

## Statement of the Riigikogu In Support of the People of Georgia

Estonia respects the inalienable right of every country to democratically choose their path in organising their society and entering allied relations with other countries. With this principle in mind, Estonia has been supporting the development of Georgia through closer cooperation ever since we regained our independence and has spoken out against the actions of the Russian Federation in threatening Georgian sovereignty and shattering its territorial integrity.

Over the past decade, Estonia has followed the influencing activities of the Russian Federation in polarising the Georgian society and interfering with the democratic elections in Georgia with growing concern. The results of the Georgian parliamentary elections, which took place on 26 October 2024 in an atmosphere of violence and intimidation, do not express the free will of the Georgian people. The governing party Georgian Dream, which enjoys the support of the Russian Federation, is using the fraudulent election results to achieve complete control over state institutions and repress the opposition and the civil society.

Considering the above, the Riigikogu:

- does not recognise the legitimacy of the Georgian parliament, government, or President who have all been appointed as a consequence of the parliamentary elections that took place in an atmosphere of underhand activities and intimidation of citizens;
- recognises Salome Zourabichvili as the legitimate President and acknowledges her efforts to put an end to the constitutional crisis in the country;
- expresses its support to the democratic forces in Georgia who are demanding that unavoidable new parliamentary elections be organised in Georgia to resolve the constitutional crisis and restore democracy;
- condemns the brutal repression of peaceful demonstrations with the support of advancing Russian imperialism and calls on ending any use of violence or persecution as well as on liberating all political prisoners;
- urges the political forces in Georgia to take on board the criticism of international organisations, including the criticism included in the final report of the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) of the OSCE on carrying out the elections of 26 October 2024;
- urges other national parliaments to condemn the brutal violence that the governing regime in Georgia has used against peaceful protesters who are demanding that the constitutional institutions fulfil the obligation set out in Article 78 of the Georgian Constitution on implementing all measures to guarantee Georgia's complete integration in the European Union and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization;

- calls on the Member States of the European Commission and the European Union to impose sanctions on the Georgian politicians and officials involved in the violent repression of peaceful protests and in persecuting the representatives of the Georgian civil society;
- calls on the Member States of the European Commission and the European Union to severely restrict communications with the government institutions of Georgia until free and fair elections are held;
- calls on the Member States of the European Commission and the European Union to support the representatives of the Georgian civil society and the still surviving free press who continue to work in the name of a free society despite intimidation and persecution.

The Riigikogu expresses its solidarity with the Georgian nation who is defending its human rights, Constitution, democracy, and the future of Georgia within the European Union.

Lauri Hussar  
President of the Riigikogu

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