.8	-	16.5	17.5	-	-
Netherlands	12,111.4	12,652.5	9,019.6	17,833.1	17,667.0	11,815.5
Poland	6,275.4	4,886.4	4,985.0	5,288.9	9,531.2	5,310.1
Portugal	2,311.5	128.3	1,053.0	1,914.0	2,812.7	5,152.5
Romania	7,534.7	13,611.5	12,203.3	29,656.8	19,782.5	3,537.6
Slovakia	1,561.5	912.4	191.6	1,167.7	4,222.1	3,220.2
Slovenia	48.8	-	1,469.1	951.4	128.7	34.9
Spain	14,414.9	19,667.7	15,313.9	32,709.2	23,693.0	15,852.5
Sweden	90.4	66.9	216.3	49.4	423.1	895.5
United Kingdom	23,172.5	43,576.6	8,186.2	18,199.2	13,842.6	20,850.8
CIS countries	461,895.5	540,884.8	416,162.3	676,672.7	1,052,741.9	1,245,777.2

Azerbaijan	137,455.0	203,930.3	165,633.8	256,241.8	425,906.3	626,854.9
Belarus	4,738.6	11,167.8	14,100.6	23,775.4	28,343.6	33,459.5
Turkmenistan	26,338.5	6,338.1	10,668.6	12,634.2	5,460.4	7,963.6
Moldova	841.4	610.5	1,595.7	7,745.7	10,437.5	11,464.0
Russia	45,338.5	29,783.4	21,146.2	34,706.5	36,610.4	45,816.0
Armenia	110,844.2	123,422.0	88,941.7	166,754.3	223,036.7	260,981.6
Tajikistan	4,263.8	1,821.9	1,331.1	2,852.4	4,467.1	4,845.7
Uzbekistan	2,735.6	5,859.2	5,806.3	8,207.6	12,760.5	16,200.8
Ukraine	94,169.3	134,173.8	83,955.0	110,389.0	141,246.7	167,016.3
Kazakhstan	34,291.5	22,040.3	20,455.3	50,056.6	156,867.5	62,278.1
Kyrgyzstan	879.3	1,737.6	2,528.0	3,309.2	7,605.2	8,896.6
Other countries	501,684.6	619,306.6	479,913.3	691,286.0	712,099.2	778,609.5
Australia	199.2	151.7	244.2	992.7	1,170.7	624.1
Afghanistan	1,081.5	950.3	251.1	228.2	2,127.5	13,403.2
Albania	1.1	1,305.5	3,141.8	985.5	17.6	251.0
Algeria	1,588.0	-	-	26.7	-	166.4
Anguilla	-	-	-	-	-	-
Angola	-	-	3,139.4	0.1	-	-
Andorra	-	-	-	-	3.9	-
Antigua and Barbuda	-	-	-	-	-	3.1
United Arab Emirates	18,638.3	11,228.6	16,710.6	28,346.2	40,045.0	38,865.7
Argentina	-	-	2.1	-	159.0	141.0

United States	149,036.0	102,197.6	36,933.9	187,225.9	143,466.2	226,170.9
New Zealand	-	-	-	-	44.3	-
Bangladesh	-	0.6	-	1.0	22.4	0.0
Barbados	-	-	0.4	-	-	-
Bahamas	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bahrain	-	-	-	-	-	-
Belize	1,404.8	438.2	-	79.8	-	-
Benin	-	-	25.0	28.2	14.1	28.6
Bolivia	-	-	-	-	131.3	9,486.3
Bosnia and Herzegovina	5.0	22.3	1.5	20.6	-	-
Botswana	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brazil	9,299.8	8,889.1	1.0	5,985.0	-	-
Burkina Faso	-	-	1,863.5	-	-	-
Bhutan	-	-	-	-	-	11.3
Gabon	-	-	-	-	-	59.8
Gambia	-	-	-	5.0	-	-
Ghana	-	-	0.0	5.1	-	1,764.6
Guadeloupe	-	-	-	-	-	-
Guatemala	44.6	49.5	-	-	169.2	167.2
Guinea	-	-	-	-	-	-
Guinea-Bissau	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gibraltar	8,816.4	239.5	255.5	-	-	140.3
Dominica	562.8	-	-	-	-	-

