



WHO OWNS THE
STRATEGIC
WEALTH OF POTI?

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INTRODUCTION

The city of Poti, with its geographical location and maritime infrastructure, is one of the most important strategic nodes of Georgia and the region. The country's main port, terminals and free industrial zone make the city a cornerstone of the international logistics chain and economic security. Due to this strategic importance, the process of managing Poti's economic resources requires special transparency and a high standard of integrity.

The main goal of this study is to determine who actually manages the strategic economic sectors of Poti and what types of connections exist between big business and the ruling political elite.

The study was conducted based on the analysis of publicly published information and state databases (Public Registry, State Procurement Agency, etc.). The study reviewed information about those companies for which information retrieval and processing became possible precisely through public databases.

The document covers four main areas:

- Fishing and exploitation of Black Sea resources: license allocation practices and exclusive rights of donor companies of the management team;
- Maritime infrastructure, ports and terminals: connections of Free Industrial Zone (FEZ) and terminal owners with high-ranking political figures and offshore companies;
- Construction and Infrastructure Sector: Public Procurement and Risks of Conflict of Interest in Governing Bodies;
- Food production: Privileged relations of large agro-industrial groups with state institutions and tax breaks.



DISTRIBUTION OF ECONOMIC RESOURCES BY FINANCIAL AND POLITICAL GROUPS

We can group the data presented in the study according to the main financial, political and kinship ties that control the strategic assets of the city of Poti.

GROUP I: DAVIT TSITSILASHVILI, SULKHAN PAPASHVILI, KHAKHUBIA'S FAMILY AND INDIVIDUALS ASSOCIATED WITH KHVICHA MAKATSARIA (FISHING AND LOGISTICS)

- An oligopoly situation has developed in this sector. **Five companies hold strategic fishing licenses** in the Black Sea. A significant part of the owners of these companies are supporters of the ruling political group, and the state has extended **the exclusive fishing licenses of all of them until 2036**;
- Representatives of companies holding fishing licenses donated **1,488,100 GEL** in political donations, with the largest amount - **1,282,000 GEL** - to the ruling party;
- Among political donors, **Tsitsilashvili's family** has donated the most, the total political donations of father and son - Guram and Davit Tsitsilashvili are **410,000 GEL**. Davit Tsitsilashvili owns 3 fishing licenses. In addition, he also owns and manages shares in 28 other companies (including such influential logistics companies as LLC "Logistex", LLC "Esperance", LLC "Metal Trade", LLC "Felin Global" and others);
- Dromon LLC is owned by **Sulkhan Papashvili**, whose business partner is David Tsitsilashvili. Sulkhan Papashvili, along with his brother Lasha Papashvili, is among the 100 richest Georgians according to Forbes. He is a former head of the Special State Protection Service of Georgia;

- Among the owners of the two licensee companies are Georgian Dream MP **Giorgi Khakhubia** and his family members;
- Leading figures in the fishing sector (David Tsitsilashvili, Aleksandre Tavadze) are connected through various business interests to **Khvicha Makatsaria**, a businessman with Russian influence who ranks 9th on Forbes' list of the richest Georgians. The founder of Geofish Company LLC, which has a fishing license, is the related LLC "Googolplex". Khvicha Makatsaria is also a business partner of David Tsitsilashvili ("Aquamarine");
- Along with fishing, **Kakhaber Lataria**, which is the Khakhubia's business partner in Iceberg 2 LLC, is represented in the cargo transportation (LLC "Invest Group Georgia") and terminal sectors (LLC "Poti Transterminal").

GROUP II: CURRENT AND FORMER POLITICAL FIGURES AFFILIATED WITH THE RULING PARTY

This group unites members of parliament, former mayors, and high-ranking officials who own the largest strategic businesses in Poti.

a) Goderdzi Chankseliani (Member of Parliament from the Georgian Dream) and his family:

- **Goderdzi Chankseliani** owns 70% of the shares of **Bevrili Group LLC**. This company processes grain, has warehouses and a mill in Poti. The company's CEO and 29.84% owner is his brother, Nehru Chankseliani. Bevrili has subsidiaries: Bevrili Baker Group, Bevrili Retail Group (mini markets in Poti), Bevrili Trading Group and Gruzbel;
- Corruption risks: The state has **forgiven the payment of a total of 5.4 million GEL** to Chankseliani's companies ("Bevrili Group" and "Grande Group") based on a tax agreement (reduced to 160,000 GEL). There are signs of a conflict of interest, illegal gift acceptance, and concealment of assets on the part of the MP. The Chankseliani brothers donated a total of 113,230 GEL to Georgian Dream and Salome Zurabishvili.

b) Gocha Enukidze (Member of Parliament from the Georgian Dream):

- 40% of "**Potpetrol**" LLC is owned by "Ibercompany Holding", which is owned by MP Gocha Enukidze. The company owns land on Larnaca Street (690 sq.m.), which is leased to Gulf ("San Petroleum Georgia"). Gocha Enukidze donated 160,000 GEL to Georgian Dream, 60,000 - to Salome Zurabishvili, 60,000 - to ENM

c) Giorgi Khakhubia (Member of Parliament from the Georgian Dream) and his family:.

