

INCOMPLETE ASSET DECLARATIONS OF PUBLIC OFFICIALS OF THE BATUMI MUNICIPALITY

The assets declarations of 10 public officials of the City Council, City Hall, and municipal organizations of the Batumi Municipality were filled out incompletely. TI Georgia has studied the asset declarations of 46 officials of the municipality that were filled out in the years 2019-2020.

Six of the violations identified concern incomplete declaration of property (real estate, stakes in enterprises) owned by public officials and their family members. In addition, in **7** cases, the public officials who own stakes in enterprises have not transferred them to other persons on the basis of a trust agreement, which also violates the requirements of the Law on Conflict of Interest and Corruption in Public Service.

TI Georgia also studied the asset declarations of officials of the Batumi Municipality in 2018 and [identified](#) violations. We applied to the Civil Service Bureau, which, in 2019, studied the declarations of the individuals mentioned in our study and included them in its monitoring [report](#) of the same year. The document reads that five of the eight public officials of the Batumi Municipality indicated in TI Georgia’s study (Sopio Mikeladze, Levan Maminaishvili, Irakli Pataridze, Natalia Dzidziguri and Mirdat Kamadadze) [were fined](#) on the grounds of shortcomings revealed by the organization and information to which the agency does not have access (bank accounts of the officials and their family members).

It is a welcome fact that Sopio Mikeladze, Levan Maminaishvili, Neriman Tsintsadze, Zurab Nakaidze, and Irakli Pataridze have rectified the discovered violations in the new declarations. However, there are officials who have filled out the declarations of 2019 with the violations identified in the previous year. These officials are Omar Makharadze, Badri Partenadze, Davit Dumbadze, Davit Diasamidze, Archil Bolkvadze, and Niko Tavdgiridze.

This time, too, TI Georgia is going to forward the findings below to the Public Service Bureau so that the Bureau will respond as provided for by law.



JABA TUGUSHI
Vice-Mayor of Batumi

According to his asset [declaration](#), Jaba Tugushi owns a 10% stake in the construction company [GII XXI](#). According to the Law on Conflict of Interest and Corruption in Public Service, the Vice-Mayor was supposed to transfer the management rights of his stake to another person after his appointment to the office, which he failed to do. In an [interview](#) with the Batumelebi media outlet, the Vice-Mayor said that, from 2018, he had transferred his 10% stake in the company to his father on the basis of a trust agreement, though this information [cannot be found](#) in the Public Registry data.

The Batumelebi media outlet has also found out that GII XXI LLC is a family business whose stakes [are co-owned](#) by the Vice-Mayor’s close relatives. The company has built a 24-storey apartment building in the coastline adjacent to the aqua park. In 2017, Jaba Tugushi’s spouse purchased three apartments in this building with a total value of USD 68,343, while in 2019 she bought an apartment with an area of 93.25 sq. meters in the same building for GEL 279,950.



SOPHIKO KHALVASHI
Deputy Mayor of Batumi

In her asset [declaration](#) of 2020, Sophiko Khalvashi failed to indicate that she owns a 51% stake in [Macro Studio LLC](#) and a 33.4% stake in [Basti-Bubu Achara LLC](#). Ms. Khalvashi had also failed to indicate this information in her [declaration](#) of 2019. In addition, she didn’t transfer the management rights of her stakes to another person after her appointment to the office. These circumstances constitute a violation of the Law on Conflict of Interest and Corruption in Public service.



OMAR MAKHARADZE
Member of the City Council of Batumi

Omar Makharadze ceased to be the Chairperson of the City Council’s Commission on Legal and Procedural Issues from May 2019. He resigned from the office after an investigation was launched against him on the charges of sexual harassment of a student of Batumi State University. Mr. Makharadze was obliged to temporarily transfer the stakes (50% in [Aisi LLC](#) and 20% in [Tskali Makharobeli LLC](#)) indicated in the [declaration](#) filled out before he resigned from the office, on January 25, 2019, to another person on the basis of a trust agreement. TI Georgia had also indicated this violation in its [study](#) of 2018.



