

Stop the Killing of Freedom of Expression in Georgia

The re-introduction of the draft law of '*transparency of foreign influence*' by the Georgian Parliament, is a barbaric attack on democracy and the freedom of expression, which represent the aspirations most of the Georgian people after freeing themselves from the communist yoke of the Soviet Union.

The vast majority of the Georgians aspire to build their future based on democratic principles and freedoms, which constitute the great heritage of the West.

Unfortunately, we know that the Georgian people have not yet been able to achieve complete independence from Russian tyranny because their territories, like Samachablo and Abkhazia, are still occupied by Russia. For years, negotiations for Georgia's accession to the European Union have been ongoing, and for Russian President Putin, this cannot be accepted.

All democratic forces must use all legitimate means to block this attempt by the Kremlin to keep the Georgian people on a leash by imposing enormously liberty-killing behaviors that suffocate human dignity and the legitimate aspirations of people to a life of peace and freedom.

The 'European Journalists Association' (EJ) stands close to all Georgian journalists in this challenging moment and shares the anxieties and concerns of all Georgians who want to live in democracy, freedom, and dignity, the great gift of life.

I invite all EJ members to work together to support the cause of freedom and democracy for the Georgian people.

Paolo Magagnotti
EJ President