



gesis

Leibniz Institute
for the Social Sciences

TECHNICAL *Reports*

2010|17

European *Values* Study 

EVS 2008 Method Report

Country Report - Georgia

Documentation of the full data release 30/11/10

Related to the national dataset

Archive-Study-No. ZA4789, doi:10.4232/1.10182

European Values Study and

GESIS Data Archive for the Social Sciences

Acknowledgements

The fieldwork of the 2008 European Values Study (EVS) was financially supported by universities and research institutes, national science foundations, charitable trusts and foundations, companies and church organizations in the EVS member countries.

A major sponsor of the surveys in several Central and Eastern European countries was Renovabis.



Renovabis - Solidarity initiative of the German Catholics with the people in Central and Eastern Europe: Project No. MOE016847 <http://www.renovabis.de/>.

An overview of all national sponsors of the 2008 survey is provided in the "EVS 2008 Method Report" in section funding agency/sponsor, the "EVS 2008 Guidelines and Recommendations", and on the website of the European Values Study <http://www.europeanvaluesstudy.eu/evs/sponsoring.html>.

The project would not have been possible without the National Program Directors in the EVS member countries and their local teams.

Gallup Europe developed a special questionnaire translation system WebTrans, which appeared to be very valuable and enhanced the quality of the project.

Special thanks also go to the teams at Tilburg University, CEPS/INSTEAD Luxembourg, and GESIS Data Archive for the Social Sciences Cologne.

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Introduction

The present paper is an excerpt from the "EVS 2008 Method Report" on the Integrated Dataset published in volume 17 of series GESIS-Technical Reports in December 2010.

The EVS 2008 Method Report provides standardised information on the survey implementation and fieldwork procedures in the EVS member countries. Metadata includes all information given in the methodological questionnaires completed by each national team or the fieldwork organization.

After the EVS reviewed the fieldwork information it was archived in a database designed by the GESIS Data Archive. The outcome of the database was reviewed by the national teams and/or fieldwork organization before making them publicly available.

The structure of the database corresponds to DDI/XML V.2 standards and ensures different output formats. This allows users to choose between several approaches to the standardized information: the "EVS 2008 Method Report" on the Integrated Dataset (PDF), a HTML surface that offers an extended Study Description, and the GESIS retrieval and analysis systems Online Study Catalogue ZACAT and Data Catalogue.

The Method Report consists of three sections providing metadata on the Integrated Dataset and the 47 national datasets:

Section one provides brief information on the EVS including an overview of all data and documentation available for EVS 2008 and refers to an easy way to get data access.

The study description of the Integrated Dataset in section two contains more general information and summarized country-specific information on study scope, principal investigator, funding agency, data depositor, data access and version, etc.

The third section includes the current country report on the national dataset providing comprehensive country-specific information on sampling procedure, mode of data collection, fieldwork procedure, and additional country-specific information on harmonized variables (electoral systems, political parties, education, occupation, and region).

1 European Values Study

Where is Europe heading? This is one of the main questions of the European Values Study (EVS) – the most comprehensive research project on human values in Europe. The EVS is a large-scale, cross-national, and longitudinal survey research program on how Europeans think about family, work, religion, politics and society. Repeated every nine years in an increasing number of countries, the survey provides insights into the ideas, beliefs, preferences, attitudes, values, and opinions of citizens all over Europe.

The research program was initiated by the European Value System Study Group (EVSSG) in the late 1970s and has emerged as a well-established network of social and political scientists aiming at high standards in data creation and processing. The data is being intensively used in social science research and teaching. It may also be of interest to policymakers, politicians, journalists, and others interested in getting to know and understand the societies which they are part of.

Four waves of surveys were executed from 1981 to 2008. These surveys explore value differences, similarities, and value changes. Representative national samples were drawn from the population of citizens over 18 years of age and face-to-face interviews were carried out. Standardized questionnaires with comparable questions across waves were then administered.

- The first wave was conducted in 1981, when citizens of the European Member States of that time were interviewed. The national datasets were combined into an international dataset including a total of 16 countries.
- The second wave was launched in 1990 to explore the dynamics of value change. It covered almost the same themes as the first wave. Surveys were carried out in 29 European, as well as other countries.
- The wave in 1999/2000 was administered in 33 countries. Several new issues, such as questions on solidarity, social capital, democracy, and work ethics were added to the questionnaire of this wave.
- The fourth wave was carried out in 2008 and included a total of 47 European countries/regions. Again, the questions in this wave are highly comparable across waves and across countries. In addition, this wave has a strong focus on region, both within and across countries.

1.1 EVS 1981–2008: Participating countries

Specific information on country surveys and integrated data of single waves is available at the [GESIS Data Catalogue](#). The Study Descriptions include notes about Version History & Errata along with the information on the origin and context of the data.

Table 1: Participating countries in European Values Study 1981–2008

Country/Region	1981	1990	1999	2008
USA	1982	1990		
Canada	1982	1990		
Belgium	1981	1990	1999	2009
Denmark	1981	1990	1999	2008
France	1981	1990	1999	2008
Germany*	1981	1990	1999	2008/2009
Great Britain	1981	1990	1999	2009/2010
Iceland	1984	1990	1999	2009/2010
Ireland	1981	1990	2000	2008
Italy	1981	1990	1999	2009
Malta	1984	1991	1999	2008
Netherlands	1981	1990	1999	2008
Northern Ireland	1981	1990	1999	2008
Spain	1981	1990	1999	2008
Sweden	1982	1990	2000	2009/2010
Norway	1982	1990		2008
Austria		1990	1999	2008
Bulgaria		1991	1999	2008
Czech Republic		1991	1999	2008
Estonia		1990	1999	2008
Finland		1990	2000	2009
Hungary		1991	1999	2008/2009
Latvia		1990	1999	2008
Lithuania		1990	1999	2008
Poland		1990	1999	2008
Portugal		1990	1999	2008
Romania		1993	1999	2008
Slovak Republic		1991	1999	2008
Slovenia		1992	1999	2008
Belarus			2000	2008
Croatia			1999	2008
Greece			1999	2008
Luxembourg			1999	2008
Russian Federation			1999	2008
Turkey			1999	2008/2009
Ukraine			2001	2008
Albania				2008
Armenia				2008
Azerbaijan				2008
Bosnia and Herzegovina				2008
Cyprus				2008
Northern Cyprus				2008
Georgia				2008
Kosovo				2008
Macedonia, Republic of				2008
Moldova, Republic of				2008
Montenegro, Republic of				2008
Serbia				2008
Switzerland				2008

*1981 only West-Germany

1.2 EVS 2008

The fourth wave has a persistent focus on a broad range of values. Questions with respect to family, work, religious, political and societal values are highly comparable with those in earlier waves (1981, 1990 and 1999/2000). This longitudinal scope of the study makes it possible to study trends in time. EVS draws random probability samples with a net sample size 1500 which again differs in countries regarding their population size. Usually citizens were interviewed personally (face-to-face).

The EVS 2008 has an increasing international and regional coverage. It covers almost all countries of Europe. In total, the fieldwork is administered in 47 countries/regions:

Albania, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Cyprus (North), Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Great-Britain, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Kosovo, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Republic of Macedonia, Malta, Republic of Moldova, Republic of Montenegro, The Netherlands, Northern Ireland, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine.

The full data release (Version 2.0.0, 2010-11-30) includes data and documentation of all participating countries/regions in EVS 2008.

Large efforts were taken to guarantee high scientific standards in developing and translating the Master Questionnaire and the field questionnaires, high quality fieldwork, and standardized data processing and documentation.

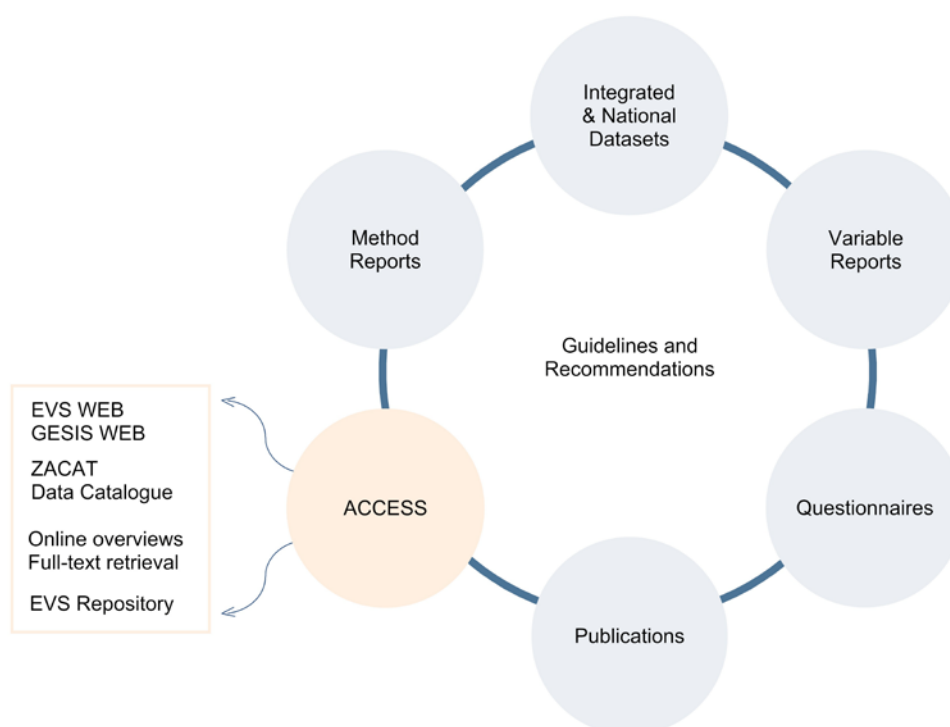
A set of guidelines and recommendations was set up and the whole process of data creation and processing was guided and monitored by the EVS advisory groups.

For more information, see the report "EVS 2008 Guidelines and Recommendations" provided on EVS website and additionally via GESIS Online Study Catalogue - ZACAT and Data Catalogue.

1.3 Overview of data and documentation of EVS 2008

The documentation created for the fourth EVS wave includes both the guidelines and standards developed to produce comparable data and detailed information on peculiarities of the national datasets on study and variable level.

Figure 1: Overview of available data and documentation



Data

Beside the Integrated Dataset the national datasets, including additional country-specific variables, are provided through ZACAT for national rather than multinational use.

Reports

Standards and recommendations designed by the EVS advisory groups for all countries are compiled in the report "EVS 2008 Guidelines and Recommendations". The information is mainly related to the questionnaire development and translation process, fieldwork, and data processing.

The "EVS 2008 Method Report" includes both summarized information on the Integrated Dataset and country reports with country-specific information on the origin of the national datasets. It is based on the methodological questionnaires submitted by all EVS member countries.

The English variable documentation on the Integrated Dataset and the bilingual variable report on each national dataset are available as "EVS 2008 - Variable Reports".

Questionnaires

The English Master Questionnaire and the field questionnaires in all languages fielded in participating countries are downloadable.

Publications

The EVS repository is an easy way to find relevant publications based on EVS data. Moreover, it contains enhanced publications with direct links to the dataset, variables, and syntax codes of the concepts used.

1.4 Access to data and documentation

The data and documentation of the four EVS waves is publicly available at the EVS and GESIS websites.

General study information

The EVS website (<http://www.europeanvaluesstudy.eu/>) covers information on the origin of the project, and the master questionnaires as well as field questionnaires in different language versions. Additionally, method reports and original language variable reports of integrated and/or national datasets are offered for the third and fourth EVS wave.

Data and documentation

ZACAT - GESIS Online Study Catalogue provides data of all EVS waves for retrieval purposes, data exploration and free download. It supports full access to datasets and documentation and assists users in identifying trend variables of all four waves. Furthermore, ZACAT enables comparisons of original questions in survey languages of the third and fourth wave.

Version History & Errata

GESIS Data Catalogue provides an overview on version history and errata. It contains study descriptions for all EVS datasets with information about updates, errors, and error corrections.

Online study and variable information

Online study description and variable overview offer comprehensive metadata on the EVS datasets and variables.

The **extended study description** of the EVS 2008 provides country-specific information on the origin and outcomes of the national surveys.

The **variable overview** is available for the four EVS waves 1981- 2008. It allows identification of country-specific deviations in the question wording within and across the waves.

Full-text retrieval

Qbase-retrieval system is a facility for word/phrase searches in EVS text documents.

Method report retrieval supports full-text searches in EVS 2008 guidelines and method reports of both integrated and national datasets.

