



# QUADRENNIAL PERIODIC REPORT

2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions

## General information

## Technical Information

**Name of Party:**

Georgia

**Date of ratification:**

1/7/2008

**Officially designed Point of Contact:**

**Title:**

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**Organization(s) or entity(es) responsible for the preparation of the report:**

Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection of Georgia

**Describe the multi-stakeholder consultation process established for the preparation of this report:**

The process of preparation of the report initially was coordinated by the UNESCO National Commission, however, since establishing the Culture Policy Unit at the Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection of Georgia in 2015, the coordination of the above process was handed over to the Ministry. The information concerning the obligation of the state to submit the annual report was distributed among all potential both state and non-state stakeholders. Some of them were asked to designate focal points to assist the working process. The working group involving representatives of relevant governmental and non-governmental

institutions was created. On a certain stage, some additional institutions were also invited to participate in the process.

## Executive Summary

**Please summarize in max 3500 characters the main achievements and challenges in implementing the Convention and the outlook for the future. Please note this is not an introduction to the report or an annotated table of contents.:**

Georgia ratified the 2005 UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions in 2008. The Quadrennial Periodic Report (2012-2015) has been prepared by the Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection of Georgia in cooperation with the Georgian National Commission for UNESCO (Ministry of Foreign Affairs), state agencies and civil society organizations. The report provides information on key policy documents drafted/ adopted by the Government of Georgia during the reporting period that respond provisions of the Convention. Among them should be noted the “*Concept of Cultural Policy of Georgia*” drafted by the team of experts representing civil society organisations in 2013, “*Culture Strategy 2025*”, drafted by the Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection of Georgia (MoC); preparatory study for “Creative Georgia State Programme” that will be launched in 2016; the “*Georgian National Youth Policy*” (2014); “Civic Equality and Integration strategy 2015-2020” (2015); The National Policy for Cultural Heritage (2014); the “*Innovation Strategy*” (2015) supporting creative industries among others. Also, Culture has been integrated into the “*Tourism Strategy of Georgia*” (2015) and the “Law on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination” (2014) was adopted by the Georgian Parliament promoting gender equality among others. MoC has prioritized and funded programs supporting intercultural dialogue and promoting involvement of vulnerable groups of population into cultural life of Georgia. Cultural relations between the Georgian cultural sector and its counterparts in the EU have intensified especially after the EU Association Agreement in 2014. In 2015 Georgia joined the Creative Europe program; several cultural projects and researches have been supported by Council of Europe, EU ENP and Eastern Partnership Culture Programmes. 30 bilateral agreements on cooperation in the fields of culture have been signed; The Government of Georgia introduced film industry incentive scheme “Film in Georgia”, which envisages 20-25% cash rebate on qualified expenses incurred in Georgia for international and local production companies. MoC supported the National Center of Manuscripts as well as the Georgian National Museum in digitalization of their collections. There are still some policy challenges concerning integration of culture in the sustainable development policy, digital creativity, supporting cultural industry markets (including digital), system of cultural statistics, regional and international flows of cultural goods and services, promoting the social and economic rights of artists, as well as measures focused on the role of media in creation, production and distribution of culture, sustainability of cooperation with civil society, legislation promoting universal access to the internet, and also instruments for monitoring and evaluation of the policy impact. There is also a need for capacity building of national actors responsible for the implementation of the Convention and reporting as well for developing cooperation between government bodies and dialogue with civil society on Convention implementation. The role of the diversity of cultural expressions should also be strengthened within the Georgia and EU cooperation framework programmes. Awareness of the Convention aims, visibility of its implementation process should be better promoted and more partners should be involved in the process.

## .collapse">Overview of cultural policy context

**Parties shall describe the key objectives and priorities of their current cultural policy and the impact the Convention has had in their formulation or reformulation. They will also report on the opportunities and challenges to promote the diversity of cultural expressions in a digital environment.:**

The Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection of Georgia (MoC) with its 86 Legal Entities of Public Law (LEPL) is the national agency responsible for cultural policy making. It is also the main body in charge of external cultural relations of Georgia. Since there is no alternative funding mechanism developed yet in Georgia, the Ministry is exclusively responsible for distribution of funds to cultural operators and projects, either directly or through its LEPLs (e.g. National film Centre, National Book Centre, National Agency for Cultural Heritage Preservation). Despite continuous growth in the last few years, the annual budget of MoC (97 million Georgian GEL) remains a constraint, as there is a lack in alternative funding sources in the field of Culture. Apart of the MoC, there is the Parliamentary Committee for Education, Science and Culture participating in defining cultural policies. The special unit- Department of International Cultural and Humanitarian Relations was created in 2012 at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia. National Statistics Office of Georgia independently carries out its activities, including those concerning culture. State Department of Tourism and Ministry of Infrastructure and Regional Development also undertake several activities related with cultural heritage. The Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia shares responsibilities for arts education with the Ministry of Culture. The Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs and the Ministry of Corrections and Probation of Georgia support cultural programs for youth and adults. Considering the international best practice, the interagency working groups have been created to discuss and work on certain policy issues. One of the best examples of the aforementioned platform is the intergovernmental commission composed of deputy ministers of line ministries involved in elaborating the long-term cultural strategy. The culture policy unit has been established at the MoC. Also, public consultancy groups have been created to work on important issues requiring active involvement of different governmental bodies and NGOs. The special website and web pages have been created for interaction with public ([www.culturepolicy.gov.ge](http://www.culturepolicy.gov.ge)) on culture policy. The culture policy responds to society's needs by improving the quality of cultural production, its accessibility and distribution. It also promotes the integration of cultural and creative sectors in sustainable development and treats this connection as an integral part of the national development strategy. The Culture Policy is based on the Constitution of Georgia. It takes into consideration current legislation and recent national cultural policy documents as well as international commitments and principles stated in different international legal instruments including the Convention. Following to the adoption of the Convention, the MoC introduced certain priorities related with minorities, people with disabilities and gender issues. For the first time, in 2015 the MoC elaborated the *Culture Strategy 2025* document. The process followed a bottom-up approach and addressed the needs highlighted by the representatives of the sector in question. The document determines State's vision, strategic goals and corresponding objectives committed to meet the challenges in the culture and creative sector in the long-run perspective and fully responds to the guiding principles of the Convention.

**a) It is (or has been) the basis for changing one or more policies?:**

Yes

**How:**

**b) It is (or has been) a tool to**

In 2013 Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection of Georgia introduced new priorities and programs promoting gender equality and also related with integration of ethnic minorities and people with special needs to creation, production and distribution of culture and cultural services. The list of supported projects includes educational programs, cultural festivals, creation of audio literature, etc. The Ministry also supported the raise of awareness about the principles of gender equality in the society by supporting the projects (more than 32 projects during 2012 – 2014) dealing with the issues related to protecting women’s rights. The main principle of national policy regarding the ethnic minorities is the increase of their role in the country’s cultural life, protection and development of their traditions, creation of tolerant environment, and the encouragement of intercultural exchange. It should be stressed, that the Convention is fully integrated into National Culture Strategy 2025 (drafted in 2015) throughout its 8 goals covering cultural education and awareness rising, equitable access to culture, interaction of culture with other policy areas and its integration in state’s sustainable development, developing cultural infrastructure and new technologies, diversification of cultural funding and promoting social protection of artists, development of creative industries, culture internationalisation policies and sustainable system of cultural governance.

**promote policy discussion?:**

Yes

**c) It is (or has been) a reference for ongoing policy development?:**

Yes

#### **How:**

The process of elaboration of the culture strategy itself was one of the main achievements in terms of the Convention as it envisaged civil participation (11th Article of the Convention): The ministry of Culture and Monument Protection of Georgia has involved all line Ministries, state, regional and local authorities, civil society. In total 53 meetings/seminars were held during strategy development process involving key stakeholders including 30 NGOs and about 3000 persons and residing in the capital and in the regions. In parallel with the live meetings, digital resources (minutes, questionnaire, researches, etc.) have been available online as well. The policy discussions have been promoted by permanent communication platforms established between various government agencies. The special platforms have been established for discussions on cultural policies and the role of culture in sustainable development of the country as well as issues related with gender and integration of national and minorities, people with special needs, diaspora and IDPs, youth into social and economic life of the country. The Georgian Civil Society Organisations have elaborated the recommendations for the Implementation of UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of Diversity of Cultural Expressions. The study was done through organisation of round tables, focus groups and indepth interviews.

#### **How:**

The Convention is fully integrated into National Culture Strategy 2025 (drafted in 2015) throughout its 8 goals covering cultural education and awareness rising, equitable access to culture, interaction of culture with other policy areas and its integration in state’s sustainable development, developing cultural infrastructure and new technologies, diversification of cultural funding and promoting social protection of artists, development of creative industries, culture internationalisation policies and sustainable system of cultural governance. The EU-Georgia Association Agreement is the main international framework for political and economic cooperation between Georgian and the EU signed in 2014. The National Action Plan for the Implementation

of EU association agreement in the cultural field defines 'support and promotion of implementation of the 2005 UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions' as one of the priority objectives. Other following objectives: "cooperate on the development of an inclusive cultural policy in Georgia and on the preservation and valorisation of cultural and natural heritage with a view to fostering socio-economic development"; and "promote the participation of Georgian cultural actors in cultural cooperation programs, including Creative Europe", also refer to the Convention. Elaboration of the action plan for the implementation of the Convention has been planned by the MoC in cooperation with the civil society and the State Commission for the Implementation of the Convention.

## MEASURES TO IMPLEMENT THE CONVENTION

Name of the measure	Scope of the measure	Nature
Georgian National Book Centre (GNBC)	Regional, National, International	financial, institutional
Preferential Tax and Procurement Policy for Culture and Creative Sector	National, International	legislative, regulatory
Promoting Georgian Culture Abroad	Regional, National, International	financial, institutional
Supporting Cultural Expression of Ethnic Minorities	Regional, National	financial, institutional
Georgian Culture Strategy 2025	Local, Regional, National, International	legislative, regulatory, financial, institutional
Supporting Dissemination of Culture in the Regions	Local, Regional, National	financial, institutional
Social Coherence and Integration Policy	National	regulatory
Creative Georgia	Local, Regional, National, International	financial, institutional
Georgian National Film Centre (GNFC)	National	financial, institutional

### INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL COOPERATION

Name of the measure	Scope of the measure	Nature
Fostering International Cultural Cooperation	International	legislative, regulatory, financial, institutional
EU-Eastern Partnership Culture and Creativity Programme	International	financial, institutional

### PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT

Name of the measure	Scope of the measure	Nature
EU-Georgia Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA)	Regional, National, International	legislative, regulatory
Visa Facilitation	International	regulatory

## INTEGRATION OF CULTURE IN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT - AT NATIONAL LEVEL

Name of the measure	Scope of the measure	Nature
Developing Cultural Tourism in Georgia	Regional, National, International	financial, institutional
Culture and Creative Industries in Innovations Policy	Regional, National, International	financial, institutional

## INTEGRATION OF CULTURE IN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT - AT INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

Name of the measure	Scope of the measure	Nature
Culture and Education	International	financial

## EMERGING TRANSVERSAL ISSUES: Resolution 5.CP 9b

Name of the measure	Scope of the measure	Nature
Public-sector Support for Diversity on Broadcasting	Local, Regional, National, International	legislative, regulatory, financial, institutional

## CURRENT UNESCO GLOBAL PRIORITY: GENDER EQUALITY

Name of the measure	Scope of the measure	Nature
Raising Awareness about Gender Equality Through Culture and Arts	National, International	regulatory, financial, institutional
Promoting Gender Equality in Georgia	National, International	legislative, institutional

## YOUTH

Name of the measure	Scope of the measure	Nature
National Youth Policy of Georgia	Regional, National	regulatory, financial, institutional
Become a Young Ambassador of Your Country	International	financial

## list of measures

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# Social Coherence and Integration Policy

### b. Key objectives of the measures:

Georgia is a multicultural country that values the diversity and considers it as one of the main sources of society's strength. Accordingly, the integration policy of government of Georgia aims to support cultural dialogue and sustain the protection and promotion of cultural diversity. The main objectives of this policy are as follows:

- promote tolerance and respect among ethnic, cultural, linguistic and religious groups living in Georgia;
- create preconditions for minorities to participate in the political, social, economic and cultural life of Georgia;
- protect and promote cultural diversity;
- develop minorities' cultures and preserve essential elements of their identity, including religion, language, traditions and cultural heritage.

