



Georgia ranks 68th in Transparency International's Corruption Perceptions Index 2010

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tbilisi/Berlin, 26 October 2010 – Georgia ranks 68th out of 178 countries in Transparency International's Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) 2010, a measure of domestic, public sector corruption released today. Georgia's score is 3.8 on a scale from 10 (very clean) to 0 (highly corrupt). In last year's CPI, Georgia came in 66th, with a score of 4.1. However, the decline in Georgia's score compared to 2009 is not substantial.

“Georgia's score shows that corruption has not been eradicated and continues to be an issue that needs to be addressed”, says Mathias Huter, acting director of TI Georgia.

Areas of concern in Georgia remain the urgent need for judicial reform, protection of property rights, a lack of transparency in public spending (including the Reserve Funds for the President, the Mayor of Tbilisi and the Government), grand corruption among top-level officials, opaque media ownership and financing, as well as a general low level of civil society involvement in the planning and execution of public policy.

“On the positive side, we at TI Georgia are hopeful that the electronic procurement system to be introduced in December will address a number of problems and improve transparency of state contracts”, says Huter. “We also welcome that in a few cases, investigations into corruption have been launched against high-level public officials.”

The CPI shows that Georgia has lower levels of perceived corruption than its neighbors, with the exception of Turkey (56th, with a score of 4.4): Armenia ranks 123rd with a score of 2.6, Azerbaijan ranks 134th (2.4) and Russia is 154th (2.1) in the global ranking.

The countries scoring highest in this year's ranking are Denmark, New Zealand and Singapore (with a score of 9.3), Finland and Sweden (9.2), followed by Canada (8.9), the Netherlands (8.8), Australia, Switzerland (both 8.7) and Norway (8.6). At the bottom of the ranking is Somalia, with a score of 1.1, slightly trailing below Myanmar and Afghanistan (1.4), followed by Iraq (1.5).

The CPI is compiled and released by Transparency International's Head Office in Berlin and is based on surveys conducted by international organizations and consultancy firms. Due to changes in the CPI's methodology over time and the fact that the index is based on a changing set of source surveys, the CPI is not an appropriate tool for comparisons of a country's performance over time but provides a good snapshot of perceived corruption throughout the world.

The following surveys were used for Georgia's assessment:

- [Asian Development Bank \(2010\): Country Performance Assessment Ratings](#), assessing transparency, accountability and corruption in the public sector.
- [Bertelsmann Foundation \(2009\): Bertelsmann Transformation Index](#), assessing the government's capacity to punish and contain corruption.
- [World Bank \(IDA and IBRD\) \(2010\): Country Policy and Institutional Assessment](#), assessing transparency, accountability and corruption in the public sector.



- [Freedom House \(2010\): Nations in Transit](#), assessing the extent of corruption as perceived by governments, by the public and as reported in the media, as well as the implementation of anti-corruption initiatives.
- [Global Insight \(2010\): Country Risk Ratings](#) (not freely accessible), assessing the likelihood of encountering corrupt officials, ranging from petty bureaucratic corruption to grand political corruption.
- [World Economic Forum \(2009\): Global Competitiveness Report](#), assessing the frequency of undocumented extra payments or bribes connected with 1) exports and imports, 2) public utilities, 3) tax collection, 4) public contracts, and 5) judicial decisions.
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Additional information on the CPI and its methodology is available on our website:

<http://www.transparency.ge/en/CPI2010>.

In-depth material in English and other languages on the CPI can be found at

http://www.transparency.org/policy_research/surveys_indices/cpi.

For regular updates and articles on current issues related to corruption and good governance in Georgia, check TI Georgia's new blog: <http://transparency.ge/en/blog> and share your views with us:

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