ANZOR DEVADZE
Chairperson of the Georgian Dream – Industrialists faction of the City Council of Batumi

Similarly to the previous year’s [document](#), in the [declaration](#) submitted on February 21, 2020, Anzor Devadze failed to include information about the entrepreneurial activity of his spouse, Darejan Abashidze. Darejan Abashidze owns a 50% stake in [Puris Sakhli LLC](#). Currently, the company is not actively involved in public procurements, thought in the years 2011-2012 it won 2 tenders with a total value of GEL 69,810 and also obtained 4 simplified procurement contracts with a value of up to GEL 2,200.



MIRDAT KAMADADZE
Chairperson of the United National Movement faction of the City Council of Batumi

According to the asset [declaration](#) filled out on December 31, 2019, Mirdat Kamadadze owns a 40% stake in [G L G LLC](#). He has failed to transfer the management rights of his stake to another person, which is a violation of law. TI Georgia also indicated this circumstance in its [study](#) of 2018.



BADRI PARTENADZE
Director of Batumi Autotransport LLC

In the asset [declaration](#) of 2019, Badri Partenadze failed to rectify the violations that had been identified [in 2018](#). Specifically, the director of Batumi Autotransport owns a 33.3% stake in [Marine Safety Net LLC](#), a 30% stake in [Okros Tavtavi 2010 LLC](#), and a 5% stake in [Dolphin Salvage Co LLC](#). According to the Law on Conflict of Interest and Corruption in Public Service, Mr. Partenadze was supposed to transfer the management rights of the said stakes to another person on the basis of a trust agreement, which he failed to so.



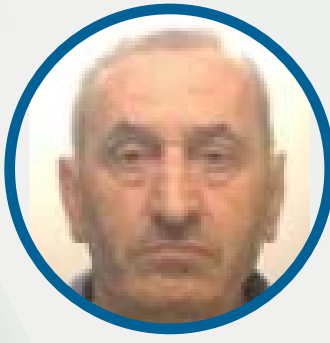
DAVIT DUMBADZE
Director of Sandasuptaveba LLC

In the asset [declaration](#) of 2019, Davit Dumbadze failed to rectify the violation that TI Georgia had discovered in his [declaration](#) of 2018. Specifically, the director of Sandasuptaveba LLC failed to declare the entrepreneurial activity of his spouse, Leila Gogiashvili, who is the director of [PREMIUM.B.-XXI LLC](#) and owns 100% stake in the company.



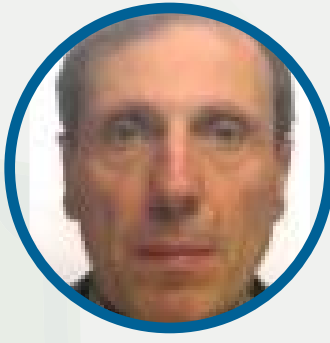
DAVIT DIASAMIDZE
Director of N(N)LE Batumi Greening and Landscape Planning Service

According to his asset [declaration](#) that was filled out in 2020, Davit Diasamidze owns a 30% stake in [Dadi LLC](#). According to the Law on Conflict of Interest and Corruption in Public Service, he was supposed to transfer the management rights of his stake to another person shortly after being appointed to the office, which he failed to do. The company does not take part in public procurements.



ARCHIL BOLKVADZE
Director of Dinamo Batumi LLC

In his asset [declaration](#) of 2019, Archil Bolkvadze failed to declare the following pieces of property owned by his spouse, Tsira Mamukashvili: an apartment with an area of [33.62 sq. meters](#) in Rustavi and a land plot with an area of [160 sq. meters](#) at Green Cape. TI Georgia had also pointed to the said violation in its previous [study](#) which assessed the data of 2018.



NIKO TAVDGIRIDZE
Head of Volleyball Club ‘Batumi’

Similarly to 2018, Niko Tavdgiridze also failed to declare the ownership of an [apartment](#) with an area of 75.92 sq. meters (located on Inasaridze Street in Batumi) in the asset [declaration](#) of 2019. TI Georgia had also indicated this violation in its previous [study](#).