

Targeting Journalists

November 28 – December 9

This document was prepared by "Georgia's European Orbit" based on publicly available sources, including media footage, victim testimonies, statements from non-governmental organizations (NGOs). The information provided is intended for informational purposes only and reflects the findings of the organization based on these sources.



7 December

Tbilisi, Georgia
Photo – OC Media

Name	Maka Chikhladze, Giorgi Shetsiruli
Story	Journalist Maka Chickhladze with TV Pirveli while covering the protest, have been violently attacked by groups of organized masked Individuals. "TV Pirveli" captured footage showing these groups attacking and physically abusing individuals, with law enforcement reportedly failing to respond promptly. According to media reports citing sources from the State Security Service, Deputy Head Levan Akhobadze summoned employees from private security firms with athletic builds, personally instructing them to neutralize protesters. Additionally, on Besiki Street, unknown individuals dressed in black physically assaulted a "TV Pirveli" crew during a live broadcast. Cameraman Giorgi Shetsiruli suffered a head injury, while journalist Maka Chikhladze sustained injuries to her face and other body parts.
Sources	1. https://www.facebook.com/tvpirveli.ge/videos/919535373146540 2. https://tvpirveli.ge/ka/siaxleebi/sazogadoeba/88466-tvitmkhilveli-jurnalistebs-savaraudod-spetsrazmi-gaustsorda-mat-hkavdat-met ქსე



6 December

Tbilisi, Georgia
Photo – Publika

Name	Mindia Gabadze
Story	Mindia Gabadze Journalist from the “Publika” was attacked on Rustaveli Avenue near the National Gallery while performing his professional duties. Police officers were stationed just a few meters away from the scene but did not react immediately. As seen in footage released by “Publika,” citizens approach the police and call on them to respond to the incident that occurred nearby. However, one of the officers remains inside the car, while the other calmly gets into the vehicle despite the citizens' appeals.
Sources	1. https://www.facebook.com/publika.ge/videos/500390099006312/



1 December

Tbilisi, Georgia
Photo – Radio Liberty

Name	Beka Beradze
Story	On December 1, Radio Liberty producer Beka Beradze was detained near the protest site by special forces and transferred to the Sagarejo temporary detention facility. He recounted to his lawyer that while walking near the protest, he suddenly found himself surrounded by police officers. Despite informing them that he was a journalist, he was detained. Upon realizing he was from Radio Liberty, the officers became more aggressive and began beating him. He was then thrown into a minivan with other detainees and subjected to approximately an hour of beatings. The vehicle held about eight people. According to Beradze, special forces members would periodically open the door, ask detainees, “<i>Do you want a revolution?</i>” hit them, and then leave.
Sources	1. https://www.radiotavisupleba.ge/a/ბექა-ბერაძე-გამოუშვეს/33224550.html



6 December

Tbilisi, Georgia

Photo – Mtavari Arkhi video grab

Name	Beka Korshia
Story	During the dispersal of the protest on Rustaveli Avenue, journalist and TV host with <i>TV Mtavari</i>, Beka Korshia was arrested and transferred to the Zahesi temporary detention facility early in the morning. The information was reported by the television channel Mtavari Arkhi/Main Channel. According to the channel, Beka Korshia was arrested on administrative charges. They claim that Korshia was detained while assisting someone else. Footage released by the channel shows Beka Korshia being taken to the Zahesi facility. In the video, questions can be heard being directed at Korshia: <i>"Are you okay?"</i> To which he responds, <i>"Yes, I'm fine."</i> On December 8, the court fined Korkhia 2,200 GEL. After the trial, Korkhia stated that he had been subjected to physical violence.
Sources	1. https://www.radiotavisupleba.ge/a/33231373.html 2. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fMIj8MAgfMA 3. https://www.radiotavisupleba.ge/a/33230150.html