- **LLC "Iceberg 2"**: fish processing enterprise, holds 1 fishing license. Owners: **Kakhaber Lataria (25%)**, Ekaterine Khurtsia (25%), **MP Giorgi Khakhubia and Maka Khakhubia (25%)**, Turkish company (25%). Individuals associated with the company donated a total of **893,100 GEL** (702,000 GEL - to the "Georgian Dream");

- Ekaterine Khurtsia (mother-in-law of MP Giorgi Khakhubia) owns 100% of the shares of **Satno LLC**. She manages oil depots, customs warehouses, and service facilities.

d) Mamuka Merkviladze (former Vice-President of the Georgian Diaspora in Russia, former Head of the Georgian Interests Section at the Swiss Embassy):

- **LLC "Poti Transterminal"**: owns a 9-hectare territory (80 thousand containers per year, \$15 million investment). 50% owned by Kazakh "PTC HOLDING", 35% - Mamuka Merkviladze, 10% - Kakhaber Lataria;
- **LLC "Poti Qar Transit"** and **"Poti Transit"**: 100% and 95% owned by Merkviladze;
- **LLC "Invest Group Georgia"**: transportation services. Owners: Mamuka Merkviladze (35%), Kazakh "PTC HOLDING" (50%). Owns 88,243 sq.m. of land;
- Merkviladze also owned a 35% stake in the scandalous Balda Canyon project.

e) Former mayors and high-ranking officials of Poti:

- **Gocha Kurdgelia (former mayor)** is the director of **Caucasian Metal Terminal LLC** and the owner of 15% of the shares (85% of which is owned by a Cypriot offshore company, linked to citizens of Austria and Monaco). He also owns 3.5% of **Metalex LLC** (ferrous and non-ferrous metals). He has donated a total of **120,000 GEL** to political parties;
- **Vakhtang Alania (former mayor)** is the director of **Sofmarsh LLC** (international freight transportation);
- **Jemal Inaishvili (former parliamentarian, former head of the Poti Port)**: Member of the Supervisory Board of **Medlog Poti LLC** (80% of which is owned by the Swiss Medlog S.A.).

GROUP III: MARITIME INFRASTRUCTURE, PORTS AND TERMINALS

- The study showed that current and former officials or their family members are involved in the management of a significant portion of strategic sectors - ports, terminals, cargo transportation companies, warehouses, and oil product trading companies;
- This section includes former Prime Minister Irakli Gharibashvili, Georgian Dream MP Gocha Enukidze, former Mayor of Poti Gocha Kurdgelia, Vice-President of the Georgian Diaspora in Russia and former Head of the Georgian Interests Section of the Swiss Embassy in Russia Mamuka Merkviladze and others. This indicates that access to state resources is often the result of political influence;
- The owners of the new seaport in Poti are significant donors to the Georgian Dream. The director, owners and representatives of related companies of Pace Georgia donated a total of 1,146,340 GEL. The group manages 264,534 sq m of land in Poti. By decree of Irakli Kobakhidze, they were given 5,239 sq m of land on the seabed for a symbolic price for a period of 49 years;

- Registered in the Poti Free Industrial Zone is the company [“Kand Georgian Spirits” LLC](#), owned by **Vakhtang Karichashvili**, a business partner of **Ucha Mamatsashvili**, a cousin of Bidzina Ivanishvili and a businessman close to the Georgian Dream. It is one of the largest producers of alcoholic beverages in Georgia.

GROUP IV: RUSSIAN CAPITAL AND OFFSHORE INFLUENCES

Poti's strategic economic sectors are notable for the presence of individuals with Russian connections. Three of them are Russian citizens, and six individuals hold dual citizenship of Georgia and Russia. This group includes terminals whose ultimate beneficiaries are Russian citizens or companies registered in offshore zones.

- **Channel Energy (Poti) Limited - Georgia LLC**: Owns oil terminals (assets: 60 million GEL in 2020). 75% of the company is owned by a Gibraltar offshore company, the ultimate beneficiary of which is Petrocas Energy International, associated with **David Iakobashvili**. 49% of this company was acquired by the sanctioned Russian Rosneft. The company also owns a stake in Poti Terminal Holding LLC, along with a Virgin Islands offshore;
- **Poti Grain Terminal LLC (PGT)**: 50% owned by TOWER CAPITAL TRADING, registered in the Virgin Islands, whose ultimate owners are Russian citizens **Alexei Chemerichko** and **Marat Shaidaev**;
- **JSC “Poti Storage Solutions”**: cargo storage/warehousing. The chairman of the supervisory board is a dual citizen of Russia and Georgia, **Jani Mikhailov** (he also managed the joint-stock company “Russelois”, whose bankruptcy case is currently underway in Russia. This company also mined manganese in Terjola. Mikhailov owns real estate in Russia);
- **Poti Logistics Park LLC** is engaged in terminal services and owns 22,891 sq m of land. 49% of the company is owned by **Andrey Baranov**, a citizen of Saint Kitts and Nevis (and presumably Russia);
- **Poti Free Industrial Zone LLC**: Established in 2008 by the Arab RAKIA. In 2017, 75% was acquired by the Chinese CEFC China Energy (the head was arrested). During this period, **Irakli Gharibashvili** worked as an advisor to the management company. After the company went bankrupt, the state regained 100% of its shares in 2025.

GROUP V: LARGE GEORGIAN CORPORATIONS

- **“Wissol Group” (Pkhakadze brothers)**:
 - ▶ **MP Development LLC**: Forbes-listed Levan and Soso Pkhakadzes are on the supervisory board. The company owns the 2,682 sq m shopping center **“Poti Mall”** in Poti. Individuals associated with the group have donated **207,700 GEL**.

■ **Ucha Mamatsashvili's partners:**

▶ **K and Georgian Spirit LLC:** Located in the industrial zone of Poti. The largest alcohol producer in Georgia. 80% owned by Vakhtang Karichashvili (Mamatsashvili's partner, sanctioned by Ukraine). The company's directors and other Karichashvili companies donated a total of **557,000 GEL** to Georgian Dream;

■ **Joint Stock Company "Nikora":**

▶ **LLC "Korida":** Meat products manufacturer in Poti. Has received tenders worth **224,932 GEL**.

■ **Kacharava-Chioreli Group:**

▶ This group owns several large businesses in Poti: **LLC "Iceberg Poti"** (warehouse-refrigerator, 70% B&J, 30% Kazakh citizen Igor Martynov); **LLC "American Monolith"; LLC "Real Trans"** (freight transportation Poti-Tbilisi-Yerevan-Baku); **LLC "Vitamin 2017"** (large importer of bananas and fruits). Levan Kacharava and Levan Chioreli. They have spent **290,000 GEL** in political donations.