### c.1. the scope of the measure:

National

### c.2. the nature of the measure:

regulatory

### c.3. the main feature of the measure:

For the purposes of ensuring integration, civic equality and promoting cultural dialogue, several state strategic documents have been elaborated during the past years.

- National Concept for Tolerance and Civic Integration (2009) with its action plan (2009-14) was elaborated by the office of the State Minister of Georgia in the Reconciliation and Civic Equality. Intergovernmental commission was established to ensure the provision of special budget for implementation of this document; the main goal of the document is to support the building of democratic and consolidated civil society based on common values, which considers diversity as a source of its strength and provides every citizen with the opportunity to maintain and develop his/her identity.
- Based on the assessment of National Concept, the office of the State Minister of Georgia in the Reconciliation and Civic Equality elaborated the Civic Equality and Integration strategy 2015-2020 (in 2015) with the purpose of protecting national minorities and promoting of a society that is based on the values of diversity and pluralism as determinants of democracy and development. The strategy underlines Georgia's rich history of multiculturalism, and positive experience of tolerant coexistence.
- Strategy aims to protect cultural identity and cultural values of every citizen and to create preconditions for proper inclusiveness of all ethnic minorities residing in Georgia using the principle "more diversity, more integration".

The main goals of the strategy are as follows:

- equal and full participation in civil and political life;
- creating equal social and economic conditions and opportunities;



- providing access to high quality education and improving knowledge of the state language;
- preserving ethnic minorities' culture and promoting a tolerant environment.

The action plan of strategy aims to implement several measures towards:

- supporting small and vulnerable ethnic minority target groups;
- encouraging cultural diversity;
- protection and popularisation of ethnic minorities' cultural heritage etc.

**d. Does it specifically target individuals and/or social groups as defined in Article 7 of the Convention?:**

Yes

**List targeted individual/social groups:**

artists/creators, people with special needs, minorities

**e. What are the results expected through the implementation of the measure?:**

The implementation of mentioned measures should result in:

- society's increased awareness on cultural diversity;
- increased tolerance and respect, developed intercultural dialogue and contacts among ethnic, cultural, linguistic and religious groups living in Georgia;
- better conditions for preserving minorities' cultural identity and protecting their cultural heritage;
- ensured participation of minorities in the cultural life of Georgia and better conditions for the protection and promotion of the diversity of cultural expression.

**f.1 Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the measure:**

The office of the State Minister of Georgia in the Reconciliation and Civic Equality

**f.2 Financial resources allocated to implement the measure:**

N/A.

**g. Name of NGOs and/or private companies engaged in the implementation of the measure, if any:**

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**h.1. Implement the provisions of the Convention?:**

Yes

**h.2. Support/nurture policy discussion inspired by the Convention?:**

Yes

**h.3. Other reasons unrelated to the Convention?:**

Yes

**i. Has the implementation of the measure been evaluated?:**

No

# Creative Georgia

## b. Key objectives of the measures:

The aim of the policy initiative is presenting the content, unique features, economic, social and regional value and creating a sustainable platform promoting development of creative industries in Georgia;

The objectives of the initiative are as follows:

- supporting start-ups and establishment of creative businesses and increasing its exportability;
- encouraging cooperation, networking and clustering between creative individuals, the industrial and service sectors that ensure the best use of the abilities, talents and creativity of creative people with the aim of developing and becoming more competitive;
- creating a favourable environment for increasing economic value of creative industries;
- increasing production of high-quality and competitive goods and services;
- protection of intellectual property rights (IPR) and related rights contributing to the development of creative industries in a competitive and fair environment.

## c.1. the scope of the measure:

Local

Regional

National

International

## c.2. the nature of the measure:

financial

institutional

## c.3. the main feature of the measure:

Despite the fact, that there was no policy for developing Creative Georgia until 2015, some of creative industries accounting crafts, fashion and film sectors were actively supported by the Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection of Georgia. In particular: The catalogue – Souvenirs from Georgia aimed at promoting craftsmen and their production has regularly being updated; From 2013 onwards Georgia has being an important guest at different crafts fairs and exhibitions, such as Strasbourg Christmas Market, L'ARTIGIANO in Fiera, Surajkund Craft Mela at India, etc.; MoC actively supports Tbilisi Fashion Week and Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week Tbilisi contributing to the networking of national and international designers, connecting the buyers with producers, etc; the Georgian National Film Centre in partnership with Enterprise Georgia developed cash rebate system in 2015, aimed at attracting international producers and local and international investors to shoot in Georgia. From 2015 onwards, Creative Industries will represent the priority dimension for the Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection of Georgia as well as for the Innovations Strategy 2016 – 2020 of Georgia that encourage creative thinking amongst young generation, promote exports (through online platforms, such as Ebay.com, Google Play, etc.) and facilitating distance working (through freelancer.com, upwork.com, etc.). Ministry of Culture initiated the formation of the Inter-Governmental Creative Georgia Platform composed of the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia, the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia, the Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs and the Tbilisi City Hall. The aim of the Platform is to mobilise all available resources at relevant governmental agencies in order to implement joint programmes, projects and events aimed at developing creative industries in Georgia.

**d. Does it specifically target individuals and/or social groups as defined in Article 7 of the Convention?:**

Yes

**List targeted individual/social groups:**

artists/creators. entrepreneurs, minorities, women, people residing in regions

**e. What are the results expected through the implementation of the measure?:**

Policy will ensure sustainable and coordinated development of enterprises in creative sectors. Creativity will be enhanced in the business community through synergies between creative people and companies and the rest of the economy; different subsectors will have equal opportunity for development and the sustainability of the businesses will be ensured. The employees will have fair remuneration and export opportunities will be increased.

**f.1 Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the measure:**

Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection of Georgia

**f.2 Financial resources allocated to implement the measure:**

The budget for implementation of the Creative Georgia will be estimated in 2017 after adoption of the Culture Strategy Implementation biannual Action Plan incorporating Development of Creative Industries in Georgia.

**g. Name of NGOs and/or private companies engaged in the implementation of the measure, if any:**

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**h.1. Implement the provisions of the Convention?:**

Yes

**h.2. Support/nurture policy discussion inspired by the Convention?:**

Yes

**h.3. Other reasons unrelated to the Convention?:**

Yes

**i. Has the implementation of the measure been evaluated?:**

No

# Georgian National Film Centre (GNFC)

## b. Key objectives of the measures:

The GNFC supports the development of Georgian film industry at the levels of project development, production, distribution and promotion. The Center promotes Georgia's rich film culture, strives to preserve its traditions and aims to create a competitive market. One of the priorities of the Georgian National Film Center is to turn films into a product that will facilitate economic development of the country as well as safeguarding its cultural and educational values. The goal is to retain national film traditions and, at the same time, lay the ground work for the development of contemporary Georgian movies. Since its establishment GNFC provides financial investment in films, represents the country at international film festivals and markets, supports organisation of international film festivals locally, issues numerous publications and funds projects aimed at the awareness raising and promoting movies in Georgia. The main objectives of the Georgian National Film Center are :

- Fostering national production, distribution and promotion of films
- Determining the strategic for the development of the Georgian film sector ensuring cultural diversity;
- Funding local film production;
- Facilitating the development of film education;
- Developing International relations and promoting intercultural dialogue through films;
- Developing film export at the local and international level;
- Facilitating the development of film infrastructure.

### c.1. the scope of the measure:

National

### c.2. the nature of the measure:

financial

institutional

### c.3. the main feature of the measure:

Georgian National Film Centre (GNFC) is a Legal Entity of Public Law established by the Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection of Georgia, although it operates at arm's-length from government. GNFC is a main funding agency for film (90 financed movies in 2012-2015) actively supporting the development of the film industry in Georgia. It develops international business links and supports international coproduction (i.e. Cash rebate system which offers producers 25% rebates of qualified expenses incurred in Georgia. This is a joint initiative of the Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection of Georgia, the Ministry of Economy and Enterprise Georgia aimed at developing local film production, attracting foreign film production, developing country's tourism potential and increasing country's visibility and direct foreign investments. In addition to this regulation another amendment was done in the national Tax Code, according to which the beneficiary filmmakers of the Georgian National Film Centre will be subject to profit taxation only after the film release and 100% amortization right will be applied ). The membership of Eurimages since 2011 is also a very effective instrument in this direction (16 realized coproduction with European countries for nowadays). The GNFC also supports the development of distribution, sales, rentals of Georgian films, invests in audience development activities. Since 2014 it leads the educational project "Cinema at schools", which covers all the regions of Georgia with 205 villages in total and promotes Georgian films abroad ( Festivals, retrospectives

and film markets etc.). Since 2011 GFNC is also a member of the European Film Promotion (EFP) - a network promoting european films and Film New Europe (FNE)- digital media covering international film industry. It has received also the grant under Creative Europe programme.

**d. Does it specifically target individuals and/or social groups as defined in Article 7 of the Convention?:**

Yes

**List targeted individual/social groups:**

artists/creators, producers, entrepreneurs

**e. What are the results expected through the implementation of the measure?:**

Implementation of the policy has increased production of films in Georgia. Since the accession to EURIMAGES, there are 16 realized coproduction with European countries. Membership also created opportunities for tangible benefits for the Georgian filmmakers in the form of obtaining alternative funding in line with co-productions and distribution / exhibition. International Positioning of Georgian film sector has been improved. Georgian projects are better introduced at various European fairs, forums and festivals. Some of the achievements of this direction are: membership to the EURIMAGES, the Film New Europe and to the European Film Promotion. Evidence at international film markets has been increased (boat meetings, the co-production market of Cottbus film festival, the Wiesbaden film festival, industry events at the Sarajevo Film Festival, and the Sofia Meetings). These events encouraged Georgian filmmakers to seek alternative funding, develop their projects and master their networking and pitching skills; There is already an internationally recognised new wave of young Georgian filmmakers reviving the country's Soviet-era reputation for filmmaking. Attractiveness, including economical benefits for foreign investors making and production of films in Georgia, have widely been promoted. The number of investments into Georgian film industry including foreign investments have been increased. Various international film productions have been attracted by the GNFC to Georgia. Georgian movies have won several top prizes and awards at the most prominent international film festivals. GFNC, also hosts several international film festivals. During 2012-2015 period 90 projects were financed by the GNFC amounting to 11 326 773 Gel (4 500 000 Euro).

**f.1 Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the measure:**

Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection of Georgia;

**f.2 Financial resources allocated to implement the measure:**

In 2012-2013 per year 4 200 000 Gel (1 680 000 Euro) and in 2014-2015 per year 5 200 000 Gel (2 080 000 Euro) was allocated for GNFC by the Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection of Georgia.

**g. Name of NGOs and/or private companies engaged in the implementation of the measure, if any:**

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**h.1. Implement the provisions of the Convention?:**

No

**h.2. Support/nurture policy discussion inspired by the Convention?:**

Yes

**h.3. Other reasons unrelated to the Convention?:**

Yes

**i. Has the implementation of the measure been evaluated?:**

No

# Georgian National Book Centre (GNBC)

## b. Key objectives of the measures:

The Georgian National Book Center was established by the Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection of Georgia. The Center aims at enhancing intercultural dialogue through literature and strengthening the publishing sector. The objectives of the GNBC are to promote:

- Georgian books and literature abroad;
- Foreign literature in Georgia
- Centuries-long Georgian intellectual resources to the international literary and publishing arena.