4 December

Tbilisi, Georgia

Photo – Mtavari Arkhi

Name	Shota Dimitrishvili
Story	On 4th Decmeber, journalist Shota Dimitrishvili was arrested on Chichinadze Street, next to Parliament. He was detained administratively, and according to his lawyer, he has been transferred to the Zahesi isolation facility. Juba Khatamadze, a lawyer claims that the journalist was beaten during his detention. According to the lawyer, like other detainees, Dimitrishvili was taken to the head of the Special Tasks Department, Zviad Kharazishvili, known as "Khareba," who allegedly humiliated the detainees. <i>" While they were talking, someone shouted at Khareba from behind, and as soon as Khareba was called, they immediately ran out and arrested him. [...] He speaks of violence. When they took him in, masked officers beat him in the head during transportation, insulted him, and hit him in the face, as he said. They took him up to Khareba, as they did with other detainees. Many said that the detainees who were arrested</i>

	<i>last night, including those arrested near Chichinadze, were taken to the same place where Khareba was in a car. They took his bag, which contained his phone. At Khareba's office, he was subjected to humiliating and offensive remarks, and Khareba reportedly filmed him, as others claimed," said lawyer Juba Khatamadze.</i>
Sources	1. https://publika.ge/gushin-parlamenttagamartul-ciaze-shota-dimitrishvili-daakaves/ 2. https://mtavari.tv/news/171698-miiqvanes-kharebas-mankanastan-rogoris-tviton

 28 November Tbilisi, Georgia Photo – Publika, video grab	
Name	Aleksandre Keshelashvili
Story	<i>Journalist with Publika, Aleksandre Keshelashvili was detained on November 29 by riot police. "It was the night of November 28, going into November 29. I was standing on the corner of Chichinadze Street with other media representatives. I felt safe; the situation didn't seem tense or out of control. Suddenly, we saw a group of masked individuals with no identification marks running directly toward us. They were shouting aggressively and cursing at both protesters and journalists.</i> <i>When I saw them rushing, I thought they were about to arrest a citizen. I began stepping back, trying to record from a safer spot, but they grabbed me and pulled me into their group. They immediately started beating me. I shouted that I was a journalist, but I soon heard one of them say, 'So, you're a journalist? Here's what we'll do to you,' followed by insults. It was then that I realized it didn't matter who I was or what my profession was; they were determined to hurt someone, anyone, with enthusiasm.</i> <i>For a while, they dragged me around, punching me and trying to rip everything off. I had identification marks on—a helmet, a gas mask, and a large press badge. I also had two cameras, which they took from me. They tore off my press badge, ripped off my gas mask, and tried to remove my helmet. It seems they hurt themselves punching my helmet because they struggled to take it off. They then formed a corridor and started hitting me from both sides as they dragged me toward detention. I collapsed several times, trying not to fall completely, but I saw people running behind me to hit me again. My only thought was to endure as long as I could. When I thought it was over, I looked up, and that's when I was hit the hardest. I fell and blacked out for a few seconds. When I came to, I saw someone kick me in the face.</i>

	<i>They dragged me further and took me behind the Parliament building. When I regained full consciousness, I remember saying, 'I can't take it anymore; stop hitting me, just arrest me.' At the station, doctors were waiting for us. They insisted that we urgently needed to be taken to the hospital. One detainee was losing consciousness; they couldn't stop my bleeding. My nose was in bad shape, and my head was also bleeding. I can't say they took us to the hospital quickly. They didn't remove my handcuffs for a long time and didn't even offer me water. They started drafting my charges, which included an 'admission of guilt,' stating that I was shouting obscenities and insulting the police. That was a complete lie, and I refused to sign. Only after that did they transfer me to the clinic.</i> <i>At the hospital, they conducted examinations. I had head injuries and am still under observation; there may be further complications. The most severe injury was to my nose, which had multiple fractures and required surgery. I also had swelling in the temple area, pain in the back of my head, neck, ribs, and legs.</i> <i>What hurts me the most is not the physical pain but the fact that I thought I'd return to work soon, only for the doctor to tell me that the recovery for my nose will take a long time. On the second day, when I fully processed everything, I felt much worse. Physical pain would have been easier to bear than this. For 11 years, I've been working in the field, covering every protest, always outside. Now I'm stuck at home, watching what's happening on television. One goal of attacking the media is not just to harm us physically but also to prevent us from returning to work. I won't say I'm scared, though. I'm hopeful I'll recover soon and return to covering events. Now, I'm even more motivated to continue."</i> – Says Aleksandre Keshelashvili with Publika.
Sources	1. https://publika.ge/video/publikis-djurnalisti-aleqsandre-qeshelashvili-tavis-cemasa-da-dakavebaze/

