

14 August 2020

Do not recognize the election results

We, member organizations of the Georgian National Platform (GNP) hereby condemn the violence against peaceful Belarusian citizens.

As a result of actions taken by the riot police, thousands of people have been arrested and two have died who protested non-compliance of presidential elections held in Belarus on August 9 with the democratic standards. Among those detained are journalists whose whereabouts remain unknown.

Many cases of human rights violations, including beatings, psychological pressure and degrading treatment, have been reported. Both, before and after the elections, illegal pressure has been exerted on political opponents, civil activists, media and students. Restricted Internet access hindered the ability of the Belarusian people to share information about the ongoing events and public sentiments in the country with the general public and the international community.

Lukashenko's regime pushed his political opponents out of the way and arrested them ahead of the election, which is unacceptable.

We, GNP member organizations hereby urge the Government of Georgia not to recognize the election results.

We also call on the EU institutions, the member states and the democratic community not to allow the dictatorial regime to vanquish and violently suppress Belarusian people’s will, to ignore their aspiration to freedom and to hinder their democratic development.

***Undersigned Organizations:***

1. Liberal Academy Tbilisi
2. Association of Business Consulting Organizations of Georgia
3. International Business and Economic Development Centre
4. Trade Union of Georgia
5. Association "Toleranti"
6. Journalism Resource Center
7. World Experience for Georgia
8. Association and Radio "Green Wave"
9. The Greens Movement of Georgia/ Friends of the Earth Georgia
10. Youth Alternative
11. Research-Intellectual Club "Dialogue of Generations"
12. Foundation ”Multi-ethnic Resource Centre on Civic Education Development”
13. Teachers' Union "Education and Universe"
14. Caucasus Environmental NGO Network (CENN)
15. Association of Tea Producers Georgia “Georgian Tea”
16. Georgia International Development Agency
17. Association European Studies for Innovative Development in Georgia
18. Association “Save the Future Generation”
19. Public Movement "Multinational Georgia" (PMMG)
20. Association "Consent"
21. Association for the Farmers' Rights Defence
22. International Business Development and Investment Promotion Centre
23. Human Rights Research Centre
24. International Association Civitas Georgica
25. Center “Empathy”
26. Center for Strategic Research and Development of Georgia (CSRDG)