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Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Kallas
on behalf of the European Commission
(5.8.2026)

The Commission and the European External Action Service (EEAS) have kept Georgia high on their agenda amid democratic backsliding and the deterioration of human rights. The Commission and the EEAS held frequent discussions with Member States in the Foreign Affairs Council. The EU consistently recalls that Georgia must respect, protect and fulfil human rights and fundamental freedoms under international law. In March 2026, the EU suspended visa-free travel for holders of Georgian diplomatic, service, official passports due to persistent breaches of the fundamental rights benchmarks of the EU-Georgia visa-free regime. A technical meeting with the authorities took place on 11 June 2026. Failure to address the 2024–2025 Visa Suspension Mechanism recommendations may lead to further measures. Efforts by the EEAS to resume the Human Rights Dialogue with Georgia have so far not materialised.

The Commission condemns the repression of opposition leaders, journalists and civil society and expresses solidarity with all those arbitrarily detained, ill-treated or imprisoned, including Elene Khoshtaria. The Commission appreciates the European Parliament's efforts to keep Georgia's human rights situation under scrutiny, including through the urgency debate on Ms Khoshtaria's case in March 2026. The EU expects the authorities to ensure adequate medical care in line with Article 3 European Convention on Human Rights and will continue to monitor and raise her case together with those of other arbitrarily detained persons.