Dominican Republic	93.9	-	-	-	-	867.9
Egypt	2,791.1	23.4	3,477.1	10,554.8	4,609.4	21,793.5
Ethiopia	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ecuador	353.4	47.1	1.2	-	1,981.9	2,759.5
Equatorial Guinea	-	-	-	13.3	-	-
Iraq	1,382.8	2,574.4	10,685.1	8,148.5	8,112.4	9,102.5
Holy See (Vatican City State)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Venezuela	-	-	-	-	-	-
Viet Nam	6.6	6.6	184.9	1,238.2	2,486.2	6,530.8
Virgin Islands, U.S.	-	8.1	-	-	-	1.6
Virgin Islands, British	858.4	952.7	189.4	-	1,200.2	219.7
Zambia	-	-	-	-	34.6	40.0
Zimbabwe	-	-	-	4,822.9	-	-
Turks and Caicos Islands	-	-	-	-	-	-
Turkey	171,763.9	262,910.2	225,768.7	216,799.3	227,583.8	142,777.0
Japan	392.9	273.8	4,561.4	8,179.2	2,925.1	5,770.3
Yemen	2,073.4	-	1.5	0.5	-	-
India	8,140.8	9,088.8	5,816.1	12,354.9	19,289.6	14,941.0
Indonesia	354.2	39.6	557.2	443.5	341.7	2,312.7

Jordan	6.5	-	1,096.3	23.1	3,087.1	3,248.3
Iran	6,050.0	10,058.5	6,425.8	14,958.1	16,209.8	19,053.0
Iceland	-	-	-	1.0	0.0	0.0
Israel	13,715.0	2,378.3	1,635.0	4,235.3	3,090.5	36,256.6
Cayman Islands	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cambodia	-	41.2	2.7	46.4	-	-
Cameroon	-	-	6.7	-	-	16.8
Canada	70,603.5	131,805.5	117,224.1	118,736.0	114,793.8	104,579.7
Kenya	-	-	-	-	-	4,525.7
Colombia	82.6	48.6	55.1	48.8	602.9	5,770.0
Congo	-	-	-	36.0	-	-
Korea, Republic of	3,188.7	3,296.6	5,105.8	7,017.7	8,482.2	2,909.5
Korea, Democratic People's Republic of	849.0	91.4	385.1	172.8	88.8	605.7
Costa Rica	-	1.2	-	-	23.3	30.0
Cote d'Ivoire	-	37.0	-	-	-	10.4
Lebanon	22.2	4.6	3,869.9	6,462.5	10,115.0	3,045.6
Liberia	-	-	-	-	-	45.9
Libya	151.0	92.0	12.6	575.4	1,324.7	6,594.6
Liechtenstein	-	5.8	-	63.7	-	-
Macedonia (FYR)	6.9	-	132.2	2.0	126.0	127.4
Malaysia	3.9	232.0	21.6	811.0	1,044.4	590.6

Morocco	-	-	72.7	1,902.2	1,652.7	-
Martinique	-	-	-	-	28.8	57.7
Marshall Islands	-	-	-	-	-	35.8
Mexico	12,681.4	52,981.3	40.0	4,055.6	28,632.0	7,299.0
Myanmar	-	-	-	-	-	28.6
Mozambique	-	-	-	3,096.1	59.8	3,499.0
Mongolia	442.6	241.8	278.4	170.4	846.7	3,171.3
Nepal	-	-	0.2	488.1	5.7	-
Nigeria	19.0	-	0.2	-	72.2	350.6
Nicaragua	-	-	-	-	-	-
Norway	36.2	21.5	570.1	172.2	673.9	44.6
Oman	2.4	-	-	502.1	-	-
Pakistan	585.3	117.3	92.1	44.2	359.4	182.2
Panama	316.6	410.3	630.8	2,351.1	9,621.5	11,579.4
Peru	1,301.3	209.7	-	-	365.8	3,524.9
Rwanda	-	-	-	-	-	-
EL Salvador	-	29.5	-	-	-	-
South Africa	64.6	138.1	93.7	41.7	95.9	366.2
San Marino	-	-	-	-	-	-
Saudi Arabia	6.3	-	9,473.2	111.8	2.0	244.2
French Polynesia	-	-	57.3	-	-	-
Seychelles	-	-	-	16.9	-	-
Senegal	-	-	-	-	120.0	-