Also, to maintain cultural diversity in the book sector and to encourage foreign publishing houses to publish Georgian literature.

## c.1. the scope of the measure:

Regional  
National  
International

## c.2. the nature of the measure:

financial  
institutional

## c.3. the main feature of the measure:

The Georgian National Book Center (GNBC) is operating at arm's-length from government even though it is the state funding agency established by the Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection of Georgia in 2014. Georgian National Book Center (GNBC) is operating at arm's-length from government even though it is the state funding agency established by the Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection of Georgia in 2014. The Georgian National Book Center supports, by different measures and schemes promotion of Georgian literature abroad and vice versa. It also fosters the development of publishing sector. The translation program of the Georgian National Book Center is designed for foreign and local publishing houses willing to translate and publish Georgian and/or foreign literature. The GNBC priorities include:

- Designing the strategy for promotion of Georgian literature abroad and supporting its translation into foreign languages as well as publication;
- Designing the strategy for the improvement of translation quality through providing professional programmes for translators and critics (special seminars, workshops, conferences and short-term residence programs for translators);
- Organizing special professional seminars, conferences and forums for the development of the publishing sector in Georgia;
- Supporting the participation of Georgian Publishers at international book fairs and organising collective stands of Georgia.

The model, which was elaborated by the Georgian National Book Center for supporting translations is largely oriented towards raising the interest of foreign publishing houses. The GNBC covers:

- translation costs 100% ;
- printing costs (50-100%)
- translation and printing costs (maximum of 50% of entire budget of the project)

- Georgian National Stands at International Book Fairs.

**d. Does it specifically target individuals and/or social groups as defined in Article 7 of the Convention?:**

Yes

**List targeted individual/social groups:**

creators, producers, entrepreneurs

**e. What are the results expected through the implementation of the measure?:**

Policy ensures the development of Georgian book sector and fosters its visibility at the international level. From 2015 to 2018, one of the key projects of the GNBC is to ensure Georgia's presence at Frankfurt Book Fair 2018, as the Guest of Honor country. In 2012-2015 the GNBC and the Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection of Georgia supported about 100 international projects involving publishing houses from 18 countries. Since 2008, Georgia has been presented at the following international book fairs: The Frankfurt Book Fair (2007-2016), The Leipzig Book Fair (2012-2016), The London Book Fair (2013-2016), Bologna Children's Book Fair (2016). The GNBC also supported 100 literary events abroad (presentations, discussions, readings) and professional programs (for translators, publishers, editors, authors, critics). In 2012-2015 the GNBC supported: translation of 93 Georgian books into 22 foreign languages, 25 translations of foreign literature into Georgian. 71 Georgian and foreign translators were engaged in the programme.

**f.1 Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the measure:**

Georgian National Book Centre

**f.2 Financial resources allocated to implement the measure:**

The budget of the GNBC is as follows:

- in 2014 - 650.000 (250 000 Euro);
- in 2015– 700 000 GEL (280 000 Euro) .

**g. Name of NGOs and/or private companies engaged in the implementation of the measure, if any:**

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**h.1. Implement the provisions of the Convention?:**

No

**h.2. Support/nurture policy discussion inspired by the Convention?:**

Yes

**h.3. Other reasons unrelated to the Convention?:**

Yes

**i. Has the implementation of the measure been evaluated?:**

No

# Preferential Tax and Procurement Policy for Culture and Creative Sector

## b. Key objectives of the measures:

The policy aims to support:

- safeguarding cultural heritage monuments by encouraging activities related with its reconstruction and rehabilitation;
- film industry in Georgia by encouraging local and foreign film productions to invest in Georgia;
- arts education for children by encouraging education institutions to provide arts education services;
- cultural institutions funded by the Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection: orchestras, ensembles, music centres, arts education institutions to improve creation, production and distribution of cultural goods and services;

## c.1. the scope of the measure:

National

International

## c.2. the nature of the measure:

legislative

regulatory

## c.3. the main feature of the measure:

Government of Georgia has elaborated several financial mechanisms, in particular tax credits to support on the one hand the flow of cultural goods and services and on the other hand preservation of cultural resources.

- The Tax Code of Georgia provides VAT exemption for reconstruction activities on cultural heritage objects; in particular according to the c subparagraph, of 2nd paragraph of 168th article of the Tax Code of Georgia, “conducting restoration, rehabilitation, design and research works and activities by a person in agreement with the Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection of Georgia on cultural heritage that is part of the world heritage list and/or has the status of national heritage and/or is of cultic and religious purpose is exempt from VAT.
- According to the 2nd paragraph of 168th article of the Tax Code of Georgia arts and sport educational services for children under 18 years are exempt from VAT;
- According to the decree N 1149 issued by Government of Georgia in 2015, simplified procurement regulations apply to the following cultural institutions funded by the Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection: orchestras, ensembles, music centres, arts education institutions by encouraging creation, production and distribution of cultural goods and services;
- In 2015, government of Georgia has introduced film industry incentive programme “Film in Georgia”, that envisages 20-25% cash rebate on qualified expenses incurred in Georgia for international as well as local production companies. This is the joint initiative of the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia and Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection of Georgia. The scheme is implemented by the state agency - Enterprise Georgia.

The products eligible for cash rebate are as follows:

- Feature film;



- Internet/TV film;
- Drama/Series, mini-series (including pilots);
- Animated Film;
- Reality Show;
- Music Video.

**d. Does it specifically target individuals and/or social groups as defined in Article 7 of the Convention?:**

No

**e. What are the results expected through the implementation of the measure?:**

The number and quality of rehabilitated and restored cultural heritage monuments is increased. Qualified workers are motivated better to conduct restoration and rehabilitation works; Film industry in Georgia develops. Co-productions, foreign production and investments grow together with country's touristic potential and international visibility. The number of educational institutions providing educational services to children as well as the number of children receiving arts education is increased; State cultural institutions are encouraged to create and provide competitive goods and services.

**f.1 Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the measure:**

Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection of Georgia

**f.2 Financial resources allocated to implement the measure:**

N/A

**g. Name of NGOs and/or private companies engaged in the implementation of the measure, if any:**

/

**h.1. Implement the provisions of the Convention?:**

No

**h.2. Support/nurture policy discussion inspired by the Convention?:**

Yes

**h.3. Other reasons unrelated to the Convention?:**

Yes

**i. Has the implementation of the measure been evaluated?:**

No

# Promoting Georgian Culture Abroad

## b. Key objectives of the measures:

The goal of the programme is to raise the visibility and image of Georgia in the world through culture. The programme aims at promoting internationally the national cultural operators and professionals, artists, creative industries and supporting students advancing arts and culture studies abroad. The programme also supports organisation of international cultural events aimed at attracting foreign cultural operators and artists to Georgia and encouraging networking, exchanges, intercultural dialogue and cooperation.

## c.1. the scope of the measure:

Regional  
National  
International

## c.2. the nature of the measure:

financial  
institutional

## c.3. the main feature of the measure:

The measure represents the special programme of the MoCMP that includes both the budget allocated for international dimension of activities carried out by 86 LEPLs founded by the Ministry and projects proposed by various applicants. The programme supports participation of Georgian artists and cultural operators in various international cultural events organised in foreign countries as are festivals, concerts, competitions, national cultural events abroad and supporting students culture and arts studies in foreign countries. It also supports organisation of international festivals in Georgia. In 2015 Georgian artists and cultural operators participated in 30 music, film, theatre, folk festivals organised in foreign countries.

## d. Does it specifically target individuals and/or social groups as defined in Article 7 of the Convention?:

Yes

## List targeted individual/social groups:

artists/creators/producers/entrepreneurs

## e. What are the results expected through the implementation of the measure?:

Implementation of the measure results to better positioning of Georgian culture at international level. It will increase production of compatible cultural goods and services, export opportunities and will improve visibility and image of the country. Georgia will better attract foreign investments adding value to national economy.

## f.1 Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the measure:

Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection of Georgia;

## f.2 Financial resources allocated to implement the measure:

Annually 7mln Gel (2.8 mln Euro) in average is amounted for the programme, out of which 665 000 Gel (266 000 Euro) is contributed for organisation of cultural days and events in foreign countries; 2, 295 000 Gel (918 000 Euro) participation of national cultural operators and artists in cultural events organised abroad as well as supporting arts students studies in foreign countries and 3 310 000 Gel (1 324 000 Euro)for organisation of international cultural events in Georgia.

**g. Name of NGOs and/or private companies engaged in the implementation of the measure, if any:**

/

**h.1. Implement the provisions of the Convention?:**

No

**h.2. Support/nurture policy discussion inspired by the Convention?:**

Yes

**h.3. Other reasons unrelated to the Convention?:**

Yes

**i. Has the implementation of the measure been evaluated?:**

No

# Georgian Culture Strategy 2025

## b. Key objectives of the measures:

The Vision of the Strategy is to ' Develop Georgia as a creative country and regional hub where innovation and creativity, along with safeguarding and revitalising national heritage and cultural diversity, are the fundamental pillars of social wellbeing and sustainable development'. For that purpose, State aims at:

- developing a knowledge-based, innovative and creative society;
- ensuring involvement of all groups of society in creation of culture and in cultural life;
- positioning culture in different areas of sustainable development and social life;
- developing a modern infrastructure and new technology in the cultural sector;
- increasing cultural funding and employment opportunities;
- encouraging development of cultural economics and cultural industries;
- promoting internationalisation of culture and strengthening its branding within the global context;
- democratising the governance of culture

## c.1. the scope of the measure:

Local  
Regional  
National  
International

## c.2. the nature of the measure:

legislative  
regulatory  
financial  
institutional

## c.3. the main feature of the measure:

The Georgian Culture Strategy is a fundamental document elaborated through the series of long-term consultations between different groups of society and the analysis of different national and international documents including various conventions and treaties. It is based on the Constitution of Georgia and takes into consideration current legislation and recent national cultural policy documents as well as international obligations and principles stated in different international legal instruments. The Culture Strategy of Georgia determines the State's vision, goals and objectives in the cultural and creative sector. The document identifies the problem solving process for the long-term and addresses a variety of challenges in different areas of culture and creativity. The Strategy also contributes to raising awareness of the new role of culture in social wellbeing and sustainable development – revealing the role of culture and creativity in country's economic growth, social development and environmental protection. This document takes two approaches. First it determines 8 transversal themes and relateds goals, objectives that are common to all cultural sectors and second it highlights specific tasks for each culture and creativity sub-sector. The Strategy is focused on creation of a favorable environment for safeguarding, revitalising and developing culture as a national identity. The Strategy is based on publicity, civic participation and on transparent decision-making processes. It

encourages collaboration between central and municipal authorities, non-governmental organisations (guilds and associations), foundations, international donor organisations, the business sector, educational institutions and the independent cultural professionals. It aims to develop the creative sector through initiating institutional and legislative reform and to guarantee diversity of cultural expressions.

**d. Does it specifically target individuals and/or social groups as defined in Article 7 of the Convention?:**

Yes

**List targeted individual/social groups:**

artists/creators, producers/entrepreneurs

**e. What are the results expected through the implementation of the measure?:**

The Georgian Culture Strategy is a fundamental document elaborated through the series of long-term consultations between different groups of society and the analysis of different national and international documents including various conventions and treaties. It is based on the Constitution of Georgia and takes into consideration current legislation and recent national cultural policy documents as well as international obligations and principles stated in different international legal instruments. The Culture Strategy of Georgia determines the State's vision, goals and objectives in the cultural and creative sector. The document identifies the problem solving process for the long-term and addresses a variety of challenges in different areas of culture and creativity. The Strategy also contributes to raising awareness of the new role of culture in social wellbeing and sustainable development – revealing the role of culture and creativity in country's economic growth, social development and environmental protection. This document takes two approaches. First it determines 8 transversal themes and related goals, objectives that are common to all cultural sectors and second it highlights specific tasks for each culture and creativity sub-sector. The Strategy is focused on creation of a favorable environment for safeguarding, revitalising and developing culture as a national identity. The Strategy is based on publicity, civic participation and on transparent decision-making processes. It encourages collaboration between central and municipal authorities, non-governmental organisations (guilds and associations), foundations, international donor organisations, the business sector, educational institutions and the independent cultural professionals. It aims to develop the creative sector through initiating institutional and legislative reform and to guarantee diversity of cultural expressions.

