



Report on This Affects You Too Campaign

16 February

Non-governmental organizations working on election issues and media organizations announced officially This Affects You Too campaign. As part of the campaign, around 200 NGOs and media organizations signed a petition calling for amendments to the election legislation.

The collection of electronic signatures to the petition started on the same day. Up to 500 individuals joined the petition in several days.

17 February

NGOs and media organizations submitted to Parliament the petition and a package of legislative proposals with the alternative versions of those articles of election-related legislation that had been found most unacceptable.

At the same time the organizers and citizens voiced their protests against the current legislation in front of the Parliament building at a protest rally.

23 February

As part of This Affects You Too campaign NGOs and media organizations met with the population in 7 Tbilisi districts and 8 cities of Georgia. During the meetings, the campaign organizers distributed informative materials and informed people on the restrictions imposed by law.

1 March

The NGOs that came up with the legislative proposals met with officials of the Legal Issues Committee of Parliament for the first time.

2 March

At a round table meeting campaign participants introduced their package of legislative proposals to international organizations and political parties.

The diplomatic corps accredited to Georgia, international organizations, government officials, parliamentary and non-parliamentary political parties as well as representatives of

non-governmental and media organizations were invited to take part in the round table meeting.

Moreover, NGOs issued an appeal in which they called for the invitation of long-term observers of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) by the government of Georgia to secure the qualified and unbiased monitoring of the election environment not only in a two-month period before the elections but for the whole election year.

The organizations taking part in the campaign also applied to the OSCE Secretary General and ODIHR to send a long-term observers to Georgia.

9 March

Campaign participants sent an official appeal to the President of Georgia, the chairman of Parliament of Georgia, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Georgia. The appeal called for the invitation of long-term observers of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) by the government of Georgia in the shortest time possible to secure monitoring of the pre-election environment in the country.

15 March

From March 12 through March 16, the Financial Monitoring Service of the Chamber of Control of Georgia conducted mass interrogation of citizens in different districts of Georgia (Lanchkhuti, Chokhatauri, Ozurgeti, Batumi, Khelvachauri, Kobuleti, Poti, Zugdidi, Kutaisi, Zestaponi, Gori, Kareli, Kaspi, Gurjaani, Sagarejo and Signagi).

This Affects You Too campaign member non-governmental and media organizations issued a special statement in response to the interrogation of citizens by the Financial Monitoring Service of the Chamber of Control of Georgia, which started on March 12. They made the initial legal assessment of the cases either.

Participants of the campaign presented video materials broadcast by media, which expose facts of disrespectful treatment of citizens, moral and psychological pressure exerted on them, as well as abuse of power by government officials.

19 March

This Affects You Too campaign participants and Legal Issues Committee of Parliament of Georgia held the next round of consultations.

22 March

NGOs taking part in This Affects You Too Campaign and Pavle Kublashvili, the chairman of the Legal Issues Committee of Parliament, held the last meeting to reach a final agreement on amendments to the Law on Political Unions of Citizens (see the attached document: a comparative analysis of the current version of the Law on Political Unions of Citizens and the provisions amended through negotiations with the Legal Issues Committee of Parliament).

26 March

The Parliament bureau made a decision to consider draft law prepared as part of the campaign. The draft law had been initiated by the Legal Issues Committee of Parliament. The process of consideration is led by the latter. The first consideration of the draft law by the committee will be conducted on Thursday. The first reading at a plenary session will take place on the following day, on Friday.