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	-	-	-	-	-	-
Serbia and Montenegro	91.4	47.8	298.4	94.4	154.8	8.2
Sierra Leone	110.0	83.2	164.4	23.1	15.5	392.8
Singapore	966.5	842.4	1,234.0	2,000.7	1,339.0	178.8
Syrian	31.1	14.6	3,400.3	1,515.5	1,439.6	3.8
Somalia	159.8	-	-	-	-	-
Sudan	5.9	1,111.3	514.5	0.5	325.1	1,391.8
Taiwan, Province of China	85.4	2,611.9	1,200.9	525.7	1,990.7	1,634.3
Thailand	-	2.0	300.7	358.6	2,566.4	4,343.0
Tanzania,	-	-	-	-	-	-
Togo	-	48.5	-	-	13.4	39.5
Trinidad and Tobago	-	-	-	25.3	13,378.3	8,609.1
Tunisia	-	-	-	-	21.2	-
Uganda	-	-	-	0.5	28.0	-
Uruguay	-	-	1.8	-	70.5	-
Philippines	1,280.9	256.9	198.9	244.5	329.7	340.4
Kuwait	-	4.0	220.1	1,181.0	6.7	328.6
Qatar	-	528.0	1.3	320.2	226.9	118.8
Switzerland	1,367.2	933.2	2,290.6	417.8	1,792.3	12,844.2
Sri Lanka	2.7	119.1	72.2	2,271.8	512.7	2,956.4
Chile	194.3	-	-	-	-	929.9

China	8,272.5	8,992.7	5,965.5	26,761.8	28,885.7	25,607.1
Croatia	3.2	11.4	168.8	36.7	5.4	7.3
Djibouti	-	-	-	-	-	-
Haiti	-	-	-	-	-	-
Honduras	-	-	-	-	0.1	221.9
Hong Kong, SAR of China	89.8	59.4	2,786.3	2,880.6	1,536.4	2,460.1

Georgian import by country (thousand USD)⁵²:

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Imports - total	5,212,150.2	6,301,540.3	4,500,244.1	5,257,122.4	7,057,759.7	7,842,108.9
of which:						
EU countries	1,538,897.3	1,756,449.6	1,335,506.6	1,467,162.8	2,053,080.8	2,427,137.3
Austria	54,667.0	70,324.3	51,926.3	51,535.7	78,026.3	82,668.8
Belgium	45,490.4	61,299.8	39,884.3	51,420.6	51,869.1	67,276.0
Bulgaria	184,049.7	124,101.1	152,840.0	131,725.6	255,553.3	271,475.4
Cyprus	2,851.9	2,955.6	1,487.9	1,173.5	1,107.0	4,644.4
Czech Republic	53,215.8	59,878.1	46,261.5	57,846.1	91,854.7	82,881.9
Denmark				15,408.0		

⁵² National Statistics Office of Georgia, External Trade Statistics
http://www.geostat.ge/index.php?action=page&p_id=206&lang=eng

	13,811.8	13,189.0	10,803.6		11,318.9	25,000.7
Estonia	3,924.3	3,044.1	1,928.8	5,200.2	4,777.8	9,007.9
Finland	37,689.1	41,343.5	15,358.3	16,547.4	16,834.5	20,351.2
France	101,027.3	98,479.5	65,969.6	75,017.7	97,330.7	106,147.4
Germany	387,318.6	497,303.9	302,143.0	333,438.9	480,587.9	541,896.7
Greece	52,861.1	57,545.5	61,977.2	72,614.5	61,905.6	50,949.3
Hungary	27,088.0	34,656.7	24,936.8	28,485.0	34,387.1	53,029.7
Ireland	5,043.8	7,071.5	6,833.9	7,590.0	10,421.9	10,736.8
Italy	144,048.8	183,794.8	130,067.7	136,866.8	184,834.9	270,969.3
Latvia	8,341.6	10,933.3	16,760.4	15,332.1	18,102.5	24,029.0
Lithuania	15,851.2	25,783.6	17,735.1	26,131.5	39,483.5	50,893.7
Luxembourg	2,955.7	3,054.3	3,160.7	5,805.9	8,632.8	8,168.4
Malta	2,230.7	3,964.7	1,130.1	550.5	140.0	121.5
Netherlands	101,738.7	134,052.8	105,267.8	105,240.7	133,226.0	142,718.4
Poland	60,624.1	51,514.4	46,019.1	55,741.9	63,051.8	85,816.5
Portugal	4,889.7	5,613.2	2,875.2	3,433.3	4,724.2	7,250.1
Romania				140,801.4		