**f.1 Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the measure:**

The Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection of Georgia

**f.2 Financial resources allocated to implement the measure:**

The average annual budget of the Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection during reporting period was 90 mln. Georgian Lari. However, the budget for implementation of the measure could be estimated after adoption of the strategy implementation biannual action plans.

**g. Name of NGOs and/or private companies engaged in the implementation of the measure, if any:**

/

**h.1. Implement the provisions of the Convention?:**

Yes

**h.2. Support/nurture policy discussion inspired by the Convention?:**

Yes

**h.3. Other reasons unrelated to the Convention?:**

Yes

**i. Has the implementation of the measure been evaluated?:**

No

# Supporting Dissemination of Culture in the Regions

## b. Key objectives of the measures:

The measure aims at increasing access to culture in the regions and promoting diversity of cultural expressions by improving cultural eco-system in the regions. The objectives of the measure are as follows:

- foster cultural and social inclusion of people residing in the regions;
- promote the cultural expressions and participation of all peoples in culture;
- maintain and develop cultural sites, spaces and infrastructure.

## c.1. the scope of the measure:

Local  
Regional  
National

## c.2. the nature of the measure:

financial  
institutional

## c.3. the main feature of the measure:

One of the challenges for cultural diversity is the gap between so called “centre” and “provinces/peripheries”. Local self-governance is the main body governing culture in the regions, however, there are several cultural institutions founded by the Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection of Georgia as Legal Entities of Public Law. Also various cultural projects are supported by the Ministry of Infrastructure and Regional Development. MoC has supported several programmes and projects in the regions covering all the subsectors of culture and creativity: music, literature, theater, dance, traditional crafts, visual arts, cinema. The Ministry also has financed special programmes and projects promoting cultural expressions of national and ethnic minorities, women, indigenous people including people with special needs, IDPs, people residing at occupied territories and etc. MoC of Georgia is in most cases the main partner of various international festivals. It is also initiator and organizer of various cultural projects and events in the regions. The literary-educational project “Live Books” traveled from region to region and involved Georgian writers which meet pupils of public schools and local population and present their work. The project “Cinema at School” realized by the Georgian National Film Centre was implemented in all the regions. The Ministry published the catalogue “Souvenirs from Georgia” promoting national crafts and providing data on craftsman living in various regions; the development of regional theaters, libraries and museums is ensured by different projects. Rehabilitation of cultural infrastructure and monuments in the regions are supported by the municipality authorities, the Ministry of Infrastructure and Regional Development and Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection.

## d. Does it specifically target individuals and/or social groups as defined in Article 7 of the Convention?:

Yes

## List targeted individual/social groups:

artists/creators, producers/entrepreneurs, young people, people with special needs, IDPs, ethnic minorities

## e. What are the results expected through the implementation of the measure?:

The policy measure encouraged engaging of regional population in cultural life and activities; Cultural infrastructure as well as tourism potential and visibility of the regions have been improved; The number of festivals held in regions increases every year (17 music festivals, 10 film festivals, 4 festivals of contemporary arts etc.) and in 2015, the number of visitors of these events reached 300 000 (130 000 Euro) in total. In 2015, 960 film screenings in the regions were attended by the total of 12000 children. During the Reporting period rehabilitation and conservations of 400 cultural heritage monuments amounted in 35 mln Gel (12 mln. Euro) were done across the country.

**f.1 Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the measure:**

The Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection of Georgia

**f.2 Financial resources allocated to implement the measure:**

N/A.

**g. Name of NGOs and/or private companies engaged in the implementation of the measure, if any:**

/

**h.1. Implement the provisions of the Convention?:**

Yes

**h.2. Support/nurture policy discussion inspired by the Convention?:**

Yes

**h.3. Other reasons unrelated to the Convention?:**

Yes

**i. Has the implementation of the measure been evaluated?:**

No



# Supporting Cultural Expression of Ethnic Minorities

## b. Key objectives of the measures:

One of the main principles of the state policy regarding the ethnic minorities is its integration into countries political and sustainable development. With this regard, priority is given to the promotion of cultural expressions of national/ethnic minorities through increasing their role in the country's cultural life, protecting and development of their traditions, creating tolerant environment and the encouraging intercultural exchanges.

## c.1. the scope of the measure:

Regional  
National

## c.2. the nature of the measure:

financial  
institutional

## c.3. the main feature of the measure:

According to the commitments of the Convention, In 2013 The MoCMP of Georgia introduced the special programme under the state budget plan supporting cultural expressions of national/ethnic minorities. The MoCMP subsidises 3 theatres, 2 museums, belonging to ethnic minorities and allocates funds for various projects both initiated by and addressed to national minorities. The above projects include funding of ethnic folk ensembles, several newspapers, journals, publications, concerts, festivals, exhibitions, crafts dedicated or initiated by ethnic minorities (in total about 70 projects) have been supported.

## d. Does it specifically target individuals and/or social groups as defined in Article 7 of the Convention?:

Yes

## List targeted individual/social groups:

artists/creators, entrepreneurs, national and ethnic minorities

## e. What are the results expected through the implementation of the measure?:

During the reporting period the following cultural activities were supported by the MoCMP related with ethnic minorities: publication of 4 magazines/journals in Russian, Azeri and Armenian languages; publication of: books by Ossetian and Azeri authors and collection of Ossetian poetry, translation of book into Azeri and Osetian languages about the greatest Georgians; 2 albums of artists representing ethnic minorities, 2 catalogues about German artists living in Georgia and about Culture of Weinachs (northern Caucasian ethnic group ); events related to Georgia-Jewish 26 century friendship; Also, Caucasus Jazz annual festival, folk festival with participation of all ethnic minorities residing in Georgia (200 participants; 14 ensembles); Carpet Festival organized by ethnic Azeries including workshops aimed at transferring know-how about traditional technologies of knitting carpets., the project "Diverse Georgia", promoting Georgian culture in regions populated by ethnic minorities.

## f.1 Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the measure:

Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection of Georgia;

## f.2 Financial resources allocated to implement the measure:

The average annual budget allocated for the programme accounts 2 mln Gel (85000 Euros)

**g. Name of NGOs and/or private companies engaged in the implementation of the measure, if any:**

/

**h.1. Implement the provisions of the Convention?:**

Yes

**h.2. Support/nurture policy discussion inspired by the Convention?:**

Yes

**h.3. Other reasons unrelated to the Convention?:**

Yes

**i. Has the implementation of the measure been evaluated?:**

No

# Fostering International Cultural Cooperation

## b. Key objectives of the measures:

The main goal of the measure is internationalisation of Georgian culture through enhancing bilateral and multilateral cooperation with other countries and integration to various international cultural cooperation programmes. The measure aims at strengthening intergovernmental and inter-ministerial cooperation and dialogue between the countries, contributing mutual understanding, spreading knowledge about each other, as well as fostering cooperation in the culture and education sectors. The objectives of the measure are as follows:

- encourage international cooperation in the field of culture by exchanging commitments for cultural cooperation and cultural exchange with partner Governments and Ministries;
- create conditions conducive to the promotion and implementation of the UNESCO “Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions”;
- build and develop cultural and creative networks and synergies between creative and business sectors;
- encourage international cooperation inter alia in arts higher education between Georgian and European Universities through mobility of students, academic and administrative staff of universities.

## c.1. the scope of the measure:

International

## c.2. the nature of the measure:

legislative  
regulatory  
financial  
institutional

## c.3. the main feature of the measure:

International cooperation in cultural sector is encouraged by international agreements with various countries (about 60 countries) stressing the role of cultural dialogue in consolidating international relations. In 2014 was signed Georgia-EU Association Agreement, that is considered as main cooperation framework for Georgia. Among other commitments, promotion of the UNESCO “Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions” remains as priority defined by the Association Agenda. Georgia became member of the following international programmes, networks and funds:

- In 2015 Georgia joined the Creative Europe Programme. This new instrument allows Georgian cultural and creative organizations to team up with partners from all over Europe, to get funding for cultural cooperation projects, to get profit from the added value that working at a European level offers, to build cultural networks and meet and learn from cultural players from all over Europe;
- Since 2015 Georgia is member of ENCATC. This instrument allows Georgian public officials to share ideas and experience on cultural management and to receive regular information relevant to the professional sector with opportunities to meet exchange views and experience.
- With the aim to encourage the co-productions in the fields of cinema, Georgia joined the European Cinema Support Fund – Eurimages in 2011. Being the part of the fund, the country

has an opportunity to promote its audiovisual industry, receive financial support to feature films, animations and documentaries and enhance cooperation between professionals from different European countries.

- Georgian Agency for Cultural Heritage received technical assistance under EU EAP Twinning programme;
- Georgian higher education institutions have been cooperating within European universities within various EU High Education Programmes (Tempus, Erasmus Mundus, Erasmus+), however, only through Erasmus+ became available supporting credit mobility and exchanges between Georgian and EU arts education institutions.

**d. Does it specifically target individuals and/or social groups as defined in Article 7 of the Convention?:**

No

**e. What are the results expected through the implementation of the measure?:**

The above treaties facilitate dialogue between public officials and promote exchanges between professionals working in the cultural governance and management, culture and creative industries, students, academic and administrative staff of universities. In 2015, 53 activities were carried out by the Ministry of Culture and Monument protection (MoCMP) within the bilateral cultural cooperation frameworks with 24 countries. 9 international agreements were endorsed; Various cultural projects and activities were implemented in partnership with EU, Council of Europe, UNESCO, British Council, Institute of France, Peace Corps, Intellectual Property Rights organisation. 517 000 Euro was granted by Creative Europe programme to 5 partnership projects between EU and Georgian cultural institutions. Within Erasmus+ programme in total 50 mobility of students, academic and administrative staff from cultural universities were carried out and 3 Georgian Arts Education Institutions have been cooperating with 14 European universities.

**f.1 Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the measure:**

The Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection of Georgia

**f.2 Financial resources allocated to implement the measure:**

550 000 Gel (Georgian Lari equal to 225 000 euro) were allocated in 2015 under the budget of the MoCMP for international cooperation programme. In 2013 and 2014 the annual budget for the programme was 350 000 GEL.

**g. Name of NGOs and/or private companies engaged in the implementation of the measure, if any:**

/

**h.1. Implement the provisions of the Convention?:**

No

**h.2. Support/nurture policy discussion inspired by the Convention?:**

Yes

**h.3. Other reasons unrelated to the Convention?:**

Yes

**i. Has the implementation of the measure been evaluated?:**

No

# EU-Eastern Partnership Culture and Creativity Programme

## **b. Key objectives of the measures:**

EU-Eastern Partnership Culture Programme aims to strengthen regional cultural links and dialogue within the Eastern Partnership region, and between the EU and ENP Eastern countries' cultural networks and actors. It also aims at assisting the Partner Countries in their cultural policy reform at government level, as well as capacity building and improving professional skills of cultural operators in the Eastern ENP region. It contributes to exchange of information and experience among cultural operators at a regional level and with the EU. The programme supports regional initiatives which demonstrate positive cultural contributions to economic development, social inclusion, conflict resolution and intercultural dialogue.