GROUP VI: CONSTRUCTION SECTOR AND PUBLIC PROCUREMENT

Companies in this group are largely dependent on government procurement

- **Prime Concrete LLC** has received contracts worth **GEL 72,901,804** since 2012. The wife of a former senior defense official is a member of the Supervisory Board;
- **Gza Mshenebeli 13 LLC** received contracts worth **GEL 36,429,600**. The company's owners are donors to the Georgian Dream;
- **Total LLC** received contracts worth **GEL 12,985,565**.

KEY FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

The results of the study reveal that the strategic sector of Poti is concentrated in the hands of a few influential groups. The following trends were identified:

- **Signs of systemic corruption:** Access to state resources indicates the existence of privileged groups. Most companies, in exchange for substantial donations to the ruling party, receive special loyalty and exclusive privileges from the government (licenses without auction until 2036, tax amnesty worth millions of lari);
- **Political loyalty as a condition for business.** The majority of businesses operating in Poti change their political sympathies depending on which party is in power and make donations on this basis. Identified individuals and companies donated **5,396,370 GEL**. Georgian Dream, its satellite People's Power, and the candidate they supported in the 2018 presidential elections, Salome Zurbashvili, received **4,671,980 GEL** (approximately **86.5%** of the total). The United National Movement also received political donations when this party was in power (2012);
- **Russian/Offshore Influences and Lack of Transparency:** Russian interests are prominent in Poti. **3 Russian citizens, 6 individuals with dual Russian and Georgian citizenship, and one Russian company own strategic terminals.** Individuals with significant Russian connections are represented in various sectors. **The owners of 7 large companies are linked to offshore companies registered in Cyprus, Gibraltar, and the Virgin Islands,** which makes it difficult to identify their beneficial owners and public control;
- **Oligopoly and interconnected networks:** Companies operating in the fishing, logistics and ports sectors are interconnected with each other and with the management team (e.g. the networks of the Tsitsilashvili's, Khakhubia's, Papashvili, Makatsaria and Pace Group);
- **Business interests of officials:** Former or current politicians (MPs: Goderdzi Chankeliani, Gocha Enukidze, Giorgi Khakhubia, Jemal Inashvili; former mayors: Gocha Kurdgelia, Vakhtang Alania; former head of the Georgian diaspora in Russia Mamuka Merkviladze) are directly involved in the management of strategic sectors. Their activity confirms that success in business is often determined by loyalty to the government.



FISHING AND FISH PROCESSING COMPANIES

Several fishing and fish processing companies operate in the city of Poti and the surrounding areas. According to the [information](#) published on the official website of the National Environmental Agency, a total of 5 companies hold fishing licenses in the Black Sea, namely:

- LLC “Sea Products” - 3 licenses
- LLC “Dromon” (formerly “Paliastomi 2004”) - 3 licenses
- LLC “Iceberg 2” - 1 license
- LLC “Geofish Company” - 1 license
- LLC “BMB” - 1 license

The license terms of all companies were extended until September 1, 2036, [without](#) an auction.

We also wrote about the activities of this company, the unpleasant smell in the fish processing process in Poti, and the connections of these companies to the Georgian Dream party in a study [published](#) in 2021.

Political donations from individuals active in the Black Sea fishing sector totaled **1,488,100 GEL**. The funds were distributed as follows:

- ▶ **1,282,000 GEL** to the Georgian Dream;
- ▶ **75,000 GEL** to Salome Zurbishvili, the presidential candidate supported by the Georgian Dream;
- ▶ **131,100 GEL** to the National Movement.

The information presented in the study reveals that the Black Sea fishing sector is in the hands of individuals and companies closely linked to the ruling party. These companies have had their strategic licenses extended without an auction until 2036, and their owners are major donors to the Georgian Dream, businessmen close to the ruling party, and in some cases, former or current officials. All this indicates a high risk of conflict of interest and corruption, where the use of state resources is directly intertwined with political loyalty.

LLC “Sea Products”

[LLC “Sea Products”](#) is a company registered in 2010. Its director is David Kvantaliani, and the owner of 100% of the shares is David Tsitsilashvili. The company holds 3 fishing licenses. LLC “Sea Products”, in turn, holds shares in several companies, including:

- LLC [“Dromoni”](#) - 33.3%
- LLC [“Black Sea Aquaculture Company”](#) - 10%
- LLC [“Gurami”](#) - 100%

In addition to “Seafood Products” LLC, David Tsitsilashvili owns shares and/or is a director of 28 other companies. Tsitsilashvili is also a major donor to the Georgian Dream party. He [donated 300,000 GEL](#) to Georgian Dream in 2016-2024. In 2017, “Seafood Products” LLC also [donated 100,000 GEL](#) to Georgian Dream.

LLC “Dromoni”

[LLC “Dromoni”](#) is a company registered in 2004. Its director is Zurab Alshibaia, and the shares are owned by:

- LLC “Sea Products” - 33%
- Sulkhan Papashvili - 67%

LLC “Dromoni” was previously called “Paliastomi 2004”. The company changed its name in 2024. LLC “Dromoni” merged with [LLC “Georgian Marine Group”](#) in 2022, whose director was David Tsitsilashvili, and the owner of 100% of the shares is LLC “Paliastomi 2004” (current LLC “Dromoni”). LLC “Dromoni” holds 3 fishing licenses in the Black Sea.

Sulkhan Papashvili owns shares in and/or is a director of dozens of companies, including the real estate and investment management company [“Redix”](#) - Sulkhan Papashvili is the co-founder and chairman of the supervisory board of this company, and his brother, Lasha Papashvili, is also the founder and general director. The Papashvili brothers are close to the “Georgian Dream”. It is noteworthy that Sulkhan and Lasha Papashvili are among the 100 [richest](#) Georgians according to FORBES GEORGIA - Lasha Papashvili [takes](#), 42nd place (276.65 million), and Sulkhan Papashvili takes 45th [place](#) (249.17 million).