	90,206.2	92,433.0	115,095.3		188,308.2	258,977.3
Slovakia	3,792.8	8,923.6	3,148.4	6,605.7	10,741.4	14,497.2
Slovenia	7,720.9	11,408.1	8,809.6	11,096.9	18,184.2	17,262.3
Spain	23,264.1	34,871.9	23,480.4	34,063.0	82,175.0	88,305.8
Sweden	32,439.7	27,664.3	20,112.0	11,169.0	17,020.1	16,977.6
United Kingdom	71,754.4	91,245.2	59,493.6	66,320.9	88,481.5	115,084.2
CIS countries	1,849,368.8	1,998,028.6	1,298,324.1	1,587,618.3	1,941,585.5	1,996,598.4
Armenia	59,557.5	72,078.0	41,877.9	46,136.7	59,086.5	70,405.5
Azerbaijan	382,367.2	607,396.1	410,176.3	484,587.4	610,793.5	633,541.8
Belarus	28,872.9	34,645.6	27,142.5	36,043.6	30,430.0	34,523.6
Kazakhstan	63,819.1	54,754.9	23,258.9	94,463.9	70,590.1	131,751.0
Kyrgyzstan	1,167.8	1,166.2	1,065.0	1,361.6	1,413.3	2,477.4
Moldova	3,810.2	4,299.2	3,938.1	4,666.0	6,206.7	10,104.7
Russia	573,879.3	423,312.0	291,607.7	290,535.6	389,711.6	473,796.8
Tajikistan	30.5	297.5	214.7	48.9	514.1	33.0
Turkmenistan	149,901.8	135,024.1	74,291.5	59,200.2	55,548.7	30,653.4

Ukraine	574,906.0	657,719.8	421,238.0	560,867.3	705,580.6	597,099.6
Uzbekistan	11,056.4	7,335.2	3,513.6	9,707.2	11,710.4	12,211.6
Other countries	1,823,884.1	2,547,062.2	1,866,413.4	2,202,341.3	3,063,093.4	3,418,373.2
Afghanistan	9.8	6.1	10.9	7.1	27.4	28.2
Albania	1,549.1	14.1	0.1	0.6	15.1	83.4
Algeria	-	-	-	1,586.6	-	-
Andorra	294.2	125.2	74.3	21.5	99.3	21.7
Angola	-	-	-	-	-	-
Anguilla	-	-	-	-	19.4	-
Antigua and Barbuda	-	95.5	80.8	248.2	44.8	-
Argentina	2,711.2	3,687.5	3,621.5	4,948.8	8,347.1	9,569.9
Australia	1,113.5	2,086.3	6,075.5	31,391.8	13,243.8	21,130.4
Bahamas	-	362.4	0.3	-	-	0.7
Bahrain	-	6.2	-	7.4	57.7	51.9
Bangladesh	156.7	84.2	87.4	95.8	123.2	297.3
Barbados	-	-	-	-	-	3.3
Belize	74.8	141.3	29.5	97.5	400.1	1,463.2
Bermuda	41.1	-	-	3.8	-	-
Bhutan	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bosnia and	7.9	175.6	101.6	98.9	422.4	116.4