 2 December Tbilisi, Georgia Photo – Rustavi 2, video grab	
Name	Tamta Chitishvili
Story	"Rustavi 2" journalist Tamta Chitishvili, who was injured near the Parliament during a protest, has been transported to a medical facility. Tamta Chitishvili sustained an injury to her leg and may require surgical intervention.
Sources	1. https://rustavi2.ge/ka/news/299783



2 December

Tbilisi, Georgia
Photo – Rustavi 2, video grab

Name	Giorgi Nergadze
Story	"Rustavi 2" cameraman Giorgi Nergadze was injured near the Parliament area. He inhaled gas released during the protest. Emergency medical staff provided first aid to Giorgi Nergadze. At this stage, his condition is satisfactory.
Sources	1. https://shorturl.at/KdQzQ



29 November

Tbilisi, Georgia
Photo – Netgazeti

Name	Unidentified Journalist
Story	A "Rustavi 2" journalist was also injured by a water cannon and tear gas.
Sources	1. https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=2224341617935554



29 November

Tbilisi, Georgia

Photo - Mautskebeli, Formula

Name	Giorgi Chagelishvili
Story	On December 2, 2024, during the dispersal of citizens at Rustaveli Metro Station, police detained Giorgi Chagelishvili, a journalist from the online media platform "Mauwyebeli." Despite informing law enforcement officers that he was a journalist, Chagelishvili was taken into custody.
Sources	1. https://publika.ge/mauwyebeli-metroshdarbevis-dros-daichires-chveni-djurnalisti-giorgi-chagelishvili/?utm_source=chatgpt.com



28-29 November

Tbilisi, Georgia

Photo –

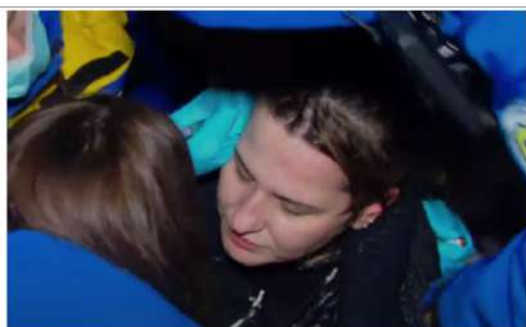
Name	Mirian Meladze
Story	On the night of October 29-30, during a protest on Rustaveli Avenue, Georgian Public Broadcaster photographer Mirian Meladze sustained injuries. Meladze suspects that rubber bullets fired by law enforcement struck his leg. He mentioned that a paramedic indicated the injury resembled those caused by rubber bullets. Meladze noted that, based on his position and movement, the shots likely originated from the police side rather than from protesters.
Sources	1. https://netgazeti.ge/news/754360/



2 December

Tbilisi, Georgia
Photo – Formula

Name	Theo Khubulava, Levan Kartvelishvili, Badri Gamreklashvili
Story	During the protest on Rustaveli Avenue, law enforcement officers used gas capsules, resulting in injuries to the Georgian Public Broadcaster's (GPB) crew. Journalist Teo Khubulava and cameramen Levan Kartvelishvili and Badri Gamreklashvili received medical assistance on-site from emergency medical personnel. Despite the incident, the GPB crew is currently in good health and continues to report from the protest.
Sources	1. https://shorturl.at/wwH3K



29 November

Tbilisi, Georgia
Photo – Tv pirveli

Name	Nino Lochoshvili
Story	After police used pepper spray at the protest near Parliament, a correspondent from "Adjara TV" fell ill. The reporter lost consciousness and required medical assistance.
Sources	1. https://tvpirveli.ge/ka/siaxleebi/politika/87124-politsiaam-tsitsakis-sprei-gamoikena-dashavda-acharis-televiziis-jurnalisti?fbclid=IwY2xjawG2W3FleHRuA2FlbQlXMQABHfc--VjNdt1u84-QtxmAb80BJyixQK68LV_4ijAL-PC9pXtel1hvHyxp3Q_aem_deGXAvoPoShA363Avova_g 2. https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=547422758181806