Sulkhan Papashvili, a former [head](#) of the Special State Protection Service of Georgia, is now linked to offshore companies that monopolize the import and transit of Azerbaijani electricity to Turkey, along with former Prime Minister Zurab Noghaidei. A [joint](#) journalistic [investigation](#) by Studio Monitor, OCCRP, Ifact, Meidan TV, and Mikroskop Media was published in May 2024. According to the same journalistic investigation, Papashvili and his trusted person, Paata Zhgenti, a former deputy head of the Tbilisi Police Main Department, are closely connected to the circle of Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev (in particular, the family members of the heads of the state company Azerenergy and the head of Aliyev's security, Baylar Eyubov) and own real estate and businesses with them.

LLC “Iceberg 2”

[LLC “Iceberg 2”](#) is a fish processing enterprise operating in Poti since 2005. It holds one fishing license.

The current director of “Iceberg 2” LLC is Irakli Vekua, and the shares are distributed among the following individuals:

- Kakhaber Lataria - 25%
- Ekaterine Khurtsia -25%
- Maka Khakhubia, Giorgi Khakhubia - 12.5%
- Maka Khakhubia - 12.5%
- LLC “Koftur Balikchilik Gida Sanai Nakliyat Ve Tijaret Limited Shirketi” (registered in Turkey) - 25%

One of the company’s owners, Giorgi Khakhubia, is a member of the Georgian Parliament from the Georgian Dream party. Giorgi Khakhubia’s father, the late Irakli Khakhubia, was also a member of parliament in the past, and at that time [owned](#) 25% of the company. Today, 12.5% each is owned by Irakli Khakhubia’s wife, Maka Khakhubia, and her son, Giorgi Khakhubia.

Individuals associated with Iceberg 2 LLC have made political donations totaling **893,100 GEL** at various times, namely:

- The Georgian Dream – Democratic Georgia donated **702,000 GEL** in 2016-2025
- The presidential candidate Salome Zurbishvili received **120,000 GEL** in 2018
- The United National Movement Party received **71,100 GEL** in 2012.

Donors include:

- Kakhaber Lataria (owner of 25% of the shares of “Iceberg 2”) - [470,000 GEL](#)
- Irakli Vekua (director of “Iceberg 2”) - [113,100 GEL](#)

- Ekaterine Khurtsia (owner of 25% of the shares of “Iceberg 2”) - [180,000 GEL](#)
- Maka Khakhubia (owner of 12.5% of the shares of “Iceberg 2” and co-owner of 12.5% of the shares) - [60,000 GEL](#)
- Irakli Khakhubia (formerly owner of 25% of the shares of “Iceberg 2”) - [70,000 GEL](#)

Geofish Company LLC

A 64% stake in [Geofish Company LLC](#) is owned by Iceberg 2 LLC, and its director is Irakli Vekua. 4% of the company is owned by Aleksandre Tavadze, 26% by Googolplex LLC, 1.5% by Giorgi Khakhubia, 1.5% by Giorgi Khakhubia's wife Nino Sarishvili, 1.5% by Kakhaber Lataria (owner of 25% stake in Iceberg 2) and 1.5% by the Turkish company Koftur Balikcilik Gida Sanayi Nakliyat Ve Tijaret Limited Shirketi. It is worth noting that the shares of “Geofish Company” (a total of 25%) were previously owned by Nino Sarishvili's father (father-in-law of MP Giorgi Khakhubia), the now deceased Tengiz Sarishvili, who is also listed among political donors. In 2012, he [donated 60,000 GEL](#) to the “United National Movement”, and in 2016-2021, **120,000 GEL** to the “Georgian Dream”. “Geofish Company” owns one license for fishing in the Black Sea.

The co-owner of “Geofish Company” is [LLC “Googolplex”](#), a company registered in September 2020. Its 100% share is owned by Maria Kokhia, a dual citizen of Georgia and the Russian Federation, and its director is Tamar Gakharia.

Tamar Gakharia is also the director of several other companies, namely:

- [“Energy Company” LLC](#), 50% of which is owned by Khvicha Makatsaria, and 50% by [“Gaztransit” LLC](#).
- [“Silk Road Group B.V.” LLC](#), which is also related to Khvicha Makatsaria, is owned by: 2.5% by [“Silver Lake” LLC](#),¹ 38.4% by [“Gaztransit” LLC](#)², and 59.1% by [“Miren Invest” LLC](#). Khvicha Makatsaria owns 100% of “Miren Invest,” and the company's director is Koba Ghurtskaya, a dual citizen of Georgia and Russia, and the brother-in-law of Edisher Toloraia, a member of parliament from the Georgian Dream party. Koba Ghurtskaya [donated 180,000 GEL](#) to the Georgian Dream party in 2016-2018.

Khvicha Makatsaria is a businessman close to the Georgian Dream party. He was one of the businessmen who [issued](#) a statement in April 2024 and, in fact, supported the bill on “Transparency of Foreign Influence” initiated by the Georgian Dream. [According](#) to Forbes Georgia, Khvicha Makatsaria ranks 9th among the 100 richest Georgians with a fortune of **1,132,070,000 GEL**.

¹ The director and 50% shareholder of Silver Lake LLC, Konstantine Sakhokia, is a dual citizen of Georgia and Russia. Yulia Dedova, the 50% shareholder, is a Russian citizen.

² The owner and director of the company is Mamuka Togonidze, who [donated 29,000 GEL](#) to the Georgian Dream.

Tamar Gakharia was previously the director³ of another company related to Khvicha Makatsaria, [“Best Energy Group”](#), 50% of which is owned by businessman Khvicha Makatsaria and 50% by LLC “Gaztransit”. It was “Best Energy Group” that [purchased](#) a 24.5% share of the share capital of Joint Stock Company “Telasi” for **32,380,383 GEL** at an auction held in September 2019.

Khvicha Makatsaria’s business partner is David Tsitsilashvili, who owns 100% of the shares of “Sea Products” - they own 50%-50% of the shares of [“Aquamarine” LLC](#). Makatsaria’s business partner is Aleksandre Tavadze, who owns 10% of the shares of [“Geofish Company” LLC](#), and also owns [“Geofish Group” LLC](#) and [“Chateau Akhasheni”](#).

It is worth noting that David Tsitsilashvili is also the owner of 100% of the shares of “Googolplex” and Maria Kokhia’s business partner in [“Tbilisi Parking” LLC](#), of which Maria Kokhia owns 20% of the shares and David Tsitsilashvili owns 50%.