Question text retrieval serves for full-text searches in the Master Questionnaire and variable reports of integrated datasets of all EVS waves 1981-2008 and in bilingual variable reports of national datasets.

Publication

EVS Repository contains publications based on the data of the EVS. These publications are mostly enhanced with direct links to datasets, variables, and syntax codes of concepts used. The EVS Repository can be found at <http://www.europeanvaluesstudy.eu/evs/publications/>.

Secondary education

In cooperation with Fontys University of Applied Sciences Netherlands, a special EVS website for educational use has been established (<http://www.atlasofeuropeanvalues.eu/>). By means of maps, teachers and pupils can make assignments and gain a better understanding of European values.

The Atlas of European Values

Published in 2005, the Atlas of European Values unlocks the results of the EVS project for the general public. It presents values, beliefs, attitudes, and opinions through graphs, charts, and maps (<http://www.europeanvaluesstudy.eu/evs/evsatlas.html>).

1.5 Bibliographic Citation

Publications based on EVS data should acknowledge this by means of bibliographic citations. To ensure that such source attributions are captured for social science bibliographic utilities, citations must appear in the footnotes or in the reference section of publications.

How to cite the data:

EVS (2010): European Values Study 2008, 4th wave, Georgia. GESIS Data Archive, Cologne, Germany, ZA4789 Data File Version 1.1.0 (2010-11-30), [doi:10.4232/1.10182](https://doi.org/10.4232/1.10182).

The country report is an excerpt from the EVS 2008 Method Report on Integrated Dataset published in volume 17 of series GESIS-Technical Reports. This paper should be cited as the following publication:

EVS, GESIS (2010): EVS 2008 Method Report. GESIS-Technical Reports 2010/17. Retrieved from <http://www.europeanvaluesstudy.eu/>.

In addition to data files a study comprises further data depositor's original documents and materials processed by the Data Archive: for example code sheets, questionnaires or reports. It is recommended to acknowledge respective documents from the archive holdings in publications by means of bibliographic citations including Archive-Study-No.

Disclaimer

EVS, GESIS, and the producers bear no responsibility for the uses of the EVS data, or for interpretations or inferences based on these uses. EVS, GESIS, and the producers accept no liability for indirect, consequential or incidental damages or losses arising from use of the data collection, or from the unavailability of, or break in access to the service for whatever reason.

Country Report
Georgia

Study Description

EUROPEAN VALUES STUDY 2008 - GEORGIA

I. BIBLIOGRAPHIC CITATION

STUDY NO.

ZA4789

VERSION

Data File Version 1.1.0 (2010-11-30) doi:10.4232/1.10182 (<http://dx.doi.org/10.4232/1.10182>)

ALTERNATIVE TITLE

EVS 2008

STUDY COLLECTION: TITLE

European Values Study

STUDY COLLECTION: DESCRIPTION

The EVS is a large-scale, cross-national, and longitudinal survey research program on basic human values conducted in 1981 (16 countries), 1990 (29 countries), 1999/2000 (33 countries), and 2008 in 47 countries/regions.

AUTHORING ENTITY

European Values Study at Tilburg University

PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Dr. Merab Pachulia (Program director)

Nino Gulashvili (Key researcher), Irina Pilia (Fieldwork director), Dr. Joseph Gogodze (Data processing)

FUNDING AGENCY/SPONSOR

European Values Study (EVS) Foundation, Department of Sociology, Tilburg University
Renovabis

DATA DEPOSITOR

Merab Pachulia

DATA DISTRIBUTOR

GESIS - Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences, Data Archive

Bachemer Str. 40, 50931 Köln, Germany; Postal address: Postfach 41 09 60, 50869 Köln, Germany

Phone: +49/(0)221/47694-0; Fax: +49/(0)221/47694-44

GESIS Web: <http://www.gesis.org/>

EVS Web: <http://www.europeanvaluesstudy.eu/>

BIBLIOGRAPHIC CITATION

EVS (2010): European Values Study 2008, 4th wave, Georgia. GESIS Data Archive, Cologne, Germany, ZA4789 Data File Version 1.1.0 (2010-11-30) doi:10.4232/1.10182 (<http://dx.doi.org/10.4232/1.10182>).

II. STUDY SCOPE

TOPIC CLASSIFICATION

Moral, religious, societal, political, work, and family values of Europeans.

ABSTRACT

Study Description

Topics: 1. Perceptions of life: importance of work, family, friends and acquaintances, leisure time, politics and religion; frequency of political discussions with friends; happiness; self-assessment of own health; memberships and unpaid work (volunteering) in: social welfare services, religious or church organisations, education, or cultural activities, labour unions, political parties, local political actions, human rights, environmental or peace movement, professional associations, youth work, sports clubs, women's groups, voluntary associations concerned with health or other groups; tolerance towards minorities (people with a criminal record, of a different race, left/right wing extremists, alcohol addicts, large families, emotionally unstable people, Muslims, immigrants, AIDS sufferers, drug addicts, homosexuals, Jews, gypsies and Christians - social distance); trust in people; estimation of people's fair and helpful behaviour; internal or external control; satisfaction with life.

2. Work: reasons for people to live in need; importance of selected aspects of occupational work; employment status; general work satisfaction; freedom of decision-taking in the job; importance of work (work ethics, scale); important aspects of leisure time; attitude towards following instructions at work without criticism (obedience work); give priority to nationals over foreigners as well as men over women in jobs.

3. Religion: Individual or general clear guidelines for good and evil; religious denomination; current and former religious denomination; current frequency of church attendance and at the age of 12; importance of religious celebration at birth, marriage, and funeral; self-assessment of religiousness; churches give adequate answers to moral questions, problems of family life, spiritual needs and social problems of the country; belief in God, life after death, hell, heaven, sin and re-incarnation; personal God versus spirit or life force; own way of connecting with the divine; interest in the sacred or the supernatural; attitude towards the existence of one true religion; importance of God in one's life (10-point-scale); experience of comfort and strength from religion and belief; moments of prayer and meditation; frequency of prayers; belief in lucky charms or a talisman (10-point-scale); attitude towards the separation of church and state.

4. Family and marriage: most important criteria for a successful marriage (scale); attitude towards childcare (a child needs a home with father and mother, a woman has to have children to be fulfilled, marriage is an out-dated institution, woman as a single-parent); attitude towards marriage, children, and traditional family structure (scale); attitude towards traditional understanding of one's role of man and woman in occupation and family (scale); attitude towards: respect and love for parents, parent's responsibilities for their children and the responsibility of adult children for their parents when they are in need of long-term care; importance of educational goals; attitude towards abortion.

5. Politics and society: political interest; political participation; preference for individual freedom or social equality; self-assessment on a left-right continuum (10-point-scale); self-responsibility or governmental provision; free decision of job-taking of the unemployed or no permission to refuse a job; advantage or harmfulness of competition; liberty of firms or governmental control; equal incomes or incentives for individual efforts; attitude concerning capitalism versus government ownership; postmaterialism (scale); expectation of future development (less emphasis on money and material possessions, greater respect for authority); trust in institutions; satisfaction with democracy; assessment of the political system of the country as good or bad (10-point-scale); preferred type of political system (strong leader, expert decisions, army should rule the country, or democracy); attitude towards democracy (scale).

6. Moral attitudes (scale: claiming state benefits without entitlement, cheating on taxes, joyriding, taking soft drugs, lying, adultery, bribe money, homosexuality, abortion, divorce, euthanasia, suicide, corruption, paying cash, casual sex, avoiding fare on public transport, prostitution, experiments with human embryos, genetic manipulation of food, insemination or in-vitro fertilization and death penalty).

7. National identity: geographical group the respondent feels belonging to (town, region of country, country, Europe, the world); citizenship; national pride; fears associated with the European Union (the loss of social security and national identity, growing expenditure of the own country, the loss of power in the world for one's own country and the loss of jobs); attitude towards the enlargement of the European Union (10-point-scale); voting intentions in the next election and party preference; party that appeals most; preferred immigrant policy; opinion on terrorism; attitude towards immigrants and their customs and traditions (take jobs away, undermine a country's cultural life, make crime problems worse, strain on country's welfare system, threat to society, maintain distinct customs and traditions); feeling like a

Study Description

stranger in one's own country; too many immigrants; important aspects of national identity (being born in the country, to respect country's political institutions and laws, to have country's ancestry, to speak the national language, to have lived for a long time in the country); interest in politics in the media; give authorities information to help justice versus stick to own affairs; closeness to family, neighbourhood, the people in the region, countrymen, Europeans and mankind; concerned about the living conditions of elderly people, unemployed, immigrants and sick or disabled people.

8. Environment: attitude towards the environment (scale: readiness to give part of own income for the environment, overpopulation, disastrous consequences from human interference with nature, human ingenuity remains earth fit to live in, the balance of nature is strong enough to cope with the impacts of modern industrial nations, humans were meant to rule over the rest of nature, an ecological catastrophe is inevitable).

Demography: sex; age (year of birth); born in the country of interview; country of birth; year of immigration into the country; father and mother born in the country; country of birth of father and mother; current legal marital status; living together with the partner before marriage or before the registration of partnership; living together with a partner and living with a partner before; steady relationship; married to previous partner; living together with previous partner before marriage; end of relationship; number of children; year of birth of the first child; size and composition of household; experienced events: the death of a child, of father or mother, the divorce of a child, of the parents or of another relative; age of respondent when these events took place; age at completion of education; highest educational level attained; employment status; employed or self-employed in the last job; profession (ISCO-88) and occupational position; supervising function and span of control; size of company.

Social origin and partner: respondent's partner or spouse: partner was born in the country and partner's country of birth; highest educational level; employment status of the partner; employment or self-employment of the partner in his/her last job; partner's profession (ISCO-88) and occupational position; supervising function of the partner and span of control; unemployment and dependence on social-security of the respondent and his partner longer than three months in the last five years; scale of household income; living together with parents when the respondent was 14 years old; highest educational level of father/mother; employment status of father/mother when the respondent was 14 years old; profession of father/mother (ISCO-88) and kind of work; number of employees (size of business); supervising function and span of control of father and mother; characterization of the parents when respondent was 14 years old (scale: liked to read books, discussed politics at home with their child, liked to follow the news, had problems making ends meet, had problems replacing broken things); region the respondent lived at the age of 14, present place of residence (postal code); size of town; region.

Interviewer rating: respondent's interest in the interview.

Additionally encoded: interviewer number; date of the interview; total length of the interview; time of the interview (start hour and start minute, end hour and end minute); language in which the interview was conducted.

Additional country specific variables are included in the national datasets.

UNIT OF ANALYSIS

Individuals

UNIVERSE

Persons 18 years or older who are resident within private households, regardless of nationality and citizenship or language.

GEOGRAPHIC UNITS

	Was there any regional categories changed since EVS 1999?	
	Yes	

Study Description

<input type="checkbox"/>	No	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Country having not participated to EVS 1999	X

Please list the categories in the variable Region in the data set

GE11	Tbilisi
GE15	Adjara
GE23	Guria
GE26	Imereti
GE29	Kakheti
GE32	Mtskheta-Mtianeti
GE35	Racha
GE38	Samegrelo - Zemo Svaneti
GE41	Samtskhe-Djavakheti
GE44	Kvemo Kartli
GE47	Shida Kartli

KIND OF DATA

Survey data

FIELDWORK PERIOD

21-08-2008 to 30-09-2008

III. METHODOLOGY AND PROCESSING

TIME METHOD

Cross section, partly repetitive

NUMBER OF VARIABLES

441

NUMBER OF UNITS

1500

ADDITIONAL COUNTRY-SPECIFIC VARIABLES

a. Additional country-specific questions included in the questionnaire:		
Yes		
No		X
b. Will additional country-specific variables be included in the data set deposited:		NAP
Yes		
No		
c. Will documentation of additional country-specific questions be deposited:		NAP
Yes		
No		

FIELDWORK ORGANISATION

GORBI Gallup International

8th office, 8 Peking street Tbilisi, Georgia

Study Description

LANGUAGE OF THE INTERVIEWS

Georgian and Russian

QUESTIONNAIRE TRANSLATION

WebTrans is a questionnaire database and translation system designed by Gallup Europe.

a. WebTrans has been used fully	X
WebTrans has not been used fully, but questions will be updated	
WebTrans has not been used (fully)	
b. Translation of questionnaire items changed since EVS 1999:	NAP
Yes	
No	
c. If Yes, please list the question numbers:	NAP
d. Who did the translation of the questionnaire?	
The fieldwork agency	
The Programme Director or its team	X
Any other person (please specify):	
e. Were professional translators involved in the translation process?	
Yes	X
No	
f. What type of translation procedure was followed?	NAP
Simple back-translation	
Iterative back-translation	
Other types of back-translation procedure	
TRADP or equivalent	
None of these	
g. Were there any questions or concepts that caused particular problems when being translated into your language?	
Yes	
No	X
Which	

