



## **URGENT**

### **CEEC Statement On The Immediate Need To Pass The HR 36 - MEGOBARI Act.**

July 21, 2025

The Central and East European Coalition (CEEC) implores the Senate to immediately pass HR 36 - The MEGOBARI Act (Mobilizing and Enhancing Georgia's Options for Building Accountability, Resilience, and Independence).

The CEEC urges the U.S. Senate to act swiftly in passing this critical legislation. With a strong 349–42 bipartisan vote in the House, this legislation is critical to protecting vital U.S. strategic interests. As authoritarian regimes in China and Iran expand influence in the Black Sea and South Caucasus, passage of this bill ensures continued U.S. access to the Strategic Middle Corridor and helps counter efforts to isolate democratic partners in the region.

As several Senators have highlighted, the Georgian Dream regime intensified its attack on the media, civil society, political opponents and is mimicking the tactics of Belarus to silence dissent and dismantle democratic institutions, while awarding strategic business contracts such as the Black Sea Anaklia port to Chinese firms sanctioned by the United States. The CEEC stands in solidarity with the Georgian people who have been peacefully protesting this authoritarian regime for over 225 days. Passing the MEGOBARI Act now, will send a clear message that the American people stand with the Georgian people in their struggle against authoritarianism and in support of their sovereignty and democratic future.

Inaction comes at a cost—every day the Senate delays, authoritarian regimes gain ground and U.S. interests in the Black Sea and South Caucasus are further undermined. We call upon the Senate to pass the MEGOBARI Act without delay.

*Alianta • American Hungarian Federation • American Latvian Association • Armenian Assembly of America • Belarusian-American Association • Washington Chapter Czechoslovak National Council of America • Estonian American National Council • Georgian Association in the USA • Hungarian American Coalition • Joint Baltic American National Committee • Lithuanian American Council • Lithuanian American Community • National Federation of Croatian Americans Cultural Foundation • Polish American Congress • Slovak League of America • Ukrainian Congress Committee of America • Ukrainian National Association*