MBM LLC

[MBM LLC](#) is a company registered in 1999, it holds 1 fishing license in the Black Sea. The director of the company is Besik Kharabadze, and the shares are owned by: Turkish company “Mes Su Urunleri Avciligi Ve Yetishtirijiligi Tijareti” - 36% and [MBM Fishing LLC](#) - 64%. Merab Kharabadze is also noted among political donors, he [donated](#) **15,000 GEL** to presidential candidate Salome Zurbashvili in 2018.

³ Currently, the position of [director](#) of Best Energy Group is held by Mikheil Kipiani.



PORTS, TERMINALS, FREIGHT FORWARDING COMPANIES AND WAREHOUSES

This section of the study examines ports, terminals and logistics companies located in the Poti region, which are an important cornerstone of the country's economy.

The data identified in the study indicate potential conflicts of interest and risks of “elite corruption”. Companies operating in this sector and individuals associated with them have made political donations totaling **3,024,340 GEL**:

- ▶ **2,006,050 GEL** - the largest donation went to the Georgian Dream;
- ▶ **530,000 GEL** - received by the presidential candidate, Salome Zurbashvili;
- ▶ **297,000 GEL** - donated to the United National Movement;
- ▶ **131,290 GEL** - received by the Lelo party;
- ▶ **60,000 GEL** - donated to the party "People's Power".

Also evident is the extensive network of offshore companies and the difficulties in identifying beneficial owners, which complicates public control.

“Poti Free Industrial Zone” Ltd

The history of the Poti Free Industrial Zone began in 2008, when the then Georgian government decided to establish the first special economic zone in the region to exploit the country's transit potential. The main investor in this project was the United Arab Emirates investment group, RAKIA (Ras Al Khaimah Investment Authority). They purchased a full package of shares in the Poti Sea Port and approximately 300 hectares

of land in order to organize a modern industrial center there. The relevant company was [registered](#) in 2008, and the zone itself was officially opened in 2009, and it was the first platform in the Caucasus where businesses were offered unprecedented tax benefits.

This initiative was followed by large-scale infrastructure works to bring the area into line with international standards. The process included not only fencing the area and arranging customs checkpoints, but also intensive construction of industrial and warehouse spaces. Special emphasis was placed on logistical efficiency — internal roads and a railway line were laid, which directly connected the industrial zone to the port of Poti. This allowed companies to produce products at minimal costs and at a fast pace and export them via the Black Sea.

Initially, [RAKIA](#) was the sole owner of 100% of the shares of Poti Free Industrial Zone LLC. Since 2016, [the state](#) has owned 85% of the shares. In January 2017, a 75% stake in the company was [acquired](#) by a Chinese company, CEFC China Energy. In November 2017, one of its executives, Patrick Ho, was arrested in New York. He was accused of bribing high-ranking African officials in favor of a Chinese company, as well as arms trafficking and cooperation with Iran in circumvention of [sanctions](#).

Amid these international scandals, in 2018, former Georgian Prime Minister Irakli Gharibashvili was appointed as an advisor to the supervisory board of [Euro-Asian Management Group LLC](#), the company that manages CEFC's shares. He worked in this position until August 2019 and [received](#) 410,704 GEL in [income](#). The same management scheme also included businessman Ivane Chkhartishvili and Giorgi Bachashvili, the former head of Bidzina Ivanishvili's Co-Investment Fund. The chain of ownership led to offshore companies registered in the British Virgin Islands, which made it difficult to identify the beneficiaries.

The situation changed even more in 2020, when a Shanghai court officially declared CEFC and its subsidiaries bankrupt. Finally, on April 17, 2025, the National Agency for State Property of the Republic of Georgia issued an [order](#) unilaterally terminating the purchase agreement [concluded](#) with the Chinese party in 2017. According to the document, the state returned a 75% share of the FIZ, while the Chinese company was not reimbursed for its expenses and its bank guarantees were directed to the state budget. Based on this legal act, from June 2025, the state again became the [owner](#) of 100% of the shares of the Poti Free Industrial Zone, and Zurab Savaneli holds the position of director.

On the territory owned by "Poti Free Industrial Zone" LLC, a number of companies lease plots of land of various sizes. Among them is ["K and Georgian Spirit" LLC](#), which was registered in 2017 and is located at the address of the Poti Free Industrial Zone. "K and Georgian Spirit" is one of the largest [producers](#) of alcoholic beverages in Georgia, its director is Giorgi Damenia, and the general director is Irakli Bekauri. The company's shares are owned by dual citizens of Russia and Georgia Giorgi Gambashidze (20%) and a businessman close to the "Georgian Dream", a [business partner](#) of Ucha Mamatsashvili. Vakhtang Karichashvili (80%). The company's directors, [Irakli Bekauri](#)

and [Giorgi Damenia](#), made political donations of **557,000 GEL** in 2018-2024: 467,000 GEL to the Georgian Dream, 30,000 GEL to presidential candidate Salome Zurbashvili, and 60,000 GEL to the People's Power party. Political donations were also made by companies owned by Karichashvili: [Bolero & Company LLC](#) **donated 120,000 GEL** to the Georgian Dream in 2016, and Milada International LLC **donated 100,000 GEL** to presidential candidate Salome Zurbashvili in 2018. It is worth noting that Vakhtang Karichashvili was [sanctioned](#) by Ukraine in 2023.

Pace Georgia LLC

[Pace Georgia LLC](#) is a new seaport in Poti, the company was founded in 2000, and the port began [operating](#) in January 2022. The company's director is Irakli Tateishvili, who also owns 10% of its shares. The remaining shares are distributed as follows: Laura Larioni - 38%, Irakli Kervalishvili - 38%, Teimuraz Kervalishvili - 10%, Tamaz Kapanadze - 4%. This project is being implemented by [Pace International](#), whose president is Ioseb Dolidze. His mother is one of the owners of the seaport, Laura Larioni, who was even [mentioned](#) in the Panama Papers in 2015.