MODE OF DATA COLLECTION

Mode(s) of administration of the data collection (tick all applicable):	
CAPI (Computer assisted)	
PAPI (Paper)	X
Any other	

FIELD WORK PROCEDURE

Study Description

A. INTERVIEWERS TRAINING		
Total number of interviewers:		56
Number of experienced interviewers:		56
Number of inexperienced interviewers:		0
How many of the interviewers received specific training for this survey?		56
How many members of the research team attended/participated/organized training sessions of interviewers?		
Written EVS specific instructions:		
Yes		X
No		
Training in refusal conversion:		
Yes		X
No		
B. EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF THE INTERVIEWERS		
a. Employment status of interviewers:		
Free-lance interviewers		
Employed by the survey organization		X
Other (please give details):		
b. Payment of interviewers:		
Hourly		
Per completed interview		X
Assigned payment (a fix payment for an assigned number of interviews)		
Regular fixed salary		
Bonus payment		
Other (please give details):		
C. VISITS TO THE RESPONDENTS		
Total number of minimum visits per respondent/sampling unit:		3
Among the total, required visits on week-ends:		
Among the total, required visits in the evening:		
D. ENHANCING THE INTERVIEWS, INCENTIVES		
a. Was any information, advance letter, brochure, leaflet used?		
Use of advance letter		No
Use of brochure, leaflet, written information		No
b. Was any incentive offered to respondent?		
No incentives		X
Unconditional monetary incentives (paid before the interview)		
Conditional monetary incentives (upon completion of the interview)		
Unconditional non-monetary incentives (given before the interview)		
Conditional non-monetary incentives (upon completion of the interview)		
Please specify and give as much details as possible about the incentives:		
c. Use of other types of response enhancing measures (call-center, web-pages, hotline):		
Yes		
No		X
If yes, please specify and give as much details as possible about the procedure:		
E. STRATEGY FOR REFUSAL CONVERSION		
Yes		

Study Description

No	X
If yes, please specify and give as much details as possible about the procedure:	
F. PRETEST PERIOD (DD/MM/YY)	
From: 15-07-08	
To: 23-07-08	
Number of pretest interviews:	20

CONTROL OPERATIONS

Please note that refusals and non-contacts refer to what is considered as the final status of the sample unit.

	Interviews	Refusals	Non-contacts
Number of units selected for back-checking	100	70	40
Number of back-check achieved	75	53	25
Number of units where outcome was confirmed	75	53	15
Type of back-checks: P(ersonal), T(elephone) or M(ail)	20 (P) 50 (T)	53 (P)	25 (P)

CLEANING / VERIFICATION OF DATA AND QUESTIONNAIRE

A. CHECKING OF DATA		
a. Were data checked for consistency?		
Yes		X
No		
b. If yes, were the data edited?		
Yes, data corrected individually		
Yes, data corrected automatically		
Yes, data corrected both individually and automatically		X
No, no correction was done		
c. Were data corrected always according to filter instructions?		
Yes		X
No		
d. Who did the data corrections?		
The fieldwork agency		
The Programme Director or its team		X
Any other person (please specify):		
B. VERIFICATION OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE - CAPI		NAP
a. How was the CAPI questionnaire programme checked?		
b. Who did the CAPI questionnaire checking?		
The fieldwork agency		
The Programme Director or its team		
Any other person (please specify):		
C. VERIFICATION OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE - PAPI		
a. Was the scanning of optical or keying questionnaire checked?		
Yes		
No		X

Study Description

b. Who did the PAPI questionnaire checking?	NAP
The fieldwork agency	
The Programme Director or its team	
Any other person (please specify):	
c. Approximate proportion of questionnaires checked?	NAP

SAMPLING PROCEDURE

The used sample design involved a five-stage random cluster sampling and the sampling frame was based on data from the 2002 census, which is considered as having been the most accurate population information available in Georgia. In this sampling design the sampling units were:

- 1) Regions and individual cities (Tbilisi and six other principal cities)
- 2) Towns and villages (primary sampling units, PSUs)
- 3) Districts in cities, towns, and villages in rural areas (sampling points, SPs)
- 4) Household (a group of individuals living under the same roof and using the same kitchen for cooking their meals)
- 5) Randomly selected adult members of households

At the first stage, the number of respondents was allocated using probability-proportional-to-size (PPS) method. Likewise, at the second and third stages, PSUs and SPs were selected with a probability proportional to the unit size. Households (fourth stage) were selected using a random route technique and respondents for the household level (fifth stage) they were selected via the next-birthday technique. Response and rates for respondent cooperation are attached to this technical report.

Further details about each stage of the sampling design are given in "Other documentatio".

CHARACTERISTIC OF SAMPLE

Response and non response (numbers)	
A. Total number of issued sample units (addresses, households or individuals):	2853
B. Refusal by respondent:	242
C. Refusal by proxy (or household or address refusal):	288
D. No contact (after at least 4 visits):	253
E. Language barrier:	25
F. Respondent mentally or physically unable to co-operate throughout fieldwork period:	49
G. Respondent unavailable throughout the fieldwork period for other reasons:	131
H. Address not residential (institution, business/industrial purpose):	0
I. Address not occupied (not occupied, demolished, not yet built):	362
J. Address not traceable:	0
K. Other ineligible address:	0
L. Respondent moved abroad/unknown destination:	0
M. Respondent deceased:	0
Y. Invalid interviews:	3
Z. Number of valid interviews:	1500
X. Number of units not accounted for (A-[sum of B to M,Y,Z]): if all sample units are accounted for, X will=0:	0

REPRESENTATIVITY

	Country level	Regional level
Age * Gender	X	
Educational distribution	X	
Degree of urbanisation	X	
Gender * Age * Education		

Study Description

... (any other than the above mentioned-see Appendix A; please specify)

The only census data available (2003 census) is on country level:

Gender (2003 census)

Male	47.1%
Female	52.9%

Age (2003 census)

Age	%
18 - 29	24.70%
30 - 50	42.03%
51 - 65	20.03%
66 - 100	13.24%

Education distribution

Complete higher	21.1%
Incomplete higher	3.2%
Complete specialized secondary	14.8%
Complete general secondary (10-11 years)	33.8%
Incomplete general secondary (8-9 years)	10.9%
Primary education	16.2%

Degree of urbanisation

Urban 45 th. +	40%
Urban 45 -	10%
Rural	50%

WEIGHTS AND CHARACTERISTIC OF NATIONAL POPULATION

National weights variables included in the data set:	
Yes	
No	X
If Yes, please specify very precisely and with as much details as possible what type of weights. Document as much as possible:	NAP
Provide all information necessary for the Methodology Group to compute weights (what is the selection probability for each potential respondent?)	
a) Number of inhabitants over 18 year in your country at the time of interviewing (ideally number of residential people that are not institutionalised = sample frame):	3.229.716
b) The population size (ideally over 18, residential and not institutionalised) of the	

Study Description

areas/strata at each step in the sample:

- c) The actual number of interviewed respondent at each step of the sample for each area/stratum:

Region	Population 18+	N of interviews conducted
Kakheti Region	298282	140
Shida Kartli	234242	108
Kvemo Kartli Region	366034	167
Samtskhe Javakheti	154900	71
Adjara autonomous republic	279096	129
Guria	108120	49
Samegrelo	334507	157
Imereti Region, Racha, Svaneti	566407	264
Mtskheta-Mtianeti	93277	43
Tbilisi	794840	372
Total	3229716	1500

Weighting Variables

Weight: gender by age

The variable "weight" was computed by the EVS for all national datasets on the basis of information and population statistics provided by the EVS countries. The weight is constructed on the basis of gender and age categories (-24; 25-34; ... ; 65-74; 75 and over). Value '0' implies that year of birth information was missing in the data.

The weight adjusts the socio-structural characteristic in the samples to the distribution of gender and age of the universe-population. In a future release, the weight variable will be developed further (also taking at least region into account). The current weight variable should be used with caution. Especially when the weights are "big", say outside the 0.50-2.00 range.

For some national datasets (AT HR FR KOS RO SK SE CH) country specific original weight variables are provided additionally as delivered by the countries. For country-specific information, see Country Reports on national datasets.

IV. DATA ACCESS

USAGE REGULATIONS

Data and documents are released for academic research and teaching - Access category A.

ANONYMISED DATA

According to data regulations in participating countries, only anonymised data are made available to users. Before depositing data, each national team was responsible for checking their data confidentiality.

	Anonymised - assured	Anonymised - Non assured
Respondent questionnaires	Yes	
Interviewer questionnaires	Yes	
Contact forms	Yes	

CITATION REQUIREMENTS

Publications based on EVS data should acknowledge this by means of a bibliographic citations as listed under item

Study Description

"Bibliographic Citation". To ensure that such source attributions are captured for social science bibliographic utilities, citations must appear in the footnotes or in the reference section of publications.

How to cite the data:

EVS (2010): European Values Study 2008, 4th wave, Georgia. GESIS Data Archive, Cologne, Germany, ZA4789 Data File Version 1.1.0 (2010-11-30) doi:10.4232/1.10182 (<http://dx.doi.org/10.4232/1.10182>).

How to cite this publication:

EVS, GESIS (2010): EVS 2008 Method Report. GESIS-Technical Reports 2010/17. Retrieved from <http://www.europeanvaluesstudy.eu/>.

DEPOSIT REQUIREMENTS

To provide funding agencies with essential information about the use of EVS data and to facilitate the exchange of information about the EVS, users of EVS data are required to send to bibliographic citations and/or electronic copies of each completed report, article, conference paper or thesis abstract using EVS data. These will be included in the EVS repository. For more information, see www.europeanvaluesstudy.eu/evs/publications.

DISCLAIMER

EVS, GESIS, and the producers bear no responsibility for the uses of the EVS data, or for interpretations or inferences based on these uses. EVS, GESIS, and the producers accept no liability for indirect, consequential or incidental damages or losses arising from use of the data collection, or from the unavailability of, or break in access to the service for whatever reason.

PUBLICATIONS

Publications using EVS data can be found in the EVS Repository. The repository is an easy way to find relevant publications in the field of value studies. Moreover, it contains enhanced publications with direct links to the dataset, variables, and syntax codes of the concepts used.

The EVS Repository can be found at www.europeanvaluesstudy.eu/evs/publications.

EDUCATION

Please specify the educational variable:

None	1
Primary education	2
Incomplete general secondary (8-9 years)	3
Vocational education (school, center)	4
Complete general secondary (10-11 years)	5
Complete specialized college/institute (former technikum)	6
Technical and specialized institutes	7
Incomplete higher (Bachelor's degree)	8
Complete higher=(master's degree) (former University Diploma)	9
PHD (former Aspirantura) (Metsnieriabata Doktori)	10

Description of educational system.

Please give a short description of the educational system and give details of how the national categories have been recoded into the EVS education standard classification

Reform has been top down and little grassroots participation has been substantially factored in - and it is highly debatable if the type of education being provided in institutions of higher education matches the economic needs of

Study Description

Georgia as an evolving post-Soviet economy, and some are questioning whether it can actually complete on a global level.

Education reform in the last few years in Georgian has brought forth an overall transformed system that has now more centralized control, both in terms of what is actually taught and standardized testing. Student must pass a national testing program in order to enter the university and a national program of study "National curriculum" (which has been implemented since 2006-2007 school year). All this has been designed under the direction of the Georgian Ministry of Education. The curriculum and program of student is common for all schools. All the students attend the same level of "secondary education". However, there is a movement to eliminate schools where instruction is provided in minority languages, and emphasis is that within a few years Georgian will be the language of instruction at all schools. Russian tracked departments where instruction is provided in Russian and not Georgian is also being eliminated at the level of higher education.

Secondary education is divided into three stages in Georgia. The first stage is primary education (1-VI forms), the second is basic stage (VII-IX forms) and the third secondary stage (X-XII forms). There exists a compulsory and elective subject taught at all educational levels. Compulsory subjects are common for all schools and as for elective subjects, any school are able to designate any elective subject, and at the third stage even students can elect some of the subject to be studied according to their preference. After the graduation of school a person can enter the university. After the second stage student can leave the school and move to professional school (lyceum) or college. Some colleges and lyceums in Georgian are considered to serve for both vocational and college preparation inasmuch as while taking required subjects and learning something of a profession, a student has the option to later enter the university. These institutions serve as preparation course and many continue their higher education at the university level.