Herzegovina						
Botswana	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brazil	82,118.6	104,182.4	75,963.0	80,624.9	110,162.4	120,089.5
British Indian Ocean Territory	-	-	-	53.0	436.9	-
Brunei Darussalam	-	6.1	-	-	-	-
Burkina Faso	-	429.1	-	497.1	1,063.3	35.8
Burundi	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cambodia	13.8	5.7	-	-	68.0	14.9
Cameroon	-	-	23.4	6.4	64.9	75.6
Canada	12,261.9	17,936.0	14,148.5	18,320.0	14,991.5	19,096.5
Cayman Islands	-	-	-	-	-	-
Central African Republic	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chile	288.5	1,228.3	1,582.3	1,693.7	384.9	672.8
China	206,709.4	298,331.1	174,744.9	335,206.5	524,755.8	565,950.7
Colombia	252.3	65.0	729.7	804.0	2,281.5	2,167.0
Congo	-	-	53.7	6.5	2.4	-
Costa Rica	1,480.9	-	149.0	301.6	125.7	138.8
Cote d'Ivoire	5,575.0	5,574.1	846.2	13.6	6.8	0.3
Croatia	7,400.4	7,819.3	5,381.2	3,480.5	4,113.2	2,844.5
Cuba	4.0	5,233.4	197.8	217.8	160.0	1,698.6

Djibouti	-	-	136.2	-	-	3.7
Dominica	-	-	-	6.9	40.0	67.8
Dominican Republic	-	-	-	-	5.8	-
Ecuador	2,578.7	4,241.6	6,620.3	13,078.1	16,661.5	16,053.5
Egypt	9,807.1	4,384.2	2,254.8	5,131.2	11,593.0	19,119.7
EL Salvador	169.3	53.0	-	4,442.4	-	-
Equatorial Guinea	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ethiopia	-	-	-	-	-	22.3
Falkland Islands (Malvinas)	-	-	-	-	220.0	-
Faroe Islands	-	-	57.8	-	201.1	268.4
Franch Southern Territories	-	-	-	-	9.4	-
French Guiana	-	-	-	-	-	-
French Polynesia	-	-	5.6	3.2	10.2	-
Gabon	-	2,348.0	469.6	10,994.6	3,538.1	-
Gambia	-	-	-	17.9	-	-
Ghana	12,569.4	28,133.4	2,300.9	11,488.7	21,406.1	-
Gibraltar	476.2	252.0	101.6	161.0	62.7	-
Grenada	-	-	-	-	-	3.3
Guatemala	-	-	95.7	-	-	-

Guinea	-	-	-	-	41.7	-
Holy See (Vatican City State)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Honduras	-	63.2	58.1	-	31.6	-
Hong Kong, SAR of China	4,407.0	22,759.9	29,770.0	24,022.0	33,308.5	39,931.2
Iceland	7.6	77.3	89.8	433.2	1,434.5	1,319.4
India	32,134.1	30,852.2	28,095.5	32,479.7	55,339.6	73,871.4
Indonesia	3,888.1	7,514.7	7,512.2	9,274.8	10,491.3	10,545.8
Iran	51,732.9	52,080.6	29,895.0	55,079.5	64,813.3	99,403.3
Iraq	21.0	4.6	148.9	14.7	398.0	2,391.3
Israel	37,780.4	41,517.0	69,893.4	14,543.3	28,669.1	31,597.7
Jamaica	-	2.6	10.1	-	-	183.8
Japan	55,749.9	119,765.0	108,394.1	170,431.2	174,108.3	312,628.5
Jordan	186.9	1,193.1	652.3	933.3	466.2	496.7
Kenya	-	1.1	-	79.6	66.7	299.6
Korea, Republic of	23,159.3	46,124.2	16,798.5	29,711.0	46,857.0	52,931.8
Korea, Democratic People's Republic of	456.7	1,737.9	295.9	421.3	5,243.3	8,103.3
Kuwait	849.6	2,087.0	556.8	55.3	57.2	69.0
Lao	0.6	-	-	-	-	-
Lebanon	198.2	583.4	153.4	766.7	9,129.5	915.5

Liberia	-	-	-	-	9,720.0	-
Libya	-	6.8	-	-	113.2	433.1
Liechtenstein	536.0	19,367.5	1,695.6	491.2	581.8	603.1
Macau	-	-	-	0.2	-	-
Macedonia (FYR)	0.8	65.1	34.1	53.9	32.2	516.1
Madagascar	-	-	-	-	-	44.9
Malawi	146.9	-	-	-	0.4	176.2
Malaysia	3,191.0	4,610.3	3,194.3	3,529.5	5,006.7	26,959.4
Mali	-	-	4.8	-	15.1	-
Mauritania	38.4	-	4.2	-	-	-
Mauritius	-	26.4	76.4	25.6	10.0	21.5
Mexico	35.5	19.0	44.0	159.6	309.3	6,701.1
Monaco	27.8	101.9	199.4	67.0	17.6	31.3
Mongolia	19.7	-	-	-	763.2	-
Morocco	2,670.1	369.6	39.3	244.3	312.7	1,325.6
Mozambique	-	6.0	-	-	-	-
Namibia	-	-	-	0.4	-	-
Nauru	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nepal	1.0	0.7	-	-	-	0.1
Netherlands Antilles	-	71.0	-	-	-	-
New Zealand	8,222.5	7,186.2	6,001.0	7,973.3	5,847.5	5,350.6
Nigeria	-	42.8	39.7	0.5	33.1	8.2
Niue	-	-	-	-	35.5	35.5