It is noteworthy that Irakli Kervalishvili and Laura Larioni, according to Forbes Georgia, are among the 100 [richest](#) Georgians - Irakli Kervalishvili [takes](#) 74th place (122.18 million), and Laura Larioni [takes](#) 75th place (121.56 million).

LLC "Pace Georgia" in turn owns shares in a number of companies:

- [LLC "Poti New Seaport"](#) - 75%, 25% of this company is owned by "PACE INTERNATIONAL LLC" registered in the USA. The director is David Nadirashvili;
- [LLC "Pace Maritime Agency"](#) - 100%, director is Roman Suvorov;
- [LLC "Pace Trans"](#) - 100%, commercial director - Irakli Berekashvili, general director - Longinoz Miminoshvili;
- [LLC "Georgian Ferry"](#) - 30% share, 15% share is owned by Levan Avaliani, 40% share - Teimuraz Aronia, 15% share - the late Levan Gachechiladze (former politician).⁴ The director is Valerian Dvali. Teimuraz Aronia is a business partner of Khvicha Makatsaria in various businesses, including "Nelgado Limited", which is the founder of ["Caucasus Online" LLC](#);
- ["Portland" LLC](#) - 100%, director Irakli Tateishvili;
- ["ZIM Integrated Shipping Services Georgia" LLC](#) - 49%, 51% of this company is owned by the Israeli-registered company "ZIM Integrated Shipping Services Limited". The company is managed by the Board of Directors with the following composition: Chairman - Nir Avni (Israeli citizen), General Director - Teimuraz Kervalishvili, Director - Irakli Tateishvili, Director - Marina May (Israeli citizen)

⁴ The company's registration has been [suspended](#) since April 1, 2026.

- [“Transford” LLC](#) - 75%, 25% of this company is owned by “Pace International” registered in the USA, Director Malkhaz Maziashvili. In turn, “Transford” LLC owns 100% of [“Poti Shipyard” LLC](#) (Director - Badri Meskhi), whose activities are various types of repair works.
- “Sarpi Customs Broker” LLC - 100%⁵

The activities of the listed companies are sea-land transportation and port services.

Companies related to the “Pace Group” dispose of a 264,534 square meter land plot in Poti, where terminals and a seaport are located. It is noteworthy that Irakli Kobakhidze, by his [decree](#), transferred to “Pace Georgia” for a symbolic [price](#), for a period of 49 years, a 5,239 square meter plot of non-agricultural land on the seabed in Poti.

The director and owners of “Pace Georgia”, as well as representatives of companies related to “Pace Georgia” donated a total of **1,146,340 GEL**:

- Individuals associated with Pace Georgia donated **890,000 GEL**. 660,000 GEL was donated to the Georgian Dream in 2017-2021, and 230,000 GEL was donated to presidential candidate Salome Zurabishvili in 2018. Donors include: Irakli Kervalishvili - [240,000 GEL](#), Irakli Tateishvili - [220,000 GEL](#), Teimuraz Kervalishvili - [190,000 GEL](#), Laura Larioni - [180,000 GEL](#), Tamaz Kapanadze - [60,000 GEL](#);
- The director of the “New Port of Poti”, David Nadirashvili, made political donations of **115,050 GEL** in 2012-2021: he [donated](#) 105,050 GEL to the party “Georgian Dream”, and 10,000 GEL to presidential candidate Salome Zurabishvili;
- Former Director of LLC “Transford”, Apalon Bzhalava, made a political [donation](#) of **70,000 GEL** in 2017-2020: 50,000 GEL to the “Georgian Dream” party, 20,000 GEL to the presidential candidate, Salome Zurabishvili.
- Director of LLC “Georgian Ferry”, Valerian Dvali, [donated](#) **71,290 GEL** to the “Lelo” party in 2020

JSC “Corporation Poti Maritime Port” - APM TERMINALS

JSC “Corporation Poti Maritime Port” is the largest Georgian port. It was registered in 1999 as a legal entity of public law. As a result of the reorganization carried out on December 27, 2004, the company was formed into a limited liability company (LLC), which was owned by the Government of Georgia. On April 3, 2008, based on another reorganization, the company was transformed into a joint-stock company (JSC).

According to the data [published](#) on the reporting portal in 2024, 100% of the company’s shares are owned by the Dutch APM Terminals BV (APMTBV), which is its direct parent company. APMTBV is in turn controlled by AP Møller - Mærsk A/S, based in Copenhagen, Denmark, which is designated as the ultimate controlling party.

⁵ The company has had its registration [suspended](#) since April 1, 2026.

At the top of the ownership hierarchy is the A.P. Møller og Hustru Chastine Mc-Kinney Møllers Fond til almene Formaal, which owns A P Møller - Mærsk A/S. The company's financial data are reflected in the consolidated financial statements of AP Møller Holding A/S, based in Copenhagen.

LLC “Caucasian Metals Terminal”

[LLC “Caucasian Metals Terminal”](#) is a company registered in 2011, whose activities are the receipt, storage, storage and export of cargo in the vicinity of the Port of Poti. 85% of the company’s shares are owned by “C.I.A. Clay Industries International Limited”, registered in Cyprus, and the owner and director of the 15% share is Gocha Kurdgelia, the former mayor of Poti.

Gocha Kurdgelia made a total of **120,000 GEL** in political [donations](#) in 2012-2021: 10,000 GEL in 2012 to the United National Movement party, 40,000 GEL in 2018 to presidential candidate Salome Zurbishvili, and 70,000 GEL in 2016-2021 to the Georgian Dream.

LLC Channel Energy (Poti) Limited - Georgia

[LLC Channel Energy \(Poti\) Limited - Georgia](#) was registered in 2000. 75% of the company is owned by Channel Energy (ERA) Limited, a company registered in Gibraltar, and 25% by JSC Poti Seaport Corporation. The directors of the LLC are Nugzar Katamadze and Nina Zhvania, as well as a citizen of the United Kingdom, Kelvin William Aldus, and a German citizen, Christian Roeder, the latter of whom is also the General Director of JSC Poti Seaport Corporation.