## **c.1. the scope of the measure:**

International

## **c.2. the nature of the measure:**

financial

institutional

## **c.3. the main feature of the measure:**

The programme has provided technical assistance to the Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection in cultural policy reforms and helped overhaul legal and regulatory framework in order to foster the modernization of cultural sector. It has organized the trainings to address the identified skills shortages in the cultural sector, facilitated the increase of public access to cultural resources, supported conservation and valorisation of regional cultural resources and heritage; encouraged multi-disciplinary and cross-sectorial exchanges between government, civil society and the private sectors; helped cultivate cultural operators through support in developing strategic management, business planning, communications, advocacy, fundraising and other relevant capacities.

## **d. Does it specifically target individuals and/or social groups as defined in Article 7 of the Convention?:**

Yes

## **List targeted individual/social groups:**

cultural professionals/ policymakers/civil society

## **e. What are the results expected through the implementation of the measure?:**

Along with other EaP Countries, within the framework of the EU-Eastern Partnership Culture and Creativity Programme, Georgia participated in the framework of the following projects: Caucasus Cultural Initiatives Network (CAUCULT), Cultural Development is the Source for Prosperity of Community, Directors Across Borders Eastern Partnership Program (DAB), Let's Talk About Films in South Caucasus (CAUCADOC), New Breath of Culture: Fill Heritage with Life of Arts, Regional Co-operation for the Cultural Heritage Development, SAY CHEESE: Eastern Family Album. Capacity Building, Networking and Promotion of Thematic Eastern Partnership Photography, Sharing History, Cultural Dialogues, SOS Culture: Saving Endangered Cultural Assets in Remote Regions of Armenia and Georgia by Involving Local Youth in Their Preservation, Strengthening Creative Industries in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia: Heritage Crafts - Common Platform for Development, Sustainable Public Areas for Culture in Eastern Countries (SPACES), The Book Platform. In addition, the programme proposed a series of capacity-building activities – the Culture Policy Exchange Workshops

Cycles organised in 2013 and 2014 for national and local authorities as well as public and private cultural actors and civil society representatives of the EaP countries.

**f.1 Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the measure:**

EU-Eastern Partnership Culture Programme

**f.2 Financial resources allocated to implement the measure:**

The budget of the total programme was € 12 million.

**g. Name of NGOs and/or private companies engaged in the implementation of the measure, if any:**

/

**h.1. Implement the provisions of the Convention?:**

No

**h.2. Support/nurture policy discussion inspired by the Convention?:**

Yes

**h.3. Other reasons unrelated to the Convention?:**

Yes

**i. Has the implementation of the measure been evaluated?:**

Yes

**i.1 At what level the evaluation was conducted?:**

International

**i.3 Which indicators were used to determine impact?:**

N/A.

# EU-Georgia Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA)

## b. Key objectives of the measures:

DCFTA aims to forge closer political and economic ties with the EU. On this basis, the DCFTA includes several provisions aiming at reforming of Georgia's trade and trade-related policies, in line with, and on the basis of, the EU acquis. These will provide for modernisation of the economy, anchoring of EU investment in the country, and better and more predictable policy environment. DCFTA encourages:

- Freedom of establishment .
- Opening markets and lowering barriers for entrepreneurs and service providers
- Modernisation of domestic procurement practices will give access to EU procurement market

## c.1. the scope of the measure:

Regional  
National  
International

## c.2. the nature of the measure:

legislative  
regulatory

## c.3. the main feature of the measure:

The DCFTA is an integral part of the new contractual framework – the Association Agreement, signed with the EU in June 2014, that is the basic political framework governing the upgraded EU-Georgia relationship. The Agreement opens vast opportunities for development and greater approximation with the EU in all main sectors through political association and economic integration. It envisages gradual establishment of best European norms and standards in all sectors including good governance, rule of law, human rights, justice, social inclusion, media pluralism, and market economy as well as gradual economic integration of Georgia with the EU's internal market thus giving access to the world's largest consumer market without tariffs and quotas. It will bring benefits for the country's future growth, opening up new markets and creating job opportunities.

## d. Does it specifically target individuals and/or social groups as defined in Article 7 of the Convention?:

No

## e. What are the results expected through the implementation of the measure?:

Thanks to the creation of a free trade area, approximation to the selected European legislation, and the drive towards internationally recognised quality of goods, more potential for growth, through increased exports and additional investment are expected over the medium term. Since the provisional application of the Association Agreement in 2014 , Georgia already benefitted from the integration into the EU internal market. Consequently, the EU became the largest trading partner of Georgia, with a share in total trade of more than 30% and growth of Georgian exports to the EU market. While stimulating economic modernisation, the effect of the DCFTA has been fundamental for increasing the attractiveness of Georgia for foreign investments. The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development has announced record volume of investments in Georgia for 2016. Georgian entrepreneurs will be able to set up a company or a branch of a company in relevant European country and bring qualified Georgian staff for a limited amount of time to work in the European Union;

service providers – within the limits of the Agreement – can provide their services across the European Union. Implementation of the DCFTA will bring major benefits to the regulatory environment as well. In the production and trade of industrial goods, new regulatory standards will lead to improvements in the safety and quality of products available on the market. And indeed one of the biggest procurement markets in the world. This will provide business opportunities for Georgian companies and lower costs to the Georgian treasury as procurement rules become more transparent, leaner and more efficient. As reforms progress, Georgia will have access to different types of procurement bids in the European Union, which could eventually lead to a complete opening of the EU market.

**f.1 Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the measure:**

Ministry of Economy

**f.2 Financial resources allocated to implement the measure:**

N/A

**g. Name of NGOs and/or private companies engaged in the implementation of the measure, if any:**

/

**h.1. Implement the provisions of the Convention?:**

No

**h.2. Support/nurture policy discussion inspired by the Convention?:**

Yes

**h.3. Other reasons unrelated to the Convention?:**

Yes

**i. Has the implementation of the measure been evaluated?:**

No



# Visa Facilitation

## b. Key objectives of the measures:

The measure is aimed to promote:

- mobility of Georgian citizens to EU countries;
- exchanges and mobility of cultural, creative and educational professionals;
- partnership and networking between EU and Georgian cultural and creative professionals and institutions;
- export of cultural services.

## c.1. the scope of the measure:

International

## c.2. the nature of the measure:

regulatory

## c.3. the main feature of the measure:

From March 1, 2011, Georgian citizens have been benefiting from simplified procedures for obtaining short-term visas to the EU according to the Visa Facilitation Agreement signed between Georgia and the European Union on 17th of June 2010. The aim of simplified procedures is making it easier for Georgian citizens, in particular those who travel most, to acquire short-term visas for the EU. The Agreement provides a reduced visa fee of €35 instead of €60 for all Georgian citizens and a total exemption from the visa fee for certain categories of applicants including persons participating in scientific, cultural, artistic activities, university and other exchange programs. According to the agreement, necessary documents proving the purpose of the envisaged travel in support of a visa application are simplified for 13 categories of persons including those who are participating in scientific, cultural, artistic activities, university and other exchange programs. Bona fide frequent travelers (for ex: participating in scientific, cultural, artistic activities, university and other exchange programs etc.) will be issued multi-entry visas with long periods of validity. Finally, the holders of diplomatic passports are exempt from the visa obligation. The agreement also obliges the Consulates to take a decision within 10 days on whether or not to issue a visa. The visa facilitation agreement does not apply to UK and Ireland (which do not participate in the Schengen cooperation), and to Denmark. It is applicable towards the rest of the EU. Denmark, Norway, Iceland and Switzerland who participate in Schengen were invited to conclude similar visa facilitation agreements.

## d. Does it specifically target individuals and/or social groups as defined in Article 7 of the Convention?:

Yes

### List targeted individual/social groups:

youth, people participating in scientific, cultural, artistic activities, university and other exchange programs

## e. What are the results expected through the implementation of the measure?:

Mobility of Georgian citizens to EU countries and export of national cultural services to Europe as well as mobility of students and academics, entrepreneurs will increase; partnership and networking opportunities between Georgian cultural and creative professionals and institutions will be enlarged; Georgian cultural and creative companies and professionals will be better introduced in EU cultural events.

**f.1 Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the measure:**

Georgian Government

**f.2 Financial resources allocated to implement the measure:**

N/A

**g. Name of NGOs and/or private companies engaged in the implementation of the measure, if any:**

/

**h.1. Implement the provisions of the Convention?:**

No

**h.2. Support/nurture policy discussion inspired by the Convention?:**

Yes

**h.3. Other reasons unrelated to the Convention?:**

Yes

**i. Has the implementation of the measure been evaluated?:**

No

# Developing Cultural Tourism in Georgia

## b. Key objectives of the measures:

The main goal of the measure is to contribute to the country's sustainable development through developing tourism in Georgia based on cultural resources such as monuments, archeological sites, cultural and natural landscapes, etc. and creative industries. The measure aims at promoting and exploiting the economic potential of cultural resources (e.g. intangible, tangible and natural heritage, exhibitions, concerts, festivals, rituals traditional holidays, etc.) and developing creative industries in urban and rural areas for creation of unique and internationally competitive touristic experience.

## c.1. the scope of the measure:

Regional  
National  
International

## c.2. the nature of the measure:

financial  
institutional

## c.3. the main feature of the measure:

In 2015 the *Georgian Tourism Strategy 2015 – 2025* was developed with the support of the World Bank Group. Within the document the importance of the cultural heritage and cultural tourism is highlighted through different strategic objectives, such as protecting and developing Georgia's natural and cultural heritage, creating unique and authentic visitor experiences centered on those natural and cultural assets, etc. The development of cultural tourism is highlighted within the Culture Strategy 2025 through various tasks related with capacity building and awareness raising programmes about economy and marketing of cultural tourism, importance of synergy between cultural resources and creative industries. Strategy also focuses on promotion of public-private partnership engaging various state and non-state actors, cultural professionals, entrepreneurs and policymakers in developing cultural tourism. One of the priorities is also country's integration in transnational cultural routes (e.g. the Europe Cultural Routes programme, UNWTO Silk Road Programme) as well as protection of cultural and natural heritage and environment from potentially negative impact of tourism. The action plans for implementation of both tourism and culture development strategies envisage joint efforts and common activities to be implemented by the Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection and Ministry of Economy of Georgia in collaboration with other line ministries, business sector and civil society.

## d. Does it specifically target individuals and/or social groups as defined in Article 7 of the Convention?:

No

## e. What are the results expected through the implementation of the measure?:

Despite the fact that only 7.6% of the Georgian citizens traveled within the regions for recreation, entertainment purposes in 2015, the amount of the international arrivals show promising picture with 7% growth in the same year. Moreover, the share of tourism in GDP went from 6.32% (2014) to 6.73% in 2015. This leads to the notion of the World Bank in regards to the objectives of National Tourism Strategy, "According to [which] by 2025 Georgia will become well-known as a premier, year-round, high-quality tourism destination – centered on its unique cultural and natural heritage, world-class customer service, and timeless tradition of hospitality. Georgia will be at the forefront of tourism competitiveness, through strategic investments in infrastructure, education, marketing, and the

development of unique Georgian visitor experiences that appeal to high-value markets around the globe.” – *World Bank, A Tourism Strategy for Georgia – New Path Ahead, December 7, 2015*

**f.1 Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the measure:**

Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection of Georgia;

**f.2 Financial resources allocated to implement the measure:**

Financial allocation will be estimated further to adoption of the both culture and tourism development action plans by the end of 2016.

**g. Name of NGOs and/or private companies engaged in the implementation of the measure, if any:**

/

**h.1. Implement the provisions of the Convention?:**

No

**h.2. Support/nurture policy discussion inspired by the Convention?:**

Yes

**h.3. Other reasons unrelated to the Convention?:**

Yes

**i. Has the implementation of the measure been evaluated?:**

No

# Culture and Creative Industries in Innovations Policy

## b. Key objectives of the measures:

The main goal of the measure is applying culture as an important source in country's economic development by contributing to the creation but also promotion and distribution of creative goods and services at international and national markets. The measure aims to apply design, as the source of culture-based creativity, as an integral part in developing innovative, amongst them high-tech, user-friendly products and services produced for both internal use and export.

