



**EaP CSF Georgian National Platform Statement  
regarding the Orlando, Florida, Shooting in June 12, 2016**

The Eastern Partnership Civic Society Forum Georgian National Platform, would like to express our deepest sympathy and support for the victims and their families of the Orlando mass shooting 2016, June 12. We grieve for the families that have been affected.

This outrageous attack on innocent citizens is not just on the LGBTQ community in Florida, but is an attack on all humanity and the universal values that we share.

America was founded on the idea that each person is entitled to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) rights in the United States have evolved and progressed over time, as demonstrated in the U.S. Supreme Court rulings in *Lawrence v. Texas* (legalized same-sex sexual activity) and *Obergefell v. Hodges* (same-sex marriage legalization and recognition). Civil rights for LGBTQ people in the United States are advocated by a variety of organizations. That is why the worst mass shooting in the U.S. history was so unexpected.

The United States of America is the oldest ally of Georgia, and we always feel huge support from the American people. Thus we would like to be very clear that we stand together with America in the fight against terrorism and extremism.

We condemn any kind of motive or purpose that is designed to restrict human rights.

We will not let hate win!

*Signatory Organisation:*

1. Georgian Foundation for Strategic and International Studies
2. Local Democracy Agency Georgia
3. European Initiative - Liberal Academy Tbilisi
4. Institute for Development of Freedom of Information (IDFI)
5. Public Advocacy
6. Healthy World
7. Youth for Justice - Georgia
8. Union "Healthy Children"
9. Georgian Association "Woman in Business"
10. International Business and Economic Development Centre
11. Foundation Caucasus Environment
12. IDP Women Association "Consent"
13. Georgian Trade Union Confederation
14. Georgian Association of Regional Broadcasters
15. Union "Anti-Violence Network of Georgia"
16. The Center for Strategic Research and Development of Georgia
17. Repatriates' Union
18. Women's Initiatives supporting Group
19. Imereti Union of Science - "SPECTRI"
20. Association for the efficient use of the Georgian energy resources
21. "School-Family-Society" Association
22. Human Rights House Tbilisi
23. Community Development Association
24. Cultural-Humanitarian Fund "Sukhumi"
25. Civil Council on Defense and Security Issues
26. Institute for Euro-Atlantic integration and strategic studies
27. Junior achievement of Georgia
28. Association "MERKURI"
29. Young socialists of Georgia
30. The Greens Movement of Georgia
31. Union "Article 42 of the Constitution"
32. International Fund of Sustainable Development
33. "Women Enterprise" Fund Georgia

34. Foundation "Multi- Ethnic Resource Centre on Civic Education Development"
35. Human Rights Centre
36. Center of Development and Democracy
37. World Experience for Georgia
38. Peaceful and Business Caucasus
39. Civil Society and Democracy Development Center
40. Youth Alternative
41. Association for the Farmers' Rights Defence
42. Association of Tea Producers Georgia "Georgian Tea"
43. Bridge of Friendship – Kartlosi
44. International Center of Geopolitical research
45. Georgia's Reforms Associates
46. Europe Foundation
47. Biological Farming Association "Elkana"
48. United Public Movement "Multinational Georgia"
49. UN Association of Georgia
50. International Foundation LEA
51. OXFAM Georgia
52. People's Harmonious Development Society
53. International Society "Caucasian Mosaic"
54. EMPATHY
55. Association Psychea
56. Coalition for Independent Living