



## Statement regarding “Rustavi 2” case

On July 12, legal representatives of Rustavi 2 appealed the decree of Tbilisi Court of Appeal to the Supreme Court of Georgia that remained unaffected decision of the Tbilisi City Court stating the ownership of 100% shares of the company by Kibar Kalvashi.

The civil sector has been observing ongoing trials. During this period, we have made several statements regarding deficiencies revealed in the process, including decreasing the period of appeal by court, as well as the groundless ruling of court of first instance.

Taking into consideration other circumstances as a background to the hearings in Tbilisi Court of Appeal and especially in the court of first instance, doubts on the possible political influence on the judiciary are strengthened that causes our high concerns. Considering the pre-election period, these kind of events around the critical television, that can likely cause changes in its editing politics, may damage the pluralistic media environment, as well as the quality of democracy in the country.

We urge the Supreme Court of Georgia to declare it admissible and trial the case with complete protection of the legislation, in order to exclude those questions about possible political interests in the case that are present during the trials.

**საქართველოს ახალგაზრდა იურისტთა ასოციაცია**  
**GEORGIAN YOUNG LAWYERS' ASSOCIATION**



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The International Society for Fair Elections and Democracy (ISFED)

The Economic Policy Research Center (EPRC)

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