



Georgian Association

IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, INC

May 24, 2024
Washington, D.C.

Georgian Association in the United States welcomes and supports the bipartisan Mobilizing and Enhancing Georgia's Options for Building Accountability, Resilience, and Independence Act (MEGOBARI Act) introduced by Helsinki Commission Chairman, Representative Joe Wilson of South Carolina in the United States Congress.

The bill highlights the United States' dedication to backing Georgia's Euro-Atlantic aspirations, a cause that the Georgian Association in the USA has championed since Georgia regained its independence from the Soviet Union. We share the desire to strengthen bilateral ties in economic, political, and cultural spheres and welcome the comprehensive package of assistance and cooperation outlined in the House Bill including a preferential trade regime, enhancing exchanges and a streamlined visa regime, and robust security and defense support for Georgia against Russian aggression.

We acknowledge that free and fair elections are fundamental to a nation's democratic development. We support greater attention from our friends and allies to ensure that the Georgian people enjoy freedom of expression, freedom of speech, and the right to pursue their aspiration of being a free and democratic society.

Our organization has supported these efforts for nearly a century and has voiced our concerns over the evident change from the Euro-Atlantic integration course. Such a shift would be detrimental to the democratic future of Georgia and to national security interests of both countries.

We commend this initiative and urge Congress to pass this bill as a critical measure of support for the Georgian people in their pursuit of Euro-Atlantic integration. This step not only protects both American and Georgian national interests in the Black Sea but also preserves the 32 years of progress made in upholding democratic values, which the vast majority of Georgians strongly support.

Board of Directors, Georgian Association in the USA

Georgian Association in the USA a non profit 501 (c)(3) corporation, founded in 1932

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