However, this is not automatic as a student must still pass a national standardized examination (implemented since 2005 year) to earn a place and this may not always be at the institution of first choice, and he or she must designate several choices.

Getting into the University of his or her preference has become highly selective. With education reform test scores have become the main deciding factor. And some of colleges and lyceums do not give access to tertiary education; they are intended to provide direct access to the labour market entry for graduates. However, many are unable to find jobs as there is high unemployment in Georgia and limited opportunity for new graduates to find placements.

The highly proclaimed reform in the educational system may have been effective in eliminating petty corruption at the level of schools and the ability to enter the system of higher education by basing access on a national standardized examination. However, in effect this has had an opposite impact - many students who previously were able to enter the university are now not able and education in the public schools has been more devoted to teaching the test - things that can be easily tested.

The option for alternative types of education has been diminished and based on job opportunities and cultural factors, alternative types of education are not considered as inferior. The academic level of education in Georgia has always been extremely high and the percentage of those with university degrees is higher than even Western Europe and the United States.

Also, now developed Georgian language skills are required and the option to be tested in Russian is no longer an option and this is keeping minorities from being able to enter Georgian university, or receiving financial assistance when they don't test well (even if offered a place in the university), and the overall impact of reform may be further separating speakers of minority languages from mainstream Georgian society. This has even been noted in the selection of textbooks that gives a one-sided view of history from the perspective of ethnic Georgians - discounting or not mentioning the contribution made by other ethnic or religious groups to Georgian history.

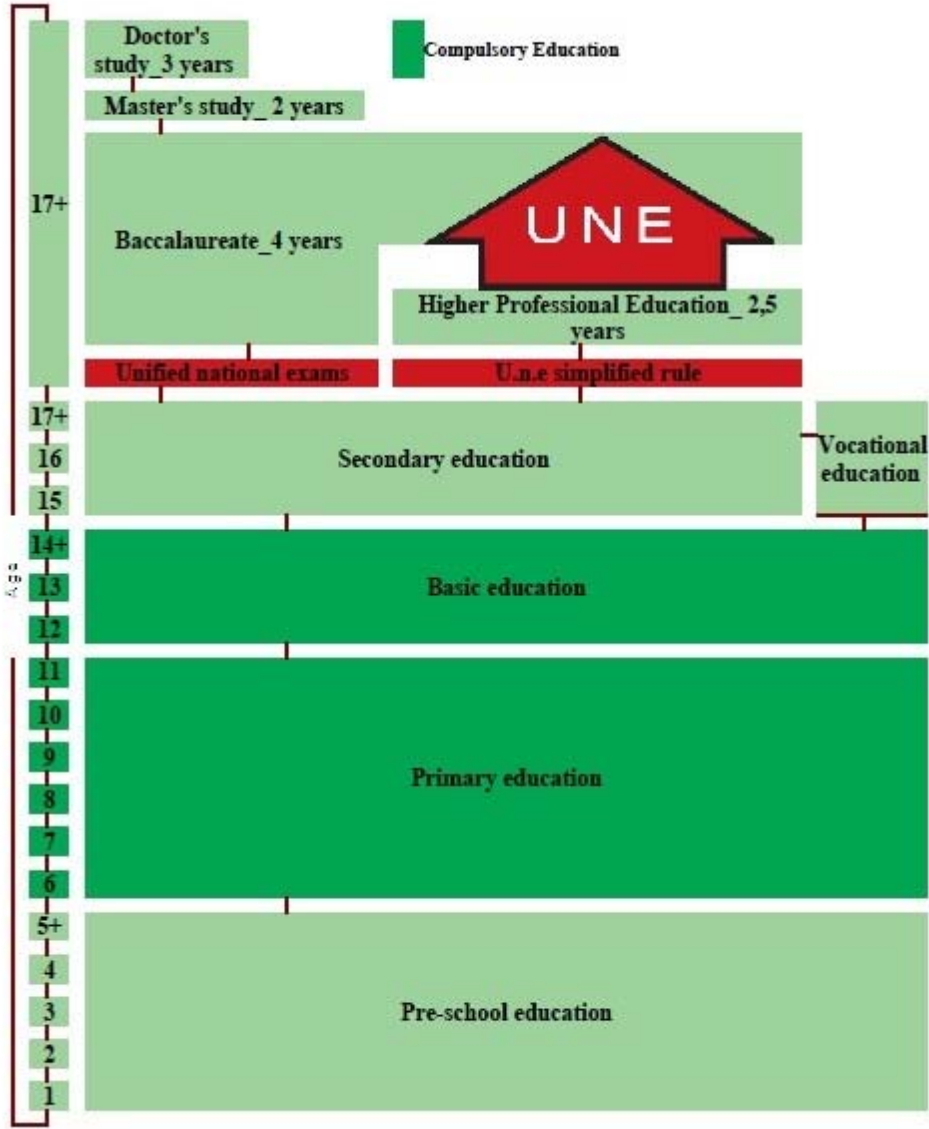
There is also a focus on rising the level of IT education and that it will become an integral part of the total education process and computers have been provided to schools and opportunities given for teachers to be trained in new methods of teaching. Previously degrees were awarded diplomas (till 2005 year) and did not closely correspond to degree in the West. Graduation was often based on who was able to pass the State examination.

There have also been changes in the types of degrees issued and terms of study for various academic awards (see attachment). These are now more in line with how degrees are awarded in Europe and the United States, BA, BS, MA, MSc and PhD and specialized certificates (now being implemented in institutions of higher education).

There is also discussions of how credits can be transferred between institutions and degrees are based on the number of earned credits with more opportunities for student choice for elective classes, thus giving more variety and

Study Description

opportunity for programs to be better designed to individual student needs.



Please indicate the correspondence between the national educational categories and ISCED standard classification

Study Description

None	Pre-primary education	0	
Primary education	First stage of basic education	1	
Incomplete general secondary (8-9 years)	Lower secondary or second stage of basic education	2A	
Vocational education (school, center)		3C	
Complete general secondary (10-11 years)	(upper) secondary education	3A	
Complete specialized college/institute (former technikum)	Post secondary non tertiary education	4A	We used to have this type of institutions in soviet times, but it doesn't exist any more. Though we probably will meet some interviewers with this type of education
Technical and specialized institutes	First stage of tertiary education	5B	
Incomplete higher (Bachelor's degree)	First stage of tertiary education	5A	
Complete higher=(master's degree) (former University Diploma)	First stage of tertiary education	5A	After the reforms of educational system, we have accepted the structure of European educational levels. We didn't have before BA and MA, so when a student was graduating the university, he/she was granted with the Diploma equivalent to MA.
PHD (former Aspirantura) (Metsnierebata Doktor)	Second stage of tertiary education	6	After finishing Aspirantura if one had worked on certain essay, he/she could become a candidate for becoming PHD. Then if one wanted to become PHD he had to make science research on certain essay, and is essay was approved he/she was becoming PHD.

OCCUPATION

Occupation should be measured by ISCO88 as supplied; please specify any deviations:

We have some extra codes in the variables v339b, v346b, v357c, e.g. These codes are not in "Occupation: ISCO88 4 digits" so they have not appropriate labels in the SPSS file. Please find the codes with its definitions below:

Study Description

1238	Heads of departments (services) that are not included in other groups
2313	Agronomists and specialists of related professions.
2413	Specialists of commercial activities
2461	Members of the clergy
3146	Dispatchers (besides flying control officers)
4224	Workers occupied with agricultural service
5144	Workers occupied in dry-cleaning and painting process
5145	Wash-house workers
5146	Workers occupied in custom tailoring and in repairing of clothing and footwear
5147	Workers occupied in repairing works of apartments, furniture, household appliances, TV and radio equipment, clocks and watches and etc.
5310	Workers occupied in gas distribution service in towns, villages and inhabited localities.
5320	Workers occupied in utility service (water-pipe and sewage system functioning)
5340	Workers implementing supervision of electro energy (energy distribution)
5510	Workers occupied with advertising-designing works
7138	Painters, building surface cleaning workers and related professions
7217	Farriers; farriers working with sickles and press
7443	The profession of workers occupied in clothing industry
7450	The professions of workers occupied in manufacturing of construction materials
7460	The professions of workers occupied with production of toys and educational-visual materials
7511	Professions of workers occupied in service and repairing works of machinery
7513	The professions of workers of services and repairing works of means of transportation
7514	Professions of workers occupied in service and repairing works of equipments for sea and river boats
7521	Telephone operators, telegraphers and workers of related professions
7522	Professions of workers occupied in service and repairing works of equipment of communicational buildings and stations
7610	Professions of workers occupied in geological-searching works
7620	Professions of workers occupied in topographic and geodesic works
8125	Other related professional groups that do not belong to previous groups
8133	Operators of ceramics and porcelain manufacturing equipment
9334	Non qualified workers occupied in communication service
9350	Non qualified workers occupied in manufacturing fields that were not included in other groups
9411	Porter, cloakroom attendant, lift operator.
9412	Stockmen, markers, packers of goods, packers of products
9413	Loader, assistant workers.
9414	Charwomen of service and manufacturing buildings and territories
9415	Courier and other professions of non qualified workers, that were not included in other groups
9990	Military men, (soldiers)

Source: Methodological Questionnaire - Georgia

POLITICAL PARTIES

Please give a short description of each political party in the data set.

Study Description

1	National movement
2	Labor Party
3	New Rightists Party
4	Republican Party
5	Industrial Party
6	Conservative Party
7	For United Georgia
8	People's Party
9	Georgia's way+
10	National Democratic Party
11	Party "Samarlianoba" (Justice)
12	Christian-Democratic movement +
13	Party of Future
14	Party "Tavisufleba" (Party of freedom movement) ???

Party name: United National Movement

Motto: "Georgia will be united!"

- Party program -

To present and defense the interests of the society. To strength the independence of the State, providing the territorial integrity, to strength the security system of the State.

To help in the development of democratic society, to build legislative State on the base of rule of Law, to defend the human rights, to help in creation of powerful civil society.

To develop free market economy on the base of strength economic potential of the country, to create strong guarantees for social defense and social development.

To establish democratic governmental institutions in Georgia and to participate in their work.

To support Euro-Atlantic orientation, to have more deep cooperative relations with neighbor countries on the base of partnership.

By the expression and execution of political will active participation in political life of Georgia.

Uncompromised fight against corruption.

Providing of permanent society control on the work of the government.

To support democratic reforms.

Cooperation with civil organizations for the creation of transparency systems.

Party leaders: Mikheil Saakashvili - Chairman, David Kirkitadze - General Secretary.

- Brief history -

The United National Movement was created as a result of the merger of two parties, the National Movement and the United Democrats in November 2004. These two constituent organizations, in their turn, were created in the early 2000s, and the leaders of both of them came from the reformist wing of the Citizens Union of Georgia, who quit that party being dissatisfied with its activities. The National Movement was founded in December 2001. In 2002, it took part in the local self-government elections and achieved an important success in the Tbilisi Council Elections. After these elections, its leader, Mikheil Saakashvili, became the Chairman of the Tbilisi City Council. The United Democrats' Party, created in 2003, was led by Zurab Zhvania and a group of other reformist leaders who broke away from Eduard Shevardnadze's government in 2002. In the 2003 parliamentary elections, both parties participated as, respectively, the Saakashvili-National Movement bloc and the Burjanadze-United Democrats bloc. After it became obvious that the elections were rigged, these parties played a key role in organizing the protest events that became known as Rose Revolution and led to the resignation of President Shevardnadze. In the March 2004 repeat parliamentary elections these two parties took part in a joint list. This list also included representatives of the Republican Party and the Union of National Forces, who were in a bloc with the National Movement in the 2003 elections and in the days of the

Study Description

revolution. The joint list was victorious, with 66.2 percent of the vote. Later, representatives of the latter two groups went over to the opposition. At the current stage, the party has two clear-cut priorities in its activities. These are the restoration of the country's territorial integrity and the improvement of social conditions for the people. Regarding the former issue, the party is working on intensifying political negotiations, elaborating projects for peacefully settling conflicts and enlisting international support. With regard to the latter issue, the party promotes such measures as making more funds available to the social programmes, creating favourable conditions for business, especially the medium-size and small businesses (through tax liberalization, the simplification of licensing) and other initiatives.