### c.1. the scope of the measure:

Regional  
National  
International

### c.2. the nature of the measure:

financial  
institutional

### c.3. the main feature of the measure:

Taking into consideration that innovation is the key source of competitiveness, economic growth and social transformation and an important tool for creating jobs, growing revenues and for expanding the investment opportunities, Georgia's Innovation and Technology Agency was established on February 19, 2014. The agency is assigned to coordinate and mediate the process of developing innovations and technologies within the country. The agency promotes knowledge-sharing and innovative entrepreneurship. Since, creative environment and people are the drivers for the country's innovative development, one of the priorities within Georgia's Innovation Strategy 2020 is to support the formation of creative industries in Georgia, e.g. In addition to supporting different initiatives, the Agency operates technology parks, innovation centers, innovation labs, accelerators and business incubators to collect and develop creative and innovative ideas and promote interdisciplinary approach. The development of new-technologies is also highlighted within the Culture Strategy 2025.

## d. Does it specifically target individuals and/or social groups as defined in Article 7 of the Convention?:

No

## e. What are the results expected through the implementation of the measure?:

According to a World Bank report, published in June 2013, "Innovation in Georgia" Georgian companies, which are actively using innovations in their work are developing faster and are creating 30% more jobs than other companies. In May 30-31, 2014 Game Jam competition was held in Tbilisi organized by the Agency of Innovation and Technology and Association of Computer Games Developers IGDA Georgia. The event became the platform for the game developers, designers and programmers to be connected and they got the experience in joint, coordinated teamwork. In the framework of the Game Jam competition the perspectives and commercial potential of the gaming sector became evident. Developed gaming industry leads to employment of specialists and brings enormous benefits to the state's economy.

### f.1 Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the measure:

Ministry of Economy

### f.2 Financial resources allocated to implement the measure:

N/A

**g. Name of NGOs and/or private companies engaged in the implementation of the measure, if any:**

/

**h.1. Implement the provisions of the Convention?:**

No

**h.2. Support/nurture policy discussion inspired by the Convention?:**

Yes

**h.3. Other reasons unrelated to the Convention?:**

Yes

**i. Has the implementation of the measure been evaluated?:**

No

# Culture and Education

## **b. Key objectives of the measures:**

Georgian state has implemented several measures in order to support arts and culture education and the development of new generations of professionals. Notably, 14 LEPLs operating under the Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection ensure the artistic and cultural education in the fields of visual arts, music, dance. These organizations are funded by the Ministry of Culture which, in addition, elaborates and supervises organization of different master classes and trainings for teachers of art education institutions. In addition of these educational institutions, the government of Georgia has established the International Centre for Education. The mission of the Centre is to contribute strengthening democratic, social and economic development of the country by supporting enhancement of education quality and preparation of professional human resources. The program aims to encourage young people in Georgia, amongst them the students mastering cultural professions, to get involved in academic mobility and obtain internationally recognized academic degree(s) at world leading universities.

### **c.1. the scope of the measure:**

International

### **c.2. the nature of the measure:**

financial

### **c.3. the main feature of the measure:**

While 14 the LEPLs ensure the education of future professionals of arts and culture locally, the International Centre for Education provides unique opportunity for young Georgians to obtain education in the world's leading institutions. Once scholarship recipients complete their state-funded course(s), the master and doctoral program graduates must return to Georgia and continue working in the relevant sector for at least three years. The most successful graduates will be offered profiled state employment. As well as employment, the program will assist graduates to create social, academic and professional networks that will serve to expand their individual professional contacts, as well as contribute to inter-sectoral cooperation and joint work of the same graduates in projects and research within the public sector. In addition to International Master's degree and Doctoral programs for 2015-2016, the Centre provides Professional Development and Retraining Program for Public Servants, Partner University Program and Alumni Program.

## **d. Does it specifically target individuals and/or social groups as defined in Article 7 of the Convention?:**

Yes

### **List targeted individual/social groups:**

Youth

## **e. What are the results expected through the implementation of the measure?:**

Approximately 5500 students are trained in arts and culture education institutions every year. in 2014-2016 years in total 270 scholarships were granted by the Centre for students obtaining master's and PHD degree at various universities worldwide. The number of qualified cultural professionals was increased in different areas, including arts, conservation and restoration; arts management and policymaking, etc. 10 students of arts and culture are the beneficiaries of the Centre.

### **f.1 Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the measure:**

MoC, International Education Centre

**f.2 Financial resources allocated to implement the measure:**

N / A

**g. Name of NGOs and/or private companies engaged in the implementation of the measure, if any:**

/

**h.1. Implement the provisions of the Convention?:**

No

**h.2. Support/nurture policy discussion inspired by the Convention?:**

Yes

**h.3. Other reasons unrelated to the Convention?:**

Yes

**i. Has the implementation of the measure been evaluated?:**

No



# Public-sector Support for Diversity on Broadcasting

## b. Key objectives of the measures:

The mission of the Georgian Public Broadcaster is to reinforce democratic values, raise the level of public education, encourage diversity and social integration as well as to uphold historical heritage and cultural traditions. According to the law the public television shall: "cover the pluralism of opinions existing in the public; broadcast a relevant proportion of programs for minority groups, in their language; reflect ethnic, cultural, linguistic, religious, age, gender diversity in the programs; broadcast a relevant number of programmes prepared by minority groups in their language; promote the state identity, values and cultural diversity"; take into consideration the interest of people with disabilities; The objectives of the GPB are:

- Adequately informing of the greater society in terms of on-going political, social and cultural processes in Georgia and internationally;
- Contributing to civil society and larger national debates by providing reliable and impartial information, which sufficiently impacts the choices made by informed citizens;
- Promoting Georgia's interests and shared values by appreciating the diversity of opinions within an atmosphere of open public dialogue and an environment of tolerance;
- Sharing in the contributions being made to public education and reforms that are designed to provide the means to bring about informed choices in sciences, including environmental responsibility and participation in organizations representing civil society;
- Raising the standard of governmental accountability, community and civil society representation, and opening the door for greater self-awareness, self-actualisation and engagement among the young generation;
- Publicly showcasing the diverse array of high quality works of contemporary and classical art and literary achievements;

## c.1. the scope of the measure:

Local  
Regional  
National  
International

## c.2. the nature of the measure:

legislative  
regulatory  
financial  
institutional

## c.3. the main feature of the measure:

The Broadcasting industry in Georgia is regulated by the Constitution of Georgia, the law of Georgia on Broadcasting, the Election Code of Georgia, the Law of Georgia on Regulatory Authorities, the Law of Georgia on Copyright and the Related Rights and other legal acts. The content-related obligations of the Georgian Public Broadcaster (GPB) are defined by the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting adopted in 2014, that boosted the process of transformation of Georgian TV from being a state broadcaster into a public broadcaster. The GPB unites two TV channels: "First Channel" (since 1956) and "Second Channel" (since 1971). It is also comprised of two Radio stations - "Radio One" **FM 102.4** (since 1925)

and "Radio Two" **FM 100.9** (since 1995). Presently, 90% of the Georgian population receive the First Channel, and 55% receive the Second Channel. Georgian TV's programmes are also received by satellite and over the Internet in a number of European and Asian countries. Georgian Parliament elects a Board of Trustees, composed of nine members. In addition of the legal documents, the Board establishes annual programme priorities which is based on several sources, including legislation, research on attitudes toward the broadcaster and recommendations worked out by NGOs working on media issues and monitoring GPB activities (in 2015 these recommendations were proposed by the Media Development Foundation (MDF) and United Nations Association of Georgia (UNAG) and mainly referred to informing the ethnic minorities about Euro-Atlantic integration process and reporting on the issues of diversity). According to the priorities the share of cultural programs related with ethnic, cultural, social, religious, gender diversity should be increased. Also, GPB should increase production of films, performances.

**d. Does it specifically target individuals and/or social groups as defined in Article 7 of the Convention?:**

Yes

**List targeted individual/social groups:**

artists/creators/entrepreneurs/minorities/people with special needs

**e. What are the results expected through the implementation of the measure?:**

Following to the implementation of GPB priorities, the media space will be more democratic and diversified; cultural identity will be promoted; Apart of purely commercial interest, educational and cultural content will be provided to Georgian society. Creativity will be encouraged within the society in Georgia and cultural uniqueness will be revealed; formation of a diverse society based on the principles of personal freedom, equality and fairness, united by citizen responsibility and solidarity will be supported, protecting cultural identity by offering educational and instructive, information and entertaining media- products and services will be promoted

**f.1 Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the measure:**

Georgian Public Broadcasting (GPB)

**f.2 Financial resources allocated to implement the measure:**

The average annual budget is 40 000 000 laris (17 mln Euro)

**g. Name of NGOs and/or private companies engaged in the implementation of the measure, if any:**

/

**h.1. Implement the provisions of the Convention?:**

Yes

**h.2. Support/nurture policy discussion inspired by the Convention?:**

Yes

**h.3. Other reasons unrelated to the Convention?:**

Yes

**i. Has the implementation of the measure been evaluated?:**

No

**i.1 At what level the evaluation was conducted?:**

National

# Raising Awareness about Gender Equality Through Culture and Arts

## b. Key objectives of the measures:

The measure aims to support exhibitions, performances, research, publications, conference dedicated to gender issues; It encourages participation of women in culture and arts related activities as are concerts, exhibitions, festivals.

## c.1. the scope of the measure:

National  
International

## c.2. the nature of the measure:

regulatory  
financial  
institutional

## c.3. the main feature of the measure:

The Ministry of Culture and Monuments Protection of Georgia supported about 32 projects focused on gender issues or/and initiated by women from 2012 onwards. In addition to the Ministry's direct involvement in providing financial support for the aforementioned activities, a large-scale collaboration between the UN Joint Programme to Enhance Gender Equality in Georgia and the Georgian National Film Centre took place in 2014. The aim of the partnership was to initiate the creation of the documentary reflecting the gender issues, women's rights in particular. As a result - Speak Out! Was produced. The film is a documentary telling the story of violence against women and domestic violence in Georgia, reflecting the true accounts of suffering by many women.

## d. Does it specifically target individuals and/or social groups as defined in Article 7 of the Convention?:

Yes

## List targeted individual/social groups:

Artists/creators, women

## e. What are the results expected through the implementation of the measure?:

On the one hand women, especially from the regions will be more involved in cultural processes and on the other hand, culture and arts will be used as the catalyst for strengthening the principles of gender equality.

## f.1 Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the measure:

The Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection of Georgia

## f.2 Financial resources allocated to implement the measure:

N/A

## g. Name of NGOs and/or private companies engaged in the implementation of the measure, if any:

/

## h.1. Implement the provisions of the Convention?:

Yes

## h.2. Support/nurture policy discussion inspired by the Convention?:

No

**h.3. Other reasons unrelated to the Convention?:**

Yes

**i. Has the implementation of the measure been evaluated?:**

No

# Promoting Gender Equality in Georgia

## **b. Key objectives of the measures:**

The measure supports prevention and elimination of all kind of gender discrimination in all spheres of social life, creates appropriate conditions for implementation of equal rights, freedoms and opportunities of women and men; It also promotes Women's political and economic empowerment; enhancement of women's role in peace and security efforts and protection of domestic violence victims/survivors.