29 November

Tbilisi, Georgia
Photo – Formula Video grab

Name	Guram Rogava
Story	Attacked by a masked riot police officer, struck on the head, causing bleeding, and thrown to the ground. He has sustained a fractured vertebra and a fracture in the facial bone near his eye. He was hospitalized and operated.
Sources	1. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xx0buRjvkcc 2. https://www.radiotavisupleba.ge/a/33220188.html



30 November

Tbilisi, Georgia
Photo – Mtavari Arkhi

Name	Giorgi Kvishinadze
Story	On November 30, during the dispersal of protesters on Rustaveli Avenue, special forces physically assaulted "Formula" journalist Giorgi Kvishinadze. The dispersal began without prior warning, with special forces emerging from multiple directions, encircling protesters, and initiating detentions.
Sources	1. https://www.facebook.com/share/15czVNZC32/



4 December

Tbilisi, Georgia
Photo – Formula

აქტივისტი დაჰაზრებული
„ფორმულას“ ოპერატორი,
თავის დაზარალებულია
პროტესტის დროს

Name	Tedo Kvachakhia
Story	On December 4, "Formula" cameraman Tedo Kvachakhia sustained head injuries. He was transported to a clinic for treatment.
Sources	1. https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=948438063828732



4 December

Tbilisi, Georgia
Photo – Formula, video grab

Name	Luka Tkebuchava
Story	On December 4, special forces were firing gas canisters from the roof of the Rustaveli Theater. During this, two gas grenades struck "Formula" journalist Luka Tkebuchava. Both he and his cameraman, Misho Martashvili, fortunately escaped without injuries.
Sources	1. https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=3898865273768331



29 November

Tbilisi, Georgia
Photo –

Name	Nanuka Kajaia, Davit Bichikashvili
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Story	During the protest dispersal near the Parliament, law enforcement used water cannons, which affected the "TV Pirveli" crew during a live broadcast.
Sources	1. https://shorturl.at/fawDH



29 November

Tbilisi, Georgia
Photo – Publika

Name	Giorgi Shetsiruli
Story	Giorgi Shetsiruli was physically assaulted by riot police; injured a second time during a nighttime demonstration.
Sources	https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=1141731127382737&rdid=l5r0KsxXY44VbrU7



28-29 November

Tbilisi, Georgia
Photo – Mediachecker

Name	Ana Mdivani
Story	1. Journalist with TV Pirveli, Ana Mdivani was pepper-sprayed in the face, requiring emergency assistance.
Sources	1. https://shorturl.at/zAluu



29 November

Tbilisi, Georgia
Photo – Mediachecker

Name	Niko Kokaia
Story	During the protest on Rustaveli Avenue, "TV Pirveli" cameraman Niko Kokaia was injured while performing his professional duties. He was holding a camera and broadcasting live from Rustaveli Avenue when, despite this, special forces deliberately sprayed pepper spray directly into his face from close range.
Sources	1. https://shorturl.at/bLHAZ



29 November

Tbilisi, Georgia
Photo –

Name	Mariam Gaphrindashvili, Papuna Khachidze
Story	2. Mariam Gaphrindashvili, an investigative journalist with TV Pirveli was Seriously injured during a demonstration; suffered a head injury and required hospitalization. The brain CT scan showed no injuries, Gaphrindashvili was able to leave the clinic after 24 hours of observation. Papuna Khachidze prevented from working alongside Mariam Gaphrindashvili.
Sources	1. https://shorturl.at/6odS4 2. https://www.radiotavisupleba.ge/a/33220969.html 3. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IKLqJI4vsT4



2 December

Tbilisi, Georgia
Photo – TV Pirveli, video grab

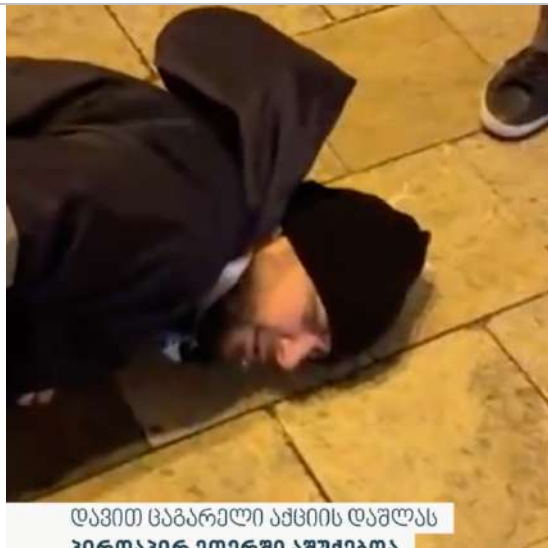
Name	Mariam Makasarashvili; Luka Bachilava
Story	Both journalist and cameraman with TV Pirveli were while carrying out professional duties.
Sources	1. https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=953689789957012