Party name: Georgian Labour Party - GLP

Party Motto: Democratic State, Social Justice, Prosperity for Everyone

We fight for... : 10 Major Principles of Party Program

1. Democratic State

GLP respects all the democratic values. GLP's aspiration is to promote equality for all, so the equal rights and freedoms to everyone is main principal of our view. Everyone have a say in decisions that affects their lives, so the public sector institutions are promoted. Is excluded all forms of discrimination, especially in race, ethnicity, social belonging, belief or any other attribute. Women and men have similar rights in all spheres of life. The only source of power recognised by GLP is the will of Georgian citizens, which is expressed by democratic election. We are against the Presidential power, which is not balanced by the Parliamentary and Judiciary branches, as it is today. Country has to provide economic and social policies, which aims to reduce poverty and responses the needs of all citizens. We want to create safer, more democratic and successful state, to serve the interests of Georgian People and International Society. The Georgia needs a political system that safeguards our liberties and defends democratic values. These all is important to bring the State closer to the People.

2. Rule of Law

The government authority may only act in accordance with acting laws. Those, who make and enforce the law are themselves compelled to adhere to it. We are for government, which acts according laws, and not according personal orders. Our aspiration is to establish in the country the real modern governance. Making government more responsive and accountable - is GLP's top issue in its agenda. People must have the opportunity to participate and influence the decision-making process, Government provides.

3. Country's steadiness and security

Georgia, with growing economy, high standards of living, sturdy military infrastructure, will be the state, which answers the challenges entire world assigns. Georgia always played and will play the principal role in strengthening stability and security In the Caucasus. We want to expand our trade-economic relations with other countries, but we don't want the threats to appear from these countries. Georgia will promote peace, stability, and democratization within the country, and will guarantee national sovereignty and territorial integrity. In this case we consider importantly international assistance, because Georgia's geopolitical location, its communicational projects invokes colossal international interests. Analyzing the historical aspects and future challenges, we know that our national security strategy must correspond to the international security strategy. We are for stable and mutually profitable relations with all democratic states and we can make our contribution for regional stability.

4. Encouragement of civil society

Citizens have the right to unite and make their sway on country development. Vital civil society is the basis for democratic future. We obligate ourselves to expand citizen's opportunities and build a State which is an area of freedom, security, tolerance, justice and equal rights. These all will serve and ensure observance of laws by society and individuals.

5. Human rights and freedoms

Human rights and freedoms are the main values, the state must protect. Freedom requires protection from oppression and violation. Freedom should be spread to all life spheres. Freedom of speech is key aspect. Elections must express the will of citizens, but this is not enough to protect human rights. Everyone can have full political rights without being discriminated against on the basis of class, gender, religion or race. Abuse of human rights is gigantic threat for state, and the threat to one is the threat to everyone.

6. Developing local governance

Our approach is: mayors and heads of all cities and rayon of Georgia must be elected. We must achieve a better balance between urban and rural areas, taking in mind their economic potential, location, strategic interests, budgetary

Study Description

relations, rights of minorities and etc. Democracy has to be promoted within the regions, not only in capital. State should carry out staid socio-economic policy, for keeping Country united. Suitable legal base is needed for refinement of local self-governance.

7. Economic well-being

GLP's objective is to build a stronger, dynamic economy and a fairer society, with opportunity and prosperity for all. Country must use its resources effectively, among them human, financial, technological and other resources to combat the poverty. In economic sphere, the cornerstone is the free market economy, which, foremost, serves the interests of the people, of the country and the international community, when the competition is based on the respect and all the participants of the process have common opportunities. Employment and the protection of institute of private property must be at the top of the Georgian agenda.

GLP considers importantly the policies of International Financial and Economic organizations, to assist the motion for more prosperous world economy.

Low taxes and stable political-economic situation can make Georgia one of the excellent places for business developments, especially in European area. Georgia seeks to have a significant share in producing global benefits. Ensuring economic security needs multilateral attention. It is connected to the energetic, financial, industrial, trade and other safeties, and they wholly guarantee the stable environment for economic growth.

8. Improving social sphere

Medical service, education should be attainable for each strata of population. First of all this means equal rights and parity of all before the law. Equal access to knowledge and medical service is top priority. State should resolve social and environmental troubles, or they will grow into political, economic or security troubles for the State.

9. Against crime and corruption

Motion against crime and corruption is an issue of common concern for all citizens. Crime and corruption has a direct impact on their lives. Government must carry responsibility to work heavily to combat organized crime and corruption. Improving the security of our communities must be a top priority for the government of Georgia.

10. Euro Atlantic Integration

Georgia seeks to be the part of Europe. We want to ensure internal democracy and strengthen international security. This is the aim - to build the Euro-Atlantic community. Safer societies mean safer states, and safer states mean safer international community. The integration gives us the opportunity to safeguard our freedom and security - the values, which are invaluable. Georgia has to resolve internal problems, to achieve the standards and principles, necessary for moving forward.

Party Leaders and Ruling Bodies:

Biography of the Chairman - Shalva Natelashvili

Was born in 1958 February 17, Dusheti rayon, Georgia. Studied in Georgian State University on faculty of law. He continued post-graduate study in Diplomatic Academy of Ministry of Foreign Affairs of USSR. Worked in Prosecutors Office on several positions. In 1992-1999 years was the member of the Parliament of Georgia - chairman of the Judicial Committee, chairman of the "Labour" Fraction, leader of coalition "United Georgia", member of the Bureau. He is the one of the authors of Georgian Constitution. From 1995 he is the founder and the chairman of the Georgian Labour Party. Member of the World's Association of Lawyers. He is married and has two children.

Shalva Natelashvili is known as the most radical oppositional political leader in the country, which is struggling for the prosperous future, people's interests, democracy and economic development.

Party's supreme ruling body is Congress, which is held once in 4 years. Congress elects General Council, Political Committee, revision commission and the Secretariat. Congress also proves the youth and women leaders. Congress adopts the Program, makes changes in the Statute and determines the main strategy. Party has the regional organizations in each part of the Country. Secretariat carries out Party's Daily work. The Secretaries are:

- General Secretary - Ioseb Shatberashvili;
- Organizational Secretary - Konstantine Gugushvili;
- Political Secretary - Giorgi Gugava.

Party name: New Rights Party of Georgia

Party ideology: Center right

Party motto: "We are democratic defenders of your rights and values"

Party priorities:

Study Description

REPUBLICAN GOVERNMENT - We promote a political regime that is based on the true principles of liberal representative republic, and trust that men are born free by nature, and that they enter into a social contract to secure the blessings of freedom and prosperity for their own and future generations.

LIMITED GOVERNMENT - We believe in the fundamental principle that the government's primary responsibility is to secure citizens' rights to life, liberty, and happiness, and to give each citizen the equality of opportunity rather than the equality of result.

RULE OF LAW - We certify that liberty exists only in a polity where everyone is equal before the law, and where the citizens and government alike respect and live by the rule of law.

PRIVATE PROPERTY - We defend the sanctity of private property and promote free enterprise as the only just and viable model of economic life ever conceived by men.

DIGNITY - We protect national dignity, Georgia's heritage and cultural traditions, its language and its independence, and advocate active citizenship by all peoples of Georgia.

Policy Issues

Based on our trust that the role of a just and accountable political regime is to promote equality of opportunity rather than results, we advocate policies of small government, lower taxes, and local control. Our party is dedicated to building a center-right force with a principled political program focusing on the following specific issues:

DEFENDING THE DEMOCRATIC VALUES AND THE RULE OF LAW - Notwithstanding the promises of the Rose Revolution, the democratic aspiration of the Georgian people are threatened by flagrant electoral violations, attempts to merge politics and governance by creating a state party, constant infringements on the rule of law, regular use of torture, limitation of the freedom of speech, and pressure the business community to toe the governmental line. The Georgian people deserve to live in a free society, in which the government helps secure rather than violates their fundamental and natural rights. We believe in a country in which political and economic freedom are paramount will allow the Georgian people to flourish, live better lives, stand guard the nation's historic values.

ESTABLISHING BALANCED CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT - In February 2004, Georgia's new, revolutionary government passed, without any discussion or deliberation, very damaging constitutional amendments, which altered an already authoritarian political regime into an even more undemocratic system of one-man rule. Under the revised Constitution, the Georgian people are virtually removed from the political process, the powers of the executive branch are increased dramatically, all decision making on the most fundamental issues is left only in the hands of the President, while the roles of the legislature and the judiciary are dramatically reduced. It will be impossible to promote democracy and further the cause of freedom in Georgia without a dramatic transformation of the Georgian constitutional order and establishment of a more equitable balance between the legislature, the executive, the judiciary branches. We must ensure that the ultimate control over the government rests with the citizens, through their elected representatives. At the same time, Saakashvili's government has weakened balance between central and local authorities, usurping the powers of the already weak local government officials and elected representatives. Because self-government the backbone of any democracy, and because Georgia will soon hold elections to local government offices, the New Conservative Party has made reform in this area a cornerstone of its political activity. We have developed a comprehensive proposal for local self-government and are calling on the government to join us in allowing those who are closest to the people to exercise greater control and responsibility over the affairs of the country.

DEVELOPING A CONCEPT OF NATIONAL SECURITY, REFORMING THE ARMED FORCES, AND JOINING NATO - Ever since Georgia's independence in 1991, our government has operated without a clear and realistic conception of national security threats and challenges, and the steps that Georgia must undertake to protect the safety and independence of its citizens. To address this, we believe that the Parliament must develop, present for public discussion, and ultimately approve a comprehensive national security strategy for Georgia. This strategy must be coupled with a vision for the Georgian army of the future-small, highly trained, and mobile forces which will be in a position to not only protect Georgia, but play a role in international operations in defense of freedom. In the immediate term, the Parliament must approve a law designating a minimum of no less than 2 percent of the GDP toward defense spending and tying finances to reforms in the Ministry of Defense. Furthermore, New Conservatives are Georgia's foremost advocates of NATO membership. To help promote NATO membership, Party is a strong advocate of rapid removal of remaining Russian forces from Georgia and of the country's withdrawal from the Commonwealth of Independent States.

GROWING THE GEORGIAN ECONOMY AND FIGHTING CORRUPTION - Constitutional and national security reforms must achieve one important task-to establish an environment in which the nation's economy can revive, helping the

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pocketbooks of the Georgian people, so that they can live better lives. Overcoming the current economic crisis requires policies which will allow the business community to invest in the economy, and will not put chains of high taxes and regulations on the hard-working entrepreneurs. This cannot happen so long as Georgian businesses are scared of an evermore intrusive government which will use any means, be they legal or illegal, to harass entrepreneurs and their enterprises. While the Saakashvili administration claims to have proposed a reformed tax code, this initiative fails to address the most fundamental and structural problems of the government's revenue scheme and gives the government far too much power over the private enterprises and individual citizens. We support real tax reform which will significantly increase state revenues, while reducing the tax burden on all citizens, so that they can put their money back into the economy. Our policies will not only grow the economy, but will also dramatically reduce corruption. Accurate budget planning, adequate financing of the budget, and reduction of bureaucracy level in the state sector, will allow the country to overcome corruption and nepotism.

IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION - Our country will not survive without a highly educated workforce. Yet the quality of education has deteriorated dramatically over the last decade. Georgia must devote every available resource to the problems of elementary, secondary, and higher education before more youngsters graduate without gaining an adequate knowledge. The first step in this process must be to give the councils of local governments real control over local schools, power that today rests in the hands of bureaucrats from the Ministry of Education, who, notwithstanding their good intentions, cannot know the needs of small, tightly knit, local communities all across the country. New Conservatives stand for educational policies that teach our children about the Georgian culture, heritage, and literature, rather than value-less and irresponsible notions advocated by the current government, which have the potential to destroy those precious ideas, beliefs, and morals that have helped Georgia survive for millennia.

Party leaders:

David Gamkrelidze, MD, is Chairman of the New Conservative Party and leader of the Parliament's Conservative Opposition. He is the founder and former President of Georgia's first private insurance company, Aldagi, which grew from its formation in 1990 to become one of the largest businesses in the country. Gamkrelidze, who was born in 1964, came to politics actively in 1998, upon election to the Tbilisi City Council. He was elected to Parliament in 1999. He is married to Dr. Marina Madichi and is a father of two.

Gamkrelidze is Georgia's principal advocate of public policy based on the values individual liberty and responsibility, limited government, and the sanctity of private property. His current highest political priority is strengthening the voice of the Georgian opposition. He is also devoted to promotion of national security, and is the author of the historic September 13, 2002, binding resolution, through which the Parliament unanimously declared NATO membership as the principal foreign policy priority of the Georgian state. Active in numerous civic and voluntary organizations, Gamkrelidze is the one of the founders and Chairman of Georgia for NATO, an organization devoted to popularization of Georgia's NATO membership. He is also Board Member at several public policy organizations and think tanks.