The ultimate beneficiary of Channel Energy (Era) Limited was previously Petrocas Energy International, a company linked to Russian businessman David Iakobashvili. According to [media](#) reports, in 2014, 49% of Petrocas Energy International was acquired by the Russian company Rosneft, which was [sanctioned](#) by the UK government in December 2025. [David Iakobashvili](#) and Rosneft [exited](#) Petrocas Energy International in 2022.

“Channel Energy (Poti) Limited - Georgia” owns oil terminals in Poti with storage, transportation and logistics facilities. Channel Energy (Poti) Limited also owns a 66.67% stake in [Poti Terminal Holding LLC](#), a 33.33% stake in this company is owned by Danedo Management Corp LLC, registered in the Marshall Islands, and its director is Giorgi Mtibelashvili, a dual citizen of Russia and Georgia, who [donated 60,000 GEL](#) to the election bloc “Strong Georgia - Lelo, for the People, for Freedom” in 2024.

According to the financial report audited by the auditing company PricewaterhouseCoopers LLC, as of December 31, 2020, the assets of Channel Energy (Poti) Limited - Georgia LLC were 60 million GEL. In 2020, this company had a profit of 8.7 million GEL, and in 2019 - 7.7 million GEL.

LLC “Poti Grain Terminal”

LLC “Poti Grain Terminal” (PGT) has been [operating](#) on the basis of a former [grain mill](#) since 2011. The company is a grain terminal that provides a full cycle of processing, storage and transportation of agricultural products. The company’s director is Ilia Grigolashvili,

and the Supervisory Board [includes](#): Ketevan Kublashvili, Vazha Kharabadze and Marat Shaidiev, a citizen of the Russian Federation. The company's shares are owned by:

- [LLC "Agricom"](#) - 33.35%;
- [LLC "Middle Invest Group"](#) - 16.65%. This company is also actively involved in the field of transit transportation. "Middle Invest Group" owns 100% of the shares of [LLC "Transitline"](#).
- Tower Capital Trading LLC, registered in the British Virgin Islands - 50%, the ultimate [beneficial owner](#) of this company is Alexey Chemerichko (Russia) with a 41.675% share, Marat Shaidiev (Russia) with a 41.675% share and Vazha Kharabadze with a 16.65% share.

Agricom LLC⁶ [donated 100,000 GEL](#) to the Georgian Dream in 2017, while Konstantin Osipov, the owner of a 48% share of the same company, [donated 60,000 GEL](#) to the United National Movement in 2012.

Interestingly, Vazha Kharabadze is a business partner of Mamuka Merkviladze, who was **the Vice-President of the Georgian Diaspora in Russia, as well as the former head of the Georgian Interests Section at the Swiss Embassy**. Vazha Kharabadze and Mamuka Merkviladze own 10%-10% shares in ["ITMC Terminals" LLC](#), as well as 25%-25% shares in ["Ghagvi Hydro" LLC](#).

LLC "Logistex"

[LLC "Logistex"](#) is a company founded in 1998 and its main activity is cargo transportation and storage (dry and refrigerated warehouses). The director is Aleksandre Topuria, and the company's shares are distributed as follows: LLC "Esperenas" - 5%, Vladimir Fridman (Israeli citizen) - 20.75% and Davit Tsitsilashvili, represented in the fishing sector - 20.75%, as well as Eter Topuria, Davit and Makvala Tsitsilashvili - 53.5%

We have also mentioned Tsitsilashvili's political donations above. Among the donors is Davit Tsitsilashvili's father, the late Guram Tsitsilashvili (formerly a 53.5% owner of the company), who [donated 110,000 GEL](#): in 2012, he donated 50,000 GEL to the United National Movement, and in 2016 - 60,000 GEL to the Georgian Dream.

"Esperance" LLC

["Esperance" LLC](#), which is a co-owner of "Logistex" LLC, is a company established in 2002, its shares are owned by Davit Tsitsilashvili, Makvala Tsitsilashvili and Eter Topuria, and the director is Giorgi Lemonjava. The company owns [land plots](#) and buildings located on Larnaka Street in Poti. Its [activities](#) include servicing a customs terminal (warehouse) and renting out its own non-residential buildings. Persons related to "Esperance" also own ["Iceberg" LLC](#), whose activities include renting out refrigerated facilities.

⁶ The director of "Agricom" LLC and the owner of 20% of the shares is Ketevan Kublashvili.

Esperance LLC also owns shares in the following companies: Metal Trade LLC - 50% share (company's activity - warehousing) and Feline Global LLC - 100% share (company's activity - clothing production).

LLC “Iceberg Poti”

[LLC “Iceberg Poti”](#) is a company registered in 2010 and is one of the largest warehouses and cold storage [facilities](#) in Poti. The current director of the company is Giorgi Kacharava, and the shares are owned by: LLC “B & J” - 70% and Igor Martynov (a citizen of Kazakhstan) - 30%.

Individuals associated with LLC “Iceberg Poti” donated a total of **290,000 GEL**:

- In the past, the [director](#) of LLC “Iceberg Poti”, Irakli Tsekvashvili, [donated 60,000 GEL](#) to the presidential candidate, Salome Zurbishvili, in 2018, and in 2020-2021, he [donated 110,000 GEL](#) to the “Georgian Dream”;
- Levan Kacharava, owner of 21.5% of the shares of [“B&J” LLC](#), which, in turn, owns 70% of the shares of “Iceberg Poti” LLC. [donated 60,000 GEL](#) to the “Georgian Dream” in 2017, as well as **60,000 GEL** to the “United National Movement” in 2012.

LLC “American Monolith”

[LLC “American Monolith”](#) is a company registered in 1999, its main activity is terminal and refrigerated warehouse services at the port of Poti. The company’s director is Giorgi Kacharava, 70% is owned by Kazakh citizen Igor Martynov, and 30% is owned by [LLC “B & J”](#). The director of LLC “B & J” is Konstantine Managadze, 21.5% is owned by Levan Kacharava, 7% is owned by the director of “American Monolith” Giorgi Kacharava, and the remaining shares are distributed among the following persons: Levan Lapanashvili 21.5%, Levan Chioreli 21.5%, Giorgi Zhordania 28.5%. Of these, Konstantine Managadze and Levan Kacharava are not among the political donors. Managadze [donated 30,000 GEL](#) to the United National Movement in 2012, and Levan Kacharava’s donation is mentioned above.

