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Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Kallas
on behalf of the European Commission
(21.3.2025)

The EU relies on the findings of the International Election Observation Mission led by the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) with participation of the European Parliament. Its report highlights serious concerns about the impact of recently adopted electoral legislation, the independence of institutions involved in the election process, and pressure and intimidation on voters, including public employees. These factors compromised the ability of voters to cast their vote freely, without fear of retribution. The report also raises concerns regarding post-election developments, including insufficient consideration of complaints and the forcible suppression of protests which go against international obligations and standards, including commitments to uphold freedom of assembly.

The EU has urged the Georgian authorities to address the reported concerns swiftly, transparently and independently. This responsibility lies with the Georgian authorities. The EU will continue calling on the Georgian authorities to address the recommendations of the OSCE/ODIHR report promptly, in particular in view of the municipal elections of October 2025. This is crucial to rebuild public trust in the electoral process.

Since June 2024, the EU has responded to Georgia's democratic backsliding with concrete measures and continues to closely monitor the situation. The EU stands with the Georgian people and their choice for a European future.