In leading the New Conservative Party, Gamkrelidze is assisted by the Main Committee, which has the following membership:

Party Structure:

Party main body is Congress of the party. Congress is held once in 4 years before Parliament and Presidential Elections. Congress determines the strategy and priorities of the party. Congress elects Chairman, Co-chairmen, General Secretary, and Revision commission. Congress also adopts the Main council of the party, Youth chairman and Women's club chairwoman. Party also has Political council that consists of chairmen of rayon organizations and party leaders. Political council is held twice per year and helps main Council to deal with organizational issues.

Party history

Established in June 2001, the New Conservative Party was the first group to openly challenge the failed policies of Eduard Shevardnadze's regime. Today, it aims to unify the center-right conservative and free market political forces across the country and is the only viable alternative to the backward, big government, high taxing, and undemocratic policies of the Mikheil Saakashvili administration. The Party is dedicated to the betterment of Georgia, protection of rights and liberties, and advancement democracy in Georgia.

Since its founding, the New Conservative Party has successfully faced three elections. During the June 2002 local government elections, it was the only party to field candidates across the entire country and elected twice as many deputies to the regional Sakrebulo (legislative councils) as its nearest competitor. During the invalidated November 2, 2003 Parliamentary elections, when the New Conservative Party was seen as receiving the brunt of the pressure from the administrative resource, it nevertheless overcame the seven percent barrier necessary to enter Parliament, both in

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the official results and the independent Parallel Vote Tabulations (PVT). In the repeat March 28, 2004 Parliamentary elections, it established a coalition called the Conservative Opposition with Industry Save Georgia party, which was the only opposition group to overcome the seven percent barrier. Today, the coalition represents Georgia's official opposition and holds 17 Parliamentary seats.

BRIEF HISTORY OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY OF GEORGIA

The Republican Party of Georgia was founded on May 21, 1978. Unlike dissident groups operating then, which mainly focused on protection of human rights foreseen under the Soviet Constitution, the Republican Party's platform from the very outset aimed at restoring the independence of Georgia, introducing political pluralism, forming democratic institutions, ensuring the independence of media, and forming the market economy. The Republicans have set up illegal groups in Tbilisi, Batumi, Sokhumi, Zugdidi, Tkibuli, and Chiatura. During this period, two issues of self-published magazine "Samreklo" were printed and disseminated.

In 1983-84, the State Security Committee (KGB) has arrested four founders and leaders of the Party - Vakhtang Dzabiradze (Chairman of the Party's National Committee in 1979-1995), Levan and David Berdzenishvili, and Vakhtang Shonia. Another active member Pridon Jajanidze was arrested later. With the judgment of 20 April 1984, the Supreme Court of the Georgian SSR has indirectly recognized the existence of the Republican Party. Charged with "anti-Soviet campaign and propaganda", founders of the Party were tried for setting up the "anti-Soviet organization - so-called Republican Party." They served their full sentences in the Soviet camps for political prisoners in Perm and Mordovia. Owing to the firmness and high moral virtues of the arrested, big majority of the Party members were left beyond the reach of KGB.

From the late 1980s, the Republican Party openly participates in the political processes developing in Georgia. In the first multi-party elections of 28 October 1990, the Republicans have won 3 seats in the Supreme Council, where they acted as the co-founders of the opposition faction "Democratic Center." In June 1991 the Republican Party has collected 20% of votes in the elections of the Supreme Council of Achara Autonomous Republic, where it has formed the opposition faction "Achara." The Republicans were represented in the temporary supreme bodies of the country - the Consultative and State Councils (in 1992).

Since the unification with the Union of Free Democrats (in 1991) and the political organization "Democratic Elections in Georgia" (in 1992), the Republicans come along as a rather stable team. After the 11 October 1992 parliamentary elections, a 10 member opposition faction "Republicans" was formed in the Parliament. The faction has publicly discussed number of draft laws and concepts on the administrative-territorial arrangement of Georgia, statuses of Abkhazia and Achara, and the reforms of executive, legislative, and judicial branches. With its full composition, the faction was very active and of principle in political debates; it advocated against Georgia's membership in the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS). The Republican Party has developed its own draft of the Constitution of Georgia, which was based on the parliamentary type of republic and the decentralized model of governance. The Republicans have greatly contributed to the 1995 Constitution as well - several leaders of the Party served as members on the State Constitutional Commission.

After the Republican Party, Public Front, and "Kartia 91" merged in 1994, the united Republican Party was formed that ran short of time, however. Following the defeat in 5 November 1995 parliamentary elections, the Republican Party was restored as an independent political organization. At the party congress held in February 1996, the National Committee elected Ivlian Haindrava the Chairman of the Party.

Members of the Republican Party left beyond the Parliament continued working on the vital problems of statehood, and frequently and actively participating in international conferences and seminars. In August 1997 the Republican Party has displayed the concept paper on possible ways of resolution of the conflict in Abkhazia. In the following years, new proposals have been developed in this regard.

In May 1999 the Republican Party, in partnership with the National-Democratic Party and the Industrial Party has formed the political alliance "National-Democratic Alliance - the Third Path",

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the slogan of which was "Neither Shevardnadze, Nor Abashidze." In the parliamentary elections of 1999, the Alliance has collected 4,46% of votes (under the official data) and was unable to make up to the 7% electoral threshold already increased by then. Even after the defeat in the elections, the Republican Party continued carrying on an uncompromised struggle with the power centers of Shevardnadze and Abashidze, but due to the lack of adequate support from the partners, the Alliance was disbanded in July 2001.

A new version of the Charter was adopted at the Party Congress held in March 2000. David Berdzenishvili was elected the Chairman of the National Committee of the Party. At the multithousand rally held in front of the Parliament in late October 2001, the Republican Party has introduced the slogan "Georgia without Shevardnadze", which was accepted by the three-entity election block formed in the spring of 2002 - "National Movement - Democratic Front" (Saakashvili-Davitashvili's "National Movement", the Republican Party, Zviad Dzidziguri's "Union of National Forces - the Conservatives").

In the self-governance elections held on 2 June 2002, the "National Movement - Democratic Front" has gained 24% of votes in Tbilisi. Mikheil Saakashvili became the Chairman of the Sakrebulo, while David Berdzenishvili - the Chairman of the joint faction ("National Movement - Democratic Front").

In the 2 November 2003 parliamentary elections the same block has won the first place (according to the exit polls and parallel counting - with 27% of the votes). The Republicans headed the electoral campaign in Batumi (with a slogan "Batumi - without Abashidze") and participated in the organization of national protest campaign against the elections forged by the Shevardnadze and Abashidze authorities, ending up with the resignation of Shevardnadze on the 23rd of November. The Republican Party has played a determinant role in defeating Abashidze's "Aghordzineba" in Achara during the repeated parliamentary elections held on 28th of March, entailing the public protests and Abashidze's escape to Moscow on the 6th of May. The Republican Party ended up having 5 representatives in the Parliament of Georgia.

Shortly after the November 2003 events, the Republicans had to enter into harsh debates with the Saakashvili's team on a number of fundamental issues. The Republicans have strictly and reasonable slated the constitutional changes adopted by Saakashvili in February 2004, owing to which the new authorities have drastically reduced functions of the Parliament and have given a green light to super-presidential authoritarianism. The Constitutional Law on the Status of Achara Autonomous Republic, adopted by the Parliament of Georgia in June 2004, was assessed to be antidemocratic and inconsistent with the strategic objectives of the statehood arrangements of the country. Instead of self-governance, direct presidential governance under the democratic facade was practically introduced in Achara. The attempts to reach revolutionary objectives through the human rights violations and neglect of rule of law were regarded as unacceptable as well. This has already become evident in the spring of 2004. The Republicans concluded that after the joint and successful fight against the Shevardnadze and Abashidze authorities, there was no further need and possibility of being in a political block with the National Movement. In June 2004 the Republicans splited up with the ruling party and its leader Mikheil Saakashvili. In the 20 June 2004 elections to the Supreme Council of Achara former partners - National Movement and the Republican Party - turned out to be the main contenders. In Batumi the authorities have conducted the elections in line with Shevardnadze's methods, while in regions it has resorted to Abashidze-type of results (more than 90% almost in every district). According to the official data, the Republican Party has gained only 13.5% of the Acharian electorate. Three persons ended up representing the Party in a 30-seat Supreme Council of Achara. Same number of members represented the Party in the Tbilisi Sakrebulo as well. By 2006, the Republican Party was the only opposition force having MPs in all three major representative bodies.

On 27 June 2005, the next Congress of the Republican Party was held, echoing the challenges of building and strengthening the Party in the new reality. David Usupashvili was elected the Chairman of the Party, and the National Committee of the Party was renewed and increased in number also (Guram Berishvili, David Berdzenishvili, Levan Berdzenishvili, Valeri Gelashvili, Murman Dumbadze, Paata Zakareishvili, Zurab Marakvelidze, Lasha Natsvlishvili, Temur

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Nergadze, Pridon Sakvarelidze, David Usupashvili, Ivlian Haindrava, Tinatin Khidasheli).

In order to increase the efficiency of parliamentary activities, the Republicans, together with the also oppositionist Conservatives and non-party members of the Parliament, have formed the opposition faction "Democratic Front" in the fall of 2005. As a result, the faction has gathered the most prominent figures of the political alliance headed by Saakashvili in 2002-2004 (Koba Davitashvili, Levan Berdzenishvili, Zviad Dzidziguri, David Berdzenishvili, David Zurabishvili and others).

In February 2006 the Party published a platform-type document "The Republican Choice" - a detailed assessment of Saakashvili's government's two-year activities in terms of democracy, institutional development, and effectiveness, as well as the Republican vision of solution of the problems. Together with the independent experts the Republicans have developed a new and broad concept of Abkhazian problem resolution, the model of self-governance, package of legislative initiatives ensuring independence of the judicial system, the reform model of country's constitutional arrangement, and other significant documents.

Saakashvili's government carries out a fierce fight against the Republican Party, as one of the main political opponents. Among others, illegal and dishonest methods are used also. For instance, in July 2005, the masked and armed assailants have beaten Valeri Gelashvili, Republican MP, almost to death in the central district of Tbilisi. Instead of investigating this case, in April 2006, the presidential majority, referring to an obviously concocted accusation of business lobbying, has dismissed him from the Parliament.

Currently the Republican Party cooperates with other democratic political parties and prepares for the local self-governance elections. As of May 2006, there are up to 3,000 party members and up to 5,000 registered supporters; 24 regional organizations and local offices of the party, 19 regional initiative groups have been established and are functioning.

The Political Movement Industry Will Save Georgia (Industrial Party)

Brief history

Industry Will Save Georgia is one of those successful parties in Georgia, which has not been formed from a faction that was created in the legislative body. It takes its origin in the Industrialists' Union, a civic organization created to protect the interests of the Georgian business community, especially its manufacturing sector. The party was founded in April 1999 upon the initiative of its future leaders, the people who worked in the business sector, disagreed with the economic policy of the government and wanted to influence it. Its list (in a bloc with the political association of Georgia's Sportsmen) came third and exceeded the threshold for party lists in the 1999 parliamentary elections, and in the repeat 2004 parliamentary elections, its joint list with the New Conservative Party came the second with 7.6 percent of the vote, also exceeding the threshold. Until February 2006, its MPs were in the same faction with the New Conservative Party, and since February, the party has had a separate faction in the Georgian Parliament.

From the day of its creation, the party's priority has been to foster local business development. In the party's view, this can be best achieved by liberalizing the tax laws. The party often criticizes the International Monetary Fund's recommendations to the country, which they believe render the locally manufactured goods uncompetitive compared to foreign imports. The party views economic development as a solution to the most important problems that the country is faced with, in particular, social problems and the problem of restoring territorial integrity. The party's slogan is: "Let us save industry, and industry will save Georgia."

Structure

The internal relations, goals, and ways of achieving them are regulated by the statute, which was adopted at the Constituent Congress in 1999 and amended in 2005, although the main principles of the organization's work remain the same.

The supreme body of the movement is the Congress, which convenes at least once in four years. No fewer than 200 delegates attend. The main functions of the Congress include adopting, amending or appending the statute, assessing the party's work, and electing the chair, deputy chair, secretaries, the Council, the Main Committee and members of the Audit Commission.

During the period between the congresses, the party is governed by the Council. It is elected for a four-year term, and the number of members is set by the Congress. The Council is convened at least once in three months and maps out

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the party's strategy and tactics.