## **c.1. the scope of the measure:**

National  
International

## **c.2. the nature of the measure:**

legislative  
institutional

## **c.3. the main feature of the measure:**

In 2011 The Parliament of Georgia approved The Action Plan 2012-2015 for implementation of the UN Security Council on "Women, Peace and security". The document is focused solely on domestic violence and supports: participation of women in security and peace-building related matters; consideration of women's needs in conflict prevention processes; preventing sexual and gender based violence against women in the conflict and post-conflict period; protecting women affected by conflict and war from the threats of physical, social, economic and political nature; addressing special needs of women in war/conflict and post-conflict situations. In 2015 was drafted and prepared for approval the National Action Plan on the Measures to be Implemented for Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence and Protection of Victims/Survivors, both covering the 2016-2017 period. The document covers violence against women more broadly, including both, domestic and sexual violence issues. According the national Law on Gender Equality, Gender Equality Council was established at the Parliament of Georgia for the purpose of ensuring regular and coordinated work on gender issues. The Council submits the annual report on the status of gender equality in Georgia to the Parliament of Georgia, prepares reports on the status of implementation of obligations assumed at the international level with respect to gender equality. In 2014, The Parliament of Georgia adopted the National Action Plan 2014-2016 for Implementation of Gender Equality Policy. The Action Plan aims at creating and strengthening institutional mechanisms and platforms for better addressing gender equality issues and approximating the national law on gender equalities with international standards. 2015 was declared as the Year of Women by the President of Georgia offering an exceptional opportunity for further advancement of women's rights and underlining the need to increase participation of women in public and political life including through temporary special measures and quotas.

## **d. Does it specifically target individuals and/or social groups as defined in Article 7 of the Convention?:**

Yes

## **List targeted individual/social groups:**

women, policy makers

## **e. What are the results expected through the implementation of the measure?:**

Women's political and economic rights are empowered; equality in labor relations, in the sphere of education and science, in access to informational resources, in the sphere of healthcare and social protection, in family relations are guaranteed; women's role in peace and security efforts are enhanced; violence against women and girls is prevented; regular dialogue on advancement of women's rights and gender equality is set up; DV victims/survivors are protected and specialized services for victims/survivors of sexual violence in Georgia are established.

**f.1 Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the measure:**

Government of Georgia

**f.2 Financial resources allocated to implement the measure:**

N/A

**g. Name of NGOs and/or private companies engaged in the implementation of the measure, if any:**

/

**h.1. Implement the provisions of the Convention?:**

Yes

**h.2. Support/nurture policy discussion inspired by the Convention?:**

Yes

**h.3. Other reasons unrelated to the Convention?:**

Yes

**i. Has the implementation of the measure been evaluated?:**

No

# National Youth Policy of Georgia

## b. Key objectives of the measures:

The Georgian National Youth Strategy document was developed in 2015 by the Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs of Georgia with the joint efforts of the state agencies, the youth, the civil society, the private sector and international and local organizations. The document regulates a wide range of issues related to the development of persons of 14-29 years of age. The Youth Policy aims at encouraging establishment of relevant environment for a comprehensive youth development to fully realize their potential and active involvement in all the spheres of the public life. In order to achieve this goal, the Youth Policy encompasses the following priorities: - Creating opportunities for the youth to be involved in social, economic, cultural and political life; - Creating opportunities for appropriate and high quality education, worthy employment and professional growth for the youth;

- Establishing a healthy lifestyle and improving access to and quality of the healthcare services provided in the youth friendly environment;
- Increasing awareness among young people on the civil rights and responsibilities, and creating a safe and secure environment for young people, protecting their rights and supporting the young people with special needs.

With regard to the culture, policy objectives are as follows:

- increase the scope of cultural, creative and recreational programs
- involve more young people in preservation of cultural heritage monuments;
- increase awareness of young compatriots residing abroad about the cultural, ingenious and recreational life of their home country,
- facilitate participation of the young people residing on the occupied territories in the cultural life of the country and help maintain the contact of young people separated by the occupation borders
- encourage preserving cultural and ethnic diversity.

### c.1. the scope of the measure:

Regional  
National

### c.2. the nature of the measure:

regulatory  
financial  
institutional

### c.3. the main feature of the measure:

The National Youth Strategy covers 4 strategic directions: Participation; Education, employment and mobility; Health and Special Support and Protection. Participation is focused on: raising the youth awareness regarding their civil rights and responsibilities ; promoting non-formal education in youth work ; enhancing relevant skills and opportunities for young people to participate in the decision making process ; supporting youth initiatives ; developing the culture of volunteering, support involvement of young people in cultural, creative and leisure activities; raising environmental awareness and involving young people in environmental activities. Under Education priority are envisaged : increasing qualifications, competitiveness and work efficiency of young people; creating

relevant conditions for education for all the young people; increasing efforts to improve the social and economic living conditions of young people residing in the regions, mountainous areas and in the areas adjacent to the occupation lines ; support the academic mobility of students and academic staff in teaching, learning and research processes both in Georgia and abroad. Health priority focuses on promoting healthy lifestyle amongst young people ; increasing the awareness and education about sexual and reproductive health and rights and improving accessibility to and quality of medical services; developing services for improving young people's mental health ; carrying out a vigorous campaign to prevent abuse of psychoactive drugs among the young people. Special support and Protection aims at increasing the opportunities offered by social assistance programs in order to better meet the needs of young people affected by poverty ; preventing crimes and ensuring reintegration and resocialization of young people with special needs ; raising awareness of young people about their rights, promoting the culture of non-violence and safety among young people and providing special protection and supporting young victims of violence, inhuman and derogatory treatment and dignity defamation.

**d. Does it specifically target individuals and/or social groups as defined in Article 7 of the Convention?:**

Yes

**List targeted individual/social groups:**

Youth

**e. What are the results expected through the implementation of the measure?:**

The youth will be encouraged to participate in social, economic, cultural and political life of the country; Accessibility to healthcare will be improved. Awareness among young people on the civil rights and responsibilities will be raised ensuring safe and secure environment for young people; Inclusiveness of young people with special needs will be guaranteed.-

**f.1 Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the measure:**

Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs of Georgia

**f.2 Financial resources allocated to implement the measure:**

N/A.

**g. Name of NGOs and/or private companies engaged in the implementation of the measure, if any:**

/

**h.1. Implement the provisions of the Convention?:**

Yes

**h.2. Support/nurture policy discussion inspired by the Convention?:**

Yes

**h.3. Other reasons unrelated to the Convention?:**

Yes

**i. Has the implementation of the measure been evaluated?:**

No



# Become a Young Ambassador of Your Country

## b. Key objectives of the measures:

The main objective of the programme is engaging youth in the promotion of Georgia's cultural and intellectual potential abroad.

## c.1. the scope of the measure:

International

## c.2. the nature of the measure:

financial

## c.3. the main feature of the measure:

The International Education Centre (IEC) of Georgia has launched a new program for young Georgian Ambassadors to enhance relations with foreign partners. The IEC, a Government-initiated entity that supported quality education abroad, developed a new program for Georgian IEC scholarship recipients learning abroad to represent their home nation during the year they carry out their overseas education. If selected, the young Ambassadors major task would be to raise awareness of Georgia by hosting fun activities, teach students about Georgia's unique history and culture and encourage interest in Georgia's economic, sporting, youth issues and more. The programme gives the young Georgians living and studying abroad an opportunity to become "young ambassadors" for one-year and thus inform their peers in the host countries about Georgia's economy, education, culture, sports, youth policy and history; also creating a network of foreign young friends, representatives of Georgian Diaspora; promotion of prospective staff for the public service. In the frames of the Young Ambassadors Meeting, the young ambassadors present their one-year action plan and have meetings with the representatives of cultural, economical and other spheres. The selection of the Young Ambassadors is based upon an open competition that envisages participation of young Georgian students abroad (from 18 to 29).

## d. Does it specifically target individuals and/or social groups as defined in Article 7 of the Convention?:

Yes

## List targeted individual/social groups:

youth, diaspora

## e. What are the results expected through the implementation of the measure?:

The results expected are as follows:

- Visibility and promotion of the country through informing foreign young people of country's culture and its intellectual potential
- Creation of the "Friends of Georgia" network
- Establishment of links with Georgian diaspora.

## f.1 Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the measure:

International Educational Center

## f.2 Financial resources allocated to implement the measure:

The government of Georgia financially supports the initiatives of the selected Young Ambassadors. Programme envisages allocation of fixed amount of approx. 7000 GEL (2800 Euro) per applicant.

**g. Name of NGOs and/or private companies engaged in the implementation of the measure, if any:**

/

**h.1. Implement the provisions of the Convention?:**

No

**h.2. Support/nurture policy discussion inspired by the Convention?:**

No

**h.3. Other reasons unrelated to the Convention?:**

Yes

**i. Has the implementation of the measure been evaluated?:**

No

## CIVIL SOCIETY

### **Have you taken or supported initiatives involving civil society in activities::**

**Promote the objectives of the convention through awareness raising and other activities:** Yes

**Please explain how:**

In 2013 civil society was involved in drafting Culture Development Concept. Later, in 2015 civil society organizations were invited by the Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection of Georgia to participate in the kick-off meeting organized within the framework of the conference presenting the Georgian Culture Strategy Roadmap. During the whole process of strategy elaboration, the Ministry held the regular dialogue with the civil society regarding identification of problems, priorities, objectives and tasks to be addressed by the policy. The special 'Coordinating Group' was established by the Ministry composed of 34 members representing cultural professionals and civil society organizations for the above purpose

**Collect data and share and exchange information on measures adopted at local and international level:**

Yes

**Please explain how:**

In the framework of the project - Diverse Georgia - Civil Society Platform for Cultural Diversity implemented under the Participation Program (2014-2015), a package of recommendations concerning the implementation of the Convention for the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions was elaborated on behalf of the non-governmental sector. The Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection of Georgia, being an associate partner of the project, took into consideration the set of recommendations while working on the article concerning the protection and promotion of cultural diversity in Georgia in Culture Strategy 2025. COMPENDIUM - Cultural Policies and Trends in Europe - monitors implementation of activities related with UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions in 43 countries. Country Profile - Georgia is permanently updated by the NGO YTA Union. Statistic information with regards to the main streams of the cultural policy as well as the activities of the civil society and NGO's being in line with main topics of the Convention are provided in the profile. In 2014 an official webpage of Culture Strategy 2025, aimed at strengthening public involvement through strategy elaboration process, was launched. From 2014 onwards the information about public consultations on culture policy issues, reports, protocols and minutes, regulatory acts and laws are regularly published. To increase the participation of the general society in the process of developing the Strategy, the questionnaire about culture policy priorities were published; in February 2015 the first draft of the Strategy document was open for public comments.

**Provide spaces where ideas of civil societies can be heard and discussed while developing policies:**

No

**Please explain how:**

The Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection of Georgia began to work on the own strategic document. Under Order N03/121 of the Ministry of July 29, 2013 was established the ad hoc Commission for development of cultural policy and strategy. The Commission has developed the Cultural Policy Concept, which gives the top priority to the conduct of interdisciplinary research. According to the project the concept of the Georgian cultural policy is based on the universally recognized principles and the UNESCO Convention October 20, 2005. The members of the State Commission were exclusively the representatives of the civil society and experts. A number of round tables and meetings was held with the involvement of the NGO's and experts. In 2014, on the initiative of the Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection of Georgia the memorandum was signed between the mentioned Ministry and 40 NGO's. The memorandum envisages the

cooperation in the sphere of cultural policy elaboration and the exchange of relevant information. In 2015, the kick-off conference Culture Strategy 2025: People, Process, Priorities was organized by the Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection of Georgia and the roadmap for developing Culture Strategy 2025 was presented to the large public. The Roadmap determining the active involvement of the civil society during the culture strategy elaboration process. Various cultural NGOs and representatives of civil society, cultural professionals participated in the conference. The main pillars of the Strategy elaboration process were openness, transparency and public participation. Within the strategy elaboration process, the Strategy Coordination Team composed of 34 experts representing civil society organisations was approved by the Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection of Georgia. Throughout the strategy elaboration process 30 round tables and thematic meetings were held in the capital and 23 meetings in the regions of Georgia involving civil society groups and cultural professionals. In total around 3000 persons participated in the meet

**Implement Operational Guidelines: Yes**

**Please explain how:**

One of the main objectives of civil society and NGO's is to promote the objectives and the principles of the Convention on the national and international levels. At the same time, in many cases these activities are implemented without any indications of the Convention. Assistance Opportunities under the Eastern Partnership Initiative (EaP): Since 2012 two very important projects started. The projects are funded by the EU Eastern Partnership Culture programme (European Neighborhood Partnership Instrument): 1. "Regional Co-operation for Cultural Heritage Development" (ICOMOS Georgia) - <http://www.rcchd.icomos.org.ge> 2. "Strengthening Creative Industries in Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia: Heritage Crafts – Common Platform for Development" (Georgian Arts & Culture Centre (GACC)). Direct professional co-operation: In Georgia, transnational cooperation involving institutes of fine arts and cultural heritage and local authorities for culture and trade unions are frequent. Most of the interesting and successful projects are initiated by individuals and NGOs or through the bilateral relations of various public and private organisations which have been initiated by personal contacts rather than as a matter of state policy. Early examples: The Georgian Arts & Culture Centre (GACC) actively co-operates with the Concervazione Beni Culturali (Rome, Italy) in cultural heritage projects (European Union Prize for Cultural Heritage / Europa Nostra Awards, 2007). This cooperation includes consultancies, seminars, training in the international practice of conservation, modern conservation materials, microbiological and other related issues. The symposium "Georgian Culture: Past and Present" (24.04.2007) was organised by the Georgian Arts and Culture Center and supported by the Harriman Institute at Columbia University, Tbilisi State Academy of Arts, and the Fulbright Scholar Programme.