Norway	2,592.6	3,404.1	4,593.0	5,406.8	7,278.7	10,339.9
Oman	590.2	3,516.6	2,136.5	1,567.4	615.3	105.6
Pakistan	288.0	156.6	270.3	1,960.4	4,943.3	5,791.2
Panama	792.7	2,196.3	1,252.0	1,284.3	326.2	846.2
Paraguay	138.8	-	-	-	-	90.0
Peru	1,338.4	196.0	121.3	0.2	1.8	84.7
Philippines	10.2	190.3	94.8	230.9	647.3	1,493.4
Puerto Rico	-	-	-	-	6.8	-
Qatar	9.7	74.1	-	1.1	-	192.4
Rwanda	-	-	-	-	-	-
Saint Helena	-	-	-	-	-	-
San Marino	60.6	48.2	35.6	14.7	32.8	17.1
Saudi Arabia	54.5	178.1	383.6	204.5	415.2	1,041.7
Senegal	-	-	-	-	-	-
Serbia and Montenegro	2,142.5	2,074.3	1,485.6	1,558.2	3,731.8	1,934.2
Seychelles	0.2	1,268.0	26,682.9	640.4	-	109.9
Sierra Leone	-	-	47.5	14.5	479.7	101.8
Singapore	6,696.3	18,689.6	26,778.9	11,476.3	13,073.7	18,257.0
Somalia	-	-	-	-	-	-
South Africa	2,577.2	2,276.9	3,931.5	3,041.4	1,521.0	30,531.7
Sri Lanka	1,002.7	1,142.9	1,078.5	1,169.4	1,332.1	1,388.4
Sudan	-	289.0	-	0.3	-	16.2
Swaziland	-	39.0	-	2.2	-	-

Switzerland	64,178.6	50,190.1	38,032.1	34,468.6	49,127.8	71,899.4
Syrian	2,746.3	7,193.5	2,474.8	1,790.0	2,265.0	1,327.2
Taiwan, Province of China	7,408.5	9,335.3	6,837.2	6,461.2	8,789.7	7,455.2
Tanzania,	58.8	72.3	34.0	13.5	888.6	1,258.2
Thailand	7,158.9	12,527.8	10,378.9	15,727.4	22,582.3	17,749.1
Togo	-	1.0	-	-	-	-
Tonga	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trinidad and Tobago	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tunisia	-	-	-	144.8	440.0	275.7
Turkey	727,906.0	940,479.8	787,885.1	886,694.3	1,272,426.8	1,392,937.5
Turks and Caicos Islands	-	125.6	-	-	-	-
Tuvalu	-	-	-	-	-	-
Uganda	-	17.3	10.9	226.2	216.1	95.0
United Arab Emirates	214,721.3	276,880.4	110,365.3	159,299.4	226,379.0	161,749.3
United States	203,891.4	358,084.2	231,556.2	180,951.3	245,796.7	213,156.9
Uruguay	402.7	104.6	505.7	667.4	405.7	2,772.7
Venezuela	-	-	-	-	-	-
Viet Nam	3,109.4	7,643.6	9,387.1	11,071.4	7,975.0	14,596.0
Virgin Islands, British	870.1	3,350.4	450.5	403.7	2,859.9	2,713.3
Virgin Islands, U.S	-	72.0	-	-	110.1	60.9

Western Sahara	-	-	-	-	-	-
Yemen	11.6	-	2.9	0.5	5.0	-
Zambia	-	-	-	-	-	-
Zimbabwe	-	-	-	-	0.4	-