The party's executive body is the Main Committee, whose members are nominated by the Council and approved by the Congress. It is in charge of ensuring the implementation of decisions taken by the Congress and the Council. The Main Committee's meetings are held at least once a month. The committee takes all the decisions which are not special prerogatives of the Council and the Congress.

The party's activities and central apparatus are governed by the chair, deputy chair and secretaries. They are elected by the Congress for a four-year term and are at the same time members of the Main Committee. The chair or, in his or her absence, deputy chair represents the party in relations with other entities.

The party's financial activities are managed by the Audit Commission. It has five members, who are nominated by the Council and approved by the Congress for a four-year term. The Commission sets the rules of its work independently. Its exclusive function is to audit financial documents of the party. The Commission reports to the Council annually and to the Congress once in four years.

The party's principle of the territorial division of its branches follows the pattern of the country's administrative division. The basic unit is the primary organization, whose scope coincides with the boundaries of the electoral precincts. The primary organizations form zone, district and regional organizations. The primary organizations are responsible for directly working with voters. Their activities are intense during the campaign period, whereas during the periods between the elections they are mainly busy conducting the population census. The members of the primary organizations are continuously involved in canvassing, recording the residents' passport data, counting how many residents are eligible to vote and how many of them are party supporters. The primary organizations are also responsible for attracting new members and supporters.

The primary organizations' activities are coordinated by the district branches. The relation between these two levels of party hierarchy is often mediated by an intermediary structural unit, the zone organization. The latter are set up in the districts that are quite large in terms of area and population. Zone organizations coordinate the relations and efficient exchange of information between the district and primary organizations.

Apart from coordinating the efforts of the primary and zone levels, the district organizations are responsible for compiling the lists of party members and voters and staging cultural and sports events. At the same time, they collect information on local problems and try to respond to these whenever possible. In particular, when there is a need for legal advice or a social or community problem arises, residents file an application with the party organization and ask for help. The latter contacts appropriate state government departments and tries to help resolve the issue.

According to character of the district, councils working with specific social groups are created within the district organizations. This may include councils which focus on problems of ethnic minorities or internally displaced persons. The party organizations try to involve representatives of these target groups as heads of the councils in order to make their work more relevant and efficient. Local branches of the youth and women organizations also function at the district level. They are involved in organizing public relations and cultural and sports events at the local level.

In their own turn, the district organizations create regional branches. Their activities are lead by the chair, who is elected by the local members and approved by the superior body. The regional and district organizations are obliged under the statute to report quarterly to the Main Committee on their activities.

In parallel with the party's main structure, there exist the youth and women's organizations. The majority of the members of the youth organization are sportsmen, who take active part in sports events organized by the party. Young people are also often used to disseminate various sorts of information, such as brochures on the party programme, among the voters.

The party's women's organization is involved in studying the problems of and assisting the poor, including homeless children, mothers of large families and young artists. It has also carried out the project of greater involvement of housewives in public life. This envisaged involving housewives in organizing different political, cultural and educational events.

Membership

The rules of admitting and expelling members are laid out in the statute. The candidate for membership must apply in writing to the party's territorial organization. Usually the decision is taken by the regional office.

The party pays great attention to the new members' political past, reputation and motives for joining the party. This information is collected during the interview with the candidate, an interview that is decisive for taking the decision on admission. The party does not have a target plan for admission of new members because it believes that pursuing numbers might detract from the quality of human resources.

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The grounds for expulsion from the party are set out in the statute. Violation of the statute and/or Georgian law as well as any action that causes moral or material damage to the organization might constitute the grounds for expulsion. The decision on expulsion is taken by the regional organization. Expulsion from the ranks of the party is the only sanction which the statute envisages for mala fide members. There are no other formal mechanisms provided for resolving conflicts within the party. Frequently used informal methods of resolving conflicts include discussions in primary units that involve the parties to the conflict and other members.

Public relations and international contacts

The party maintains both formal and informal relations with the public. Informal relations are usually maintained by local organizations. They meet personally with acquaintances and neighbours and familiarize them with the party's activities and goals. Contacts with the media comprise the formal component of the public relations work, and this is taken care of by the central governing body. Only the head organization has the professional press service, which, if needed, provides services to regional and district offices as well. In the party's opinion, the media currently show little interest in covering the party's activities. With rare exceptions, the electronic media do not cover local-level party events and take interest only if party leaders take part in them. Therefore, the party does not see a need to keep public relations services at the local level.

The party relies mainly on its own resources in formulating and implementing its policy. However, it does admit that it needs expert assistance in terms of streamlining structure and improving work efficiency. The party is actively involved in educational projects funded by international NGOs, in particular, the National Democratic Institute and the International Republican Institute. The party's women's organization also cooperates with international organizations and takes part in different educational programmes on gender issues. The party has almost no experience of relations with foreign parties, citing lack of experience and resources as the reasons for this. It admits that the party has so far not taken an initiative in seeking international connections and has only responded to emerging opportunities

Party name: Georgian Conservators

Party ideology: Right wing

Party leaders: Zviad Dzidziguri, Kakha Kukava

Party program:

- Elections of mayors in all cities of Georgia
- Solution of Tskhinvali region problem
- To defense the rights of pensioners, rehabilitation of political repression victims
- Against corruption, liberal taxation, pensions providing, against sale of state properties, social differentiation of pensions
- Against monopolization of TV state channel and requests to have the opposition on state channel.

Party history: First appearance of the conservators on Georgian political stage was in 80-ies of XX century. At that time major part of conservators was with Zviad Gamsakhurdia and Merab Kostava. They were involved in National-liberation movement. In the spring of 1990 with the management of the leader of conservators, Zviad Dzidziguri was conducted well-known "Samtredia railway" action, by which it become possible to conduct first democratic, free and multi-party elections in Georgia.

After the elections in October the National forces become the government. The members of the party were represented at different positions of legislative and executive government. In 1992 after forced collapse of government, in Georgia began oppositional movement, in which one of the main force was National-Conservative party. In 1995 the government of Shevardnadze had arrested most members of the party including Zviad Dzidziguri.

In 2000 by the multi protests from opposition movement and different international organizations the members of National government were released. Conservators created the union of National Forces, in which were united all forces, which were not cooperated with Shevardnadze regime at all levels.

The Union of National Forces planned to destroy the regime of Shevardnadze, and to conduct again democratic elections in Georgia after 10 years and to establish legislative government in Georgia. For this reason there were created election block "Democratic front" together with National Movement (Mikheil Saakashvili) and Republican Party (David Berdzenishvili), which won Tbilisi self-government elections. On 8th of April, 2003 was conducted the congress of the Union of National Forces of Georgia, where it was established as united political party - Conservators. There was elected the chairman of the party - Zviad Dzidziguri and political council with 17 members in it. In November of 2003 Conservators actively participated in "Rose revolution". Zviad Dzidziguri has won elections in Samtredia majoritarian

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district and Bidzina Gujabidze in Lanchkhuti. At spring sessions of 2004 the conservators officially separated from national Movement and has left majority fraction.

Movement for United Georgia

Irakli Okruashvili (b. 1973) initially supported Saakhasvili's National Movement and served in 2004-2006, successively, as the Ministry of the Interior, the Ministry of Defense and the Ministry of Economic Development. He created the Movement for United Georgia in September 2007 and was arrested on 2 September 2007 for corruption, money laundering and abuse of office. He eventually was granted political asylum in France in April 2008.

People take part in a rally, against the arrest of former defense minister Irakli Okruashvili, in central Tbilisi, September 28, 2007. The rally was planned by supporters of Okruashvili who was arrested on Thursday on charges of money-laundering and corruption.

People's Party

Mr. Koba Davitashvili, is the leader of the party. The party has no website or internet based blog, thus very limited information is available about their activities, programs, etc., Party has no seats in the parliament of Georgia as well as no representatives in the Georgian government.

Party "Tavisufleba" (Party of freedom movement)

Mr. Konstantin Gamsakhurdia is the leader of the party. The party has no website or internet based blog, thus very limited information is available about their activities, programs, etc., Party has no seats in the parliament of Georgia as well as no representatives in the Georgian government.

Party name: National Democratic Party (NDP)

Party Motto: Truth everywhere and always

Party priorities:

Market economy

Small businesses developing

Social guarantees for people

Fighting corruption

Territorial integrity

Developing western values in Georgia

National traditions

Party leaders:

Bachuki Kardava - Chairman

Uta Lipartia - D / Chairman

David Shukakidze - D/ Chairman

Shota Inaneishvili - Political Secretary

Giorgi Khmelidze - Executive Secretary

Jaba Samushia - Head of PR Department

Party structure:

The Congress of the party is the NDP's main body. Congress is held every 2 years. The Congress determines the strategy and priorities of the party. The Congress elects Presidium that runs the session, Main Council, Leader of the party, General Secretary and Speaker of the Main Council.

The party Main Council meets one a month and runs the party between Congress's sessions. The main Council's Presidium meets once a week and supervises the executive branch of the party.

The party also has a Big Council that consists of chairmen of rayon organizations and party leaders. The Big council is held every 6 month and is an advisory branch of the party.

Party history:

In 1906 Iliia Chavchavadze started the process of forming the National Democratic wing party. But after his death the official process was stopped and only in 1917 was the National Democratic Party officially founded. First chairman was Spiridon Kedia.

In 1981 Giorgi Chanturia restored party. He was the chairman of the NDP till he was killed in 1994. After 1996 his wife Irina Sarishvili-Chanuria was the leader of the party

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Georgia's way

Georgia's Way is a political party in Georgia. It was registered on March 11, 2006. The chairman of the party is former Georgian Foreign Minister Salome Zourabichvili, who was sacked by Prime Minister Zurab Nogaideli in October 2005. The former French diplomat had participated in a series of disputes with members of Parliament and had been heavily criticized by a number of Georgian ambassadors.

The day after her sacking, Zourabichvili called on Georgians to gather in the thousands at the Tbilisi Hippodrome to express solidarity with her. Addressing the crowd the former Cabinet Minister said, "This is not a political gathering... this does not mean a call for revolution. Georgia has already undergone a revolution [the 2003 Rose Revolution] and this was the correct way; but unfortunately they [the authorities] have turned away from this road... People, who need democracy, who want a civilized European system, are here. Today, I will start a new life, together with you - for you and your children, calmly, as it should be in a civilized country."

Georgia's Way held its inaugural assembly on March 12, in front of roughly 2000 supporters gathered in the Tbilisi Philharmonic Hall. Zourabichvili said that Georgia currently faced two major threats: a return back to a pre-Rose Revolution period and, as she put it 'revolutionism'. MP Gia Tortladze became the chairman of the party's political council, but has since resigned. Mr Tortladze is a member of the Democratic Front parliamentary faction, which unites MPs from the weaker opposition Republican Party and Conservative Party of Georgia groupings.

At present it is difficult to define the policies of Georgia's Way, which has largely stuck to pragmatic and constructive criticism of the government. Zourabichvili has been largely against protest rallies frequently organised by the less popular opposition parties such as the Georgian Labour Party. Speaking to Rustavi 2 television on July 11 the 54 year-old said, "People do not want to come out into the streets and they do not want revolutions and upheavals. People want democracy and people want a fair investigation of the Girgvliani murder case." 28-year-old Sandro Girgvliani, the head of the United Georgian Bank's international relations department, became a high-profile murder case after a televised report indicated that several top-level officials from the Interior Ministry could have links to the crime. Also on 28th July, Zourabichvili became the only opposition leader to hail the Kodori Gorge operation which saw the government remove rebel warlord Emzar Kvitsiani from the territory. She went on to say that she "congratulate[d] the authorities on the decision to relocate the [exiled pro-Tbilisi] Abkhaz authorities to [the] Gorge."

In broad terms Ms Zourabichvili does appear to lean towards some form of liberalism. While addressing the March assembly of Georgia's Way, the opposition leader remarked, "We have to bring back Georgian values; the tolerance and solidarity that are we are losing today. We have to accept others' opinions, because without the diversity of opinions it is impossible to build a state". In addition the group promised to base itself on the protection of private property and human rights, and the rule of law. The safeguarding of a free and responsible media is also one of the main views espoused by the movement.

Although party chairman Zourabichvili enjoys a high reputation in the country Georgia's Way has not been able to establish itself in the political field. At the city council elections in Tbilisi on October 5, 2006 only 2.77% of the constituency voted for the party. Six months before, an opinion poll conducted by the Georgian weekly Kviris Palitra suggested that Zourabichvili would garner 23.1% of the votes at presidential elections

Christian-Democratic movement

What does Christian Democracy mean to us?

