

# On Georgia's performance of 12 recommendations set forth by the European Commission to receive EU candidate status

The Council of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE) Party convening in Bratislava, Slovakia, on 2-3 December 2022:

# Acknowledges:

 that On 23 June, the European Council recognised the European perspective of Georgia and confirmed that Georgia needs to implement the 12 key priorities set forth by the Commission to receive EU candidate status.

# Strongly condemns the:

- disinformation campaign and accusation spearheaded by the Chairman of Georgia's ruling party Irakli Kobakhidze that the West wants to drag Georgia into war with Russia. Those accusations are entirely fabricated and coincide with Russian rhetoric.
- ongoing politically-motivated criminal cases against critical media outlets (Formula, Pirveli, Mtavari) and its owners, and against leaders of the opposition including Khazaradze and Japaridze; on 8 November 2022, the European Parliament AFET Report on Georgia noted that 'The decision of the court to convict the leaders of Lelo for Georgia party, Mamuka Khazaradze and Badri Japaridze, and using the court's verdict to strip Japaridze of his parliamentary mandate is a clear demonstration of a case of politicized justice;

### Calls on:

- the European Council to grant Georgia candidate status as soon as and after the Commission's all 12 conditionalities are fully implemented;
- the European Commission to speed up Georgia's evaluation process by providing concrete benchmarks and deadlines;
- the ruling party and Georgian authorities to take decisive steps towards de-oligarchisation through the elimination of Bidzina Ivanishvili's influence on Georgian state institutions, the judicial system, law enforcement, and the Parliament;
- the European Union member states to impose travel bans on individuals and groups involved in anti-Western propaganda and violation of human rights: on (1) the leader and founder of radical group "AltInfo" Konstantine Morgoshia, responsible for organizing the violence committed against media representatives and minority groups on July 5-6, 2021; (2) on the judge Lasha Chkhikvadze who made a

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politically-motivated decision to arrest Nika Gvaramia, the founder of Mtavari TV;

- the President of Georgia to exercise her discretionary power to pardon Mikheil Saakashvili, former president and Nika Gvaramia, the general manager of Mtavari TV as a way to depolarise the political situation and to stop the politically motivated justice;
- the chairman of the ruling party Irakli Kobakhidze to stop offensive verbal attacks on the EU institutions, and members of the European parliament. Such attacks pose a threat to the EU integration process of Georgia.

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