**Other: Yes**

**Please explain how:**

Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection of Georgia in partnership with the EU-Eastern Partnership Culture and Creativity Programme organises the Forum, which will be held in December 2016, aimed at developing creative industries in Georgia and across the region. In the framework of the Forum the recommendations elaborated by the representatives (amongst them, the representatives of NGOs) of the different sub-sectors of culture will be presented and further incorporated in different strategic documents, such as the Roadmap of for Developing Creative Industries in Georgia, sectorial strategies, etc. Ministry initiated elaboration of the Roadmap for Developing Creative Industries in Georgia. The aim of the document is to show the role of each stakeholder (the Ministry, LEPLs, other key governmental organisations and the non-governmental sector) in reference to the process of developing creative industries in Georgia and across the region. Also, the Roadmap aims to raise the awareness regarding creative industries in general and how does the sector contribute to the wealth of creative people and the people working in complementary/neighbouring industries.

Attachment	Size
<b>Name of the Organization(s):</b> YTA Union	

## Contribution from Civil Society

**This section is to be completed with information provided by civil society:**

**Has the civil society taken initiatives to::**

**Promote the principle and the objectives of the Convention locally and internationally: No**

**Please explain how:**

**Promote ratification of the Convention and its implementation by governments: No**

**Please explain how:**

**Bring the concerns of citizens, associations and enterprises to public authorities, including vulnerable groups:**

No

**Please explain how:**

**Contribute to the achievement of greater transparency and accountability and accountability in the cultural governance:**

No

**Please explain how:**

**Monitor policy and programme implementation on measures to protect and promote diversity of cultural expression:**

No

**Please explain how:**

**Build capacities in domains linked to the Convention and carrying out data collection: No**

**Please explain how:**

**Create innovative partnerships with the public and private sectors and with civil society of other regions of the worlds:**

No

**Please explain how:**

**Challenges encountered or foreseen to implement the Convention:**

**Solutions found or envisaged:**

**Activities planned for next 4 years to implement the Convention:**

**Supporting attachment provided by the Civil Society:**

Attachment	Size
 Culture in figures	508.88 KB
 internet.pdf	730.29 KB

## Achievements, challenges, solutions and next steps

### **Describe main results achieved in implementing the Convention:**

One of the main results achieved in implementing the Convention is the elaboration of the National Culture Strategy document by the Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection of Georgia (MoC). The Strategy determines the state's vision and objectives committed to meet the challenges in the culture and creative sector in the long-term perspective. The strategy is also committed to meet the demands of the society towards better accessibility of culture. The document is in line with the need to reconsider the role of culture in modern world as it is a driving force for social cohesion and economic prosperity and an integral part of the State's sustainable development. The document covers the main principles of the Convention and acts as an instrument enforcing implementation of the Convention and the local level through different policies and measures. The process of the strategy elaboration itself can be defined as the main achievement since it envisaged active involvement of very wide spectrum of the society (11 th Article of the Convention) namely: local, non-governmental, trade-unions, funds, international donor organizations, business sector, educational and cultural institutions. In parallel to the above process, the MoC in partnership with different NGOs and associations has been supporting the programmes focused on the protection and promotion of diversity of cultural expressions and on the dissemination of culture in the regions. The involvement of the people with disabilities, IDPs and national/ethnic minorities in cultural life was one of the priority areas of the last years. The Association Agreement between Georgia and EU is the most important instrument for successful implementation of the Convention according to which (the Article 362) "The Parties will promote cultural cooperation taking duly into account the principles enshrined in the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions of 2005".

### **Challenges encountered or foreseen to implement the Convention :**

In spite the fact that National Culture Strategy document considers culture and creativity as an integral part of country's sustainable development, it is not integrated yet in National Development Strategy. Even more, there are no relevant indicators and classifiers set-up verifying the share of culture and creativity in the national economy. Therefore, promotion of creative industries was not considered as the priority policy for country's economic development but only its social dimension was underlined. Other challenges still account policy measures supporting digital creativity, digital cultural industry markets, international flows of cultural services, gender equalities, especially in the peripheries, promoting the social and economic rights of artists as well as measures related with spread of cultural services and goods in the regions/peripheries. It should be stressed also the lack of impact assessment of different policies as well as low awareness of policymakers, business sector and society about economic value of culture and the Convention commitments.

### **Solutions found or envisaged to overcome those challenges:**

In order to overcome the above challenges relevant intergovernmental and interagency platforms should be strengthened encouraging dialogue between the state, civil society, business, media sectors as well as coordination and synergy of efforts towards integration of culture and the Convention principles into various policy areas. It is of utmost importance to use and exploit resources of EU and other international donors in sharing knowledge and experience and capacity building of relevant stakeholders. The role of civil society as the watchdog for the implementation of the convention commitments should be reinforced.

**Steps planned for the next 4 years:**

For the next reporting period the Culture Strategy will be approved by the Georgian government; the platform for coordination of implementation of the Convention by all actors will be strengthened that would promote awareness raising campaigns and communication with various stakeholders; the MoC will introduce action plans and cross-cutting plans engaging all policy areas in creation, production and dissemination of culture as well as necessary legislative and capacity building instruments promoting flow of cultural goods and services; media involvement in cultural arena will be enhanced especially with regard to dissemination of diverse cultural expressions; digitization of culture has to be considered as a priority transversal measure. Another important measure will be promoting Creative Georgia through capacity building and organisation of awareness raising campaigns/forums on culture and creative industries for cultural professional and creative entrepreneurs, policymakers and potential 'business angels', etc. about their contribution to job creation, professional growth and their role in country's sustainable development. It is also worth mentioning launching Culture for Development Indicators project within the frames of EU and Eastern Partnership Culture and Creativity Programme highlighting the role of culture in the country's economic and sustainable development.

# SOURCES AND STATISTICS ANNEXES

## 1. Economy and Finance

When reporting data in this section, it is important to define the “cultural sector” for statistical purposes and apply that definition consistently. For guidelines, please refer to the [2009 UNESCO Framework for Cultural Statistics \(FCS\)](#)

### 1.1. Total Flows of Cultural Goods and Services

#### 1.1.a Cultural Goods

(a) Exports in cultural goods	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="▼"/>	<input type="text"/>
(b) Imports in cultural goods	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="▼"/>	<input type="text"/>

#### 1.1.b Cultural Services

(a) Exports in cultural services	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="▼"/>	<input type="text"/>
(b) Imports in cultural services	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="▼"/>	<input type="text"/>

### 1.2. Contribution of cultural activities to Gross Domestic Product (GDP)

(a) Total GDP	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="▼"/>	<input type="text"/>
(b) Share of cultural activities in GDP	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="▼"/>	<input type="text"/>

Which methodology was used to calculate the share of culture in total GDP?

[? More information about text formats](#)

### 1.3. Government expenditure on culture (If not available, please use government expenditure on Recreation and Culture)

(a) Total government expenditure	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="▼"/>	<input type="text"/>
(b) Share of culture in government expenditure	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="▼"/>	<input type="text"/>

## 2. Books

	Num	Sales, USD	Year	Source
<b>(a) Number of published titles</b>	<input type="text" value="0"/>		<input type="text" value="▼"/>	<input type="text"/>
<b>(b) Number of publishing companies</b>				
Total all companies	<input type="text"/>		<input type="text" value="▼"/>	<input type="text"/>
Small Size Companies	<input type="text"/>		<input type="text" value="▼"/>	<input type="text"/>



Programme type	Audience share	Type of ownership	Type of access	Remove
Large size	<input type="text"/>		<input type="text" value="▼"/>	<input type="text"/>

**(c) Bookshops and sales**

Bookstore chains	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="▼"/>	<input type="text"/>
Independent Book stores	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="▼"/>	<input type="text"/>
Book stores in other retail	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="▼"/>	<input type="text"/>
Online Retailers	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="▼"/>	<input type="text"/>

**d) Translation flows**

Number of published translations	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="▼"/>	<input type="text"/>
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**3. Music**

**(a) Production / Number of albums produced:**

	Num	Year	Source
Physical Format	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="▼"/>	<input type="text"/>
Digital format	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="▼"/>	<input type="text"/>
Independent	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="▼"/>	<input type="text"/>
Majors	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="▼"/>	<input type="text"/>

**(b) Sales / Total number of recorded music sales:**

Physical format	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="▼"/>	<input type="text"/>
Digital format	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="▼"/>	<input type="text"/>

**4. Media**

**(a) Broadcasting audience and share**

Year	Source
<input type="text" value="▼"/>	<input type="text"/>

Programme type	Audience share	Type of ownership	Type of access	Remove
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="- None - ▼"/>	<input type="text" value="- None - ▼"/>	

**(b) Broadcasting media organizations****Year****Source**

**Number of domestic media organizations providing**

<b>Ownership:</b>	<b>Radio channels</b>	<b>Television channels</b>	<b>Both radio &amp; television channels</b>	<b>Total</b>
Public	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	0	<input type="text"/>
Private	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	0
Community	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	0
Not specified	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	0
<b>Total</b>	0	0	0	0

**(c) Newspapers (excluding online newspapers only)****Year****Source**


<b>Publishing format - printed:</b>	<b>Daily newspapers</b>	<b>Non-daily newspapers</b>	<b>Total</b>
Free Only	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Paid Only	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Both Free and Paid	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

**Publishing format - both printed and online**

Free Only	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Paid Only	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Both Free and Paid	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<b>Total</b>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

**5. Connectivity, infrastructure, access****Num****Year****Source**

(a) Number of mobile phone subscribers per 1000 inhabitants

(b) Number of households with Internet access

at home

**Attachment****Size**

## 6. Cultural Participation

Percentage of people participating in cultural activities at least one time during the last 12 months

Activity (in %)	Female	Male	Total
Cinema	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Theatre	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Dance (including ballet)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Live concert/musical performance	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Exhibition	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
TOTAL	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Is there any available data on the reasons for the non participation in cultural events?

No  Yes

Main reasons for non-participation (in %).	Female	Male	Total
Too Expensive	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Lack of Interest	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Lack of time	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Lack of information	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Too far away	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Other	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

## 7. Additional clarifications:

Additional Annexes (if any):

Attachment	Size
 Name of stakeholders: Georgia	12.8 KB
 Books	28 KB
 Museums and theaters	26 KB

# SUBMISSION

**Title:**

Mr

**First Name:**

Mikheil

**Family Name:**

Giorgadze

**Organization:**

Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection of Georgia

**Position:**

Minister

**DATE OF SUBMISSION:** 28/9/2016