Christianity and Democracy are two concepts which provide ultimate solution to all those problems our movement is designed to address. Christianity has long been an essential part of the Georgian reality, while democracy is a relatively new phenomenon, which is in its starting phase. We see Christian Democracy as a spiritual and political way of life in the 21st century Georgia. Therefore, for us it is a policy based on Christian values, which should be carried out in all important spheres of life - economy, social welfare, culture, education, etc...

About our movement

The Christian Democratic Movement is neither a religious organisation nor a secular society for Christians. It is simply a political party with no intention to replace the church and turn a political podium into a pulpit. We clearly distance political statements from religious preaching and fully acknowledge that forming a political programme from the Bible is virtually impossible. However, we plan to carry out a well thought-out, responsible policy which will be based on a Christian ideology.

What are the major principles of the Christian democratic policy?

1. Moral values

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Our movement is based on Christian ethics and moral values. We strongly believe that distancing politics from moral values is unacceptable.

2. Responsibility

A human being is free and therefore responsible. This is a Christian concept of understanding a human phenomenon. We believe that only humans with a sense of responsibility - as a modern nation - are capable of building a real democracy.

3. Solidarity

Benevolence and supportiveness are virtues which can unite the whole society and facilitate a social, ethnic and cultural dialogue in the country.

4. Knowledge

A belief in God without knowledge can cause fanaticism. Only a nation focused on knowledge and education can build a modern state.

5. Work

In Georgia hard work is supposed to be the only means to achieving a universal value - independence of an individual.

6. Belief in God

All above mentioned principles are united into a phenomenon which is the foundation stone for the Georgian national and state perception and simultaneously rules out any nationalistic or religious intolerance. This phenomenon is a belief in God, which shaped Georgia into a country where people from all folks of life have lived together in peace and agreement.

What do we support?

- An honest and responsible internal and foreign policy based on moral values;
- Membership to Euro-Atlantic organisations;
- Rational, peaceful and friendly relations with all neighbouring countries;
- Rule of law and order;
- A fair and tolerant state;
- Uninfringeable property rights as a guarantor of individual freedom;
- A social dialogue between all classes of the population;
- Patriotism based on education;
- Establishment of Christian values in all spheres of life;
- Christian tolerance;
- Protection of cultural traditions and national identity;
- Independence of state and church from one another;

We believe:

Georgian Christian Democracy is the only ideology which will successfully address the challenges Georgia as a modern state is facing at an international or national level and preserve our national and cultural identity.

Please indicate, if relevant, the position of political parties in relation to each other on a 10 point left-right scale. On this scale, 1 is the most extreme left position, 10 is the most extreme right position. 11 can be used to indicate that a political party cannot be ranked on the 10 points scale.

Study Description

		left 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	right 10	11
1	National movement		2							9		
2	Labor Party		2									
3	New Rightists Party								8			
4	Republican Party								8			
5	Industrial Party						6					
6	Conservative Party				4							
7	For United Georgia						6					
8	People's Party			3								
9	Georgia's way							7				
10	National Democratic Party							7				
11	Party "Samartlianoba" (Justice)											11
12	Christian-Democratic movement								8			
13	Party of Future											11
14	Party "Tavisufleba" (Party of freedom movement)											11

Please indicate the party size for each political party, by providing each party's share of the vote in the last national legislative election.

	Name of Party/Electoral Bloc	Number of Votes (proportional)	
1	Political Union of Citizens' "Georgian Policy"	8,231	0.46%
2	Georgian Republican Party	67,037	3.78%
3	"Rightist Alliance, Topadze-Industrialists"	16,440	0.93%
4	"Shalva Natelashvili – Georgian Labor Party"	132,092	7.44%
5	United National Movement – for Victorious Georgia"	1,050,237	59.18%
6	Political Union "Union of Georgian Sportsmen"	3,308	0.19%
7	United Opposition (National Council, New Rights)	314,668	17.73%
8	National Party of Radical Democrats of All Georgia	3,180	0.18%
9	Political Union "Christian-Democratic Alliance"	15,839	0.89%
10	Giorgi Targamadze – Christian-Democrats"	153,634	8.66%
11	"Traditionalists – Our Georgia and Women's Party	7,880	0.44%
12	Georgian Political Party "Our Country"	2,101	0.12%

When was the last national legislative elections? (DD/MM/YY):

- 21.05.08 last parliamentary elections

Study Description

ELECTORAL SYSTEM

Please indicate the number of votes registered in the national legislative elections

Only one single vote registered :

Total number of voters: 3 465 736

The number of voters participated in parliamentary elections, 21st of May 2008: 1 850 407

Description of the electoral system with details and precision :

THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK AND ELECTION SYSTEM

The legal framework for elections consists of the Constitution (1995), the UEC (2001, amended numerous times), other legislative acts including the Criminal Code and Administrative Offences Code, and legal acts of the election administration.

Only two months prior to the elections, on 11 and 12 March 2008, major changes to the parliamentary election system were introduced into the Constitution. In addition, the UEC was amended on 21 March to include the changes to the election system, as well as amendments to the election administration, campaign regulations, and complaints and appeals procedures.¹ These amendments take into account a number of recommendations made by the OSCE/ODIHR, although others remain unaddressed. Opposition parties, domestic observer organizations and the Public Defender voiced dissatisfaction at the inadequate level of consultations and lack of transparency during the amendment process.

Although the UEC is generally conducive to the conduct of democratic elections, it contains a number of new provisions which liberalize campaign restrictions, resulting in an unequal playing field in favour of the ruling UNM party. In particular, Article 76 now allows use of administrative resources for campaign purposes and Article 76 prima 1 permits political officials³ to mix campaign activities with official duties. These provisions fall short of OSCE commitments. These amendments were introduced by the majority without any consultation with key stakeholders. In addition, remaining gaps, inconsistencies, and ambiguities in the UEC resulted in uncertainties and varying interpretations among the stakeholders, thus impeding effective implementation of the law.

The new Parliament consists of 150 members elected for a four-year term. Under the March 2008 amendments, 75 members are elected under a list-based proportional system in one nationwide constituency, and another 75 are elected in 75 single-mandate constituencies. The election system was modified without reaching a consensus between the UNM and opposition parties. The threshold which parties and blocs must pass to participate in the allocation of mandates from the proportional component was lowered from 7 to 5 per cent. In the majoritarian component, the candidate who receives the highest number of votes, but not less than 30 per cent of votes cast, is elected. If no candidate receives the required plurality, a second round is held within two weeks between the two candidates who received the highest number of votes.

The UEC does not require single-mandate constituencies to be of equal or comparable size. In these elections, the number of voters in individual election districts, which as a rule coincide with the administrative districts, ranged from around 6,000 to over 140,000. Such large variations undermine one of the main principles of electoral rights, namely the equality of the vote. In amending the Constitution and the UEC, Parliament did not try to address this imbalance.

Other documentation: Georgia

Sampling procedure

The used sample design involved **a five-stage random cluster sampling** and the sampling frame was based on data from the 2002 census, which is considered as having been the most accurate population information available in Georgia. In this sampling design the sampling units were:

- 1) Regions and individual cities (Tbilisi and six other principal cities)
- 2) Towns and villages (primary sampling units, PSUs)
- 3) Districts in cities, towns, and villages in rural areas (sampling points, SPs)
- 4) Household (a group of individuals living under the same roof and using the same kitchen for cooking their meals)
- 5) Randomly selected adult members of households

At the first stage, the number of respondents was allocated using probability-proportional-to-size (PPS) method. Likewise, at the second and third stages, PSUs and SPs were selected with a probability proportional to the unit size. Households (fourth stage) were selected using a random route technique and respondents for the household level (fifth stage) they were selected via the next-birthday technique. Response and rates for respondent cooperation are attached to this technical report.

Further details about each stage of the sampling design are given below.

Stage 1 - Primary sampling units

At the first stage of the sampling design Georgia was divided into 11 regions; the division being based on the official administrative and geographic regions of the country.

1	Tbilisi
2	Kakheti
3	Shida Kartli
4	Kvemo Kartli
5	Samtskhe Javakheti
6	Ajara
7	Guria
8	Samegrelo
9	Imereti & Svaneti
10	Mtskheta Mtianeti
11	Racha

Each region was stratified according to three criteria:

- a) Large cities over 45,000 individuals - There are seven large cities in Georgia including the capital. All of them will be included in the sampling frame and are regarded as having been self-representative cities or PSUs.
- b) Other cities and towns with populations of less than 45,000
- c) Rural settlements

The number of interviews in all 10 regions was allocated proportional to the size of the adult population in each region.

Stage 2 - Selection of PSUs

In this stage the PSUs are equivalent to “rayons”- there are a total of 59 rayons (PSUs) in Georgia (excluding Abkhazia and Ossetia). The final sample covered 24 PSUs; this included seven self-representative PSUs were also included in this number. Due to the security reasons, areas close to Ossetian (town of Akhagori, which was and continues to be under by Russian

troops and the buffer zone areas), as well as the town Zugdidi (villages and small towns surrounding town of Zugdidi) were excluded from the sampling framework.

Stage 3 - Selection of sampling points (SPs)

In urban areas the SPs were census districts whereas in rural areas an entire village was considered as an SP. There are total of 16,582 registered census districts in Georgia and for each one, information existed as to its location/address and the size of the adult population.

In the pre-selected PSUs (according to PPS), the number of SPs were determined and per each selected SP around 10 interviews were completed. Rural areas villages are considered as a separate SP and from the list of villages, (this list contains information on the number of adult population per village), and the SPs was selected by PPS. The achieved sampling framework consisted of 188 randomly selected (via PPS) SPs

Stage 4 - Selection of households

Selection of households was conducted by the application of a random route technique. For each one, SP starting points were identified and given to supervisors who then instructed interviewers as to how sampling mechanism was to be completed. Interviewers were then instructed to make up to two call backs if the original respondent was not available at the time of the initial contact.

SAMPLING POINTS

The interviewer was given a route map in which a starting point for each sample point was accurately indicated. Every interviewer was then expected to have conducted no less than 10 interviews for urban SP and 5 among rural sampling points.

The choice of starting points for all SP was made by the project manager or supervisor and was not left to the interviewer's discretion. The STARTING POINT may be any point along the route, including day care establishments, schools, hospitals, administration buildings, or the beginning or end of a street (the starting point was indicated on the route map beforehand). If the starting point was the beginning of a street, it is necessary to keep to one side of the street (right or left). If a crossroad is met during the route, it is necessary to turn at this juncture and stay to the same side of the route until an appropriate respondent was chosen (i.e. if the left side is chosen, it was necessary to keep to the left side of the crossroad). If the required number of appropriate

respondents was not found and the street ended, the interviewer should then have turned to the other side of the street and continued to the left handed side of the street.

If the starting point had been a multi-storied building, the interviewer should have proceeded to the top floor and knocked at the door of the apartment on the side of which he followed during the route. It was not possible to skip any apartment until the appropriate respondent was found. After the interview with the appropriate respondent was completed the interviewer was to have followed the route and selected every fifth apartment. The interviewer followed this method after a successful interview was completed. In other cases s/he should have visited the next apartment until an interview was completed.

If the interviewer were meeting private houses/plots on the sampling route, he should follow the instructions as indicated above and to have visited every fifth household.

Interviews were held only in buildings that contained residences. Exceptions were those buildings (private hospitals, shops, restaurants, etc.), where one or more families permanently resided.

The interviewer must allow the supervisor to have been informed of and coordinated with him any changes that were concerned with the route that occurred during the fieldwork.

Note:

The fieldwork was originally planned earlier, however, due to Russia Georgia was we had to postpone it for several weeks. Moreover, though the random sampling methodology was strictly followed by the field force (and consequently quality control procedure has proved this), we found big difference between when gender data is compared to the census information. One of the main reason for having more women than man in the final data file is that before and after the war males were either mobilized for army or tend not to be at household during the fieldwork. On regular basis, when we conduct the fieldworks using the same methodology we have much smaller bias for gender.

Comparative statistics:

	Census statistics	Survey statistics
Gender		
Male	47.1%	37.1%
Female	52.9%	62.9%
Age		
18 - 29	24.70%	20.2%
30 - 50	42.03%	40.3%
51 - 65	20.03%	21.8%
66 - 100	13.24%	10.0%
No answer		1.7%
Education		
Complete higher	21.1%	35.1%
Incomplete higher	3.2%	5.5%
Complete specialized secondary	14.8%	22.3%
Complete general secondary (10-11 years)	33.8%	25.0%
Incomplete general secondary (8-9 years)	10.9%	9.0%
Primary education	16.2%	3.1%

NB. Census statistics comes from 2002 census and only nationwide stats are available at the moment.