29 November

Tbilisi, Georgia
Photo – Mediachecker

Name	Dea Mamiseishvili, Giorgi Goginashvili
Story	Journalist and cameraman with TV Mtavari were injured while covering rally.
Sources	1. https://www.facebook.com/share/1AuLmo1H5H/



29 November

Tbilisi, Georgia
Photo – Radio Liberty video grab

Name	Davit Tsagareli, Salome Chaduneli, Ilia Ratiani, Zuka Khidasheli
Story	1. David Tsagareli was punched in the stomach by special forces and knocked to the ground. 2. Salome Chaduneli (journalist): Injured while covering the rally; sustained a laceration to the leg. 3. Ilia Ratiani: Prevented from performing professional duties. 4. Zuka Khidasheli: Prevented from performing professional duties.
Sources	1. https://www.facebook.com/reel/953559110152772



29 November

Tbilisi, Georgia
Photo – Publika

Name	Ana Mskhaladze
Story	Journalist with Publika was assaulted by riot police; her phone was confiscated and later destroyed. Ana Mskhaladze reported that <i>while filming the violent detention of citizens on Chichinadze Street, riot police threw her phone at her. After identifying herself as a journalist and attempting to retrieve the phone, she was struck in the head. She claimed that the police then took her phone and fled the scene.</i>
Sources	1. https://shorturl.at/tQ4GX



29 Novemer

Tbilisi, Georgia
Photo – Publika

Name	Basti Mgaloblishvili
Story	Basti Mgaloblishvili was kicked and slapped repeatedly while working.
Sources	1. https://shorturl.at/MNanz



29 November

Tbilisi, Georgia
Photo – Publika

Name	Mariam Nikuradze
Story	Journalist with OC media, Mariam Nikuradze was targeted with a water cannon and pepper spray; her camera was damaged. Later, Mariam Nikuradze revealed unconfirmed information, the co-founder and co-director of the outlet, Mariam Nikuradze, is on the list of people to be arrested by the government. Journalist and photo reporter Mariam Nikuradze has been actively covering the ongoing events in the country, including the protests that began on November 28. As OC Media reports, the list, which contained the names and personal identification numbers of 48 individuals, was provided by a source named Sandro. However, the source also mentioned that they could not confirm the authenticity of the list, though it includes people, such as actor Andro Chichinadze, who have already been arrested.
Sources	1. https://shorturl.at/blaeV 2. https://shorturl.at/ezdfa



29 November

Tbilisi, Georgia
Photo – Nino Tsverava video grap from X

Name	Nino Tsverava, Nino Shubitidze, Giorgi Baramidze
Story	Journalists with Studio Monitor were targeted and injured by law enforcement while filming near Kashveti Church. Nino Shubitidze was nterfered with by law enforcement; repeatedly pepper-sprayed, or Giorgi Baramidze, cameraman was kicked by the police.
Sources	1. https://tinyurl.com/bdek7pnj



29 November

Tbilisi, Georgia
Photo – Sopho Bukia

Name	Yulia Kalabano
Story	Sprayed with pepper spray, physically assaulted, and kicked while reporting.
Sources	1. https://tinyurl.com/2p9dvrf6

29 November

Tbilisi, Georgia
Photo –

Name	Irakli Managadze
Story	Irakli Managadze, journalist with the Expressnews was kicked by special forces officers.
Sources	1. https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=1566972067513245



29 November

Tbilisi, Georgia
Photo –

Name	Giorgi Baskhajauri
Story	Giorgi Baskhajauri, a journalist, was attacked while he was carrying out his professional duties. According to <i>April</i> , Baskhajauri was filming the arrest of protesters on Chavchavadze Street when an officer confronted him in an alley, attempted to take his phone, and chased him.
Sources	1. https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=2742448675942127