LLC “Real Trans”

[LLC “Real Trans”](#) is a company founded in 2019. Its owners are Levan Chioreli (70%) and Levan Kacharava (39%), who are related to LLC “B & J” and LLC “American Monolith”, and the company’s director is Akaki Tatashidze. The company’s office is located in [Tbilisi](#), and its activities include freight transportation. According to the [information](#) posted on the “Real Trans” website, the company offers customers cargo transportation services in the Poti-Tbilisi, Poti-Yerevan and Poti-Baku directions. “Real Trans” owns a land plot located on Larnaka Street in Poti, with an area of 4,812 sq.m. and a 997 sq.m. building located on it

LLC “Poti Transterminal”

LLC “Poti Transterminal” is a company officially [registered](#) in 1996. Its current director is Yura Devrishev, and the Supervisory Board includes: citizens of Kazakhstan - [Olzhas Shilterkhanov](#) and [Dina Taskuzhina](#), a citizen of Azerbaijan, Natig Jafarov, and Kakhaber Lataria, who also operates in the fish production and processing sector. [According](#) to

BMG, 50% of the shares of “Poti Transterminal” are owned by the Kazakh company “PTC HOLDING”, 35% - by Mamuka Merkviladze, 10% - by Kakhaber Lataria, and 5% - by Natig Jafarov. Mamuka Merkviladze was the [Vice-President](#) of the Georgian Diaspora in Russia from 2021 to March 2024, and later became the Head of the Georgian Interests Section at the Swiss Embassy in Russia, a position he [held](#) until October 2025.

“Poti Transterminal” occupies an area of 9 hectares and can service 80 thousand containers annually. The project was implemented with Georgian-Kazakh investment, the volume of which amounted to 15,000,000 dollars.

Mamuka Merkviladze owns shares in several companies, including:

- [“Poti Qar Transit” LLC](#) - 95% share Mamuka Merkviladze, 5% share and director - Yura Devrishev
- [“Poti Transit” LLC](#) - 100% share Mamuka Merkviladze, director - Yura Devrishev

It is worth noting that from January 2023 to February 2026, Mamuka Merkviladze was the [owner](#) of a 35% share of “Canyon 350” LLC, which was awarded 24,130 sq m of land in the Baldi Canyon territory of the village of Balda, Martvili Municipality, for a period of 40 years through an auction. This has been continuously protested by the local population for the third year in a row. Mamuka Merkviladze [sold](#) his share (35%) to his brother and director of the same company, Giorgi Merkviladze, for 500,000 GEL.

LLC “Invest Group Georgia”

[“Invest Group Georgia”](#) is a company established in 2018, the company’s activity is transportation services. The owners of the company are persons related to LLC “Poti Transterminal”: Mamuka Merkviladze owns 35% of the shares, Kakhaber Lataria - 10%, Azerbaijani citizen, Natig Jafarov - 5%. The owner of 50% of the shares of the company is the Kazakh company “PTC HOLDING”. The position of director is held by a citizen of Kazakhstan, Olzhas Arikbayev, and a dual citizen of Russia and Georgia, Salome Lomtadze. “Invest Group Georgia” together with LLC “Poti Transterminal” owns a [land plot](#) in Poti ⁷with a total area of 88,243 sq.m. and the buildings and structures located on it.

JSC “Poti Storage Solutions”

[JSC “Poti Storage Solutions”](#) is a [company](#) registered in 1996, its director is Vladimir Jamburia, the Supervisory Board consists of Levan Jgharkava, Irakli Khvedelidze and the Chairman of the Board Jani Mikhailov, who is a dual citizen of Georgia and Russia. The company’s main [activity](#) is loading, unloading, warehousing and storage of cargo.

Jani Mikhailov also owns shares in other companies. According to a study [published](#) in November 2025 by the investigative journalist association “Ai Fakti”, Jani Mikhailov was one of the key figures in the Terjola manganese mining business - Mikhailov headed

⁷ Near Elada St. N113, Elada St. 119 and 121, as well as Samegrelo St. N138

the Supervisory Board of the company “Ruselosis”. The company has been extracting minerals in Terjola since 2016. According to the public registry, the bankruptcy proceedings of LLC “Ruselois” are currently underway, as the debt has accumulated and it has become insolvent.

According to the research of “Ai Fakti”, Mikhailov is also actively engaged in business activities in Russia: he owns shares in Moscow construction companies and heads a real estate business in Chelyabinsk, the total income of which exceeds tens of millions of rubles.

LLC “Kavtrexpo”

[LLC “Kavtrexpo”](#) is a [company](#) registered in 1996, its director is Robert Gvazava, and the shares are shared by 16 people, among whom is the limited liability joint-stock company “Richmond Corporation Limited” registered in Ireland, which owns 14% of the shares. The company’s activities are land and sea transportation.

Among the political donors is Robert Gvazava, the director of “Cavtrexfit”, who [donated 60,000 GEL](#) to the “Georgian Dream” in 2020, and **17,000 GEL** to the “United National Movement” in 2012.

It is worth noting that “Cavtrexfit” LLC and its shareholders also own shares in [“Konada” LLC](#) (Director Darejan Beraia), [“Cavtrexterminal” LLC](#) (Director Koba Tsomaia) and [“Cavtrexgroup” LLC](#) (Director Isabella Tsomaia). These companies own three [plots of land](#) located at Larnaka 7 in Poti, with a total [area](#) of 48,636 sq m. and the buildings and structures located on it.

Georgian Trans Expedition-Poti LLC

[Georgian Trans Expedition-Poti LLC](#) is a freight forwarding company registered in 2005. It also owns its own [terminal](#) in Poti. The owners of the company are: Irakli Melia - 10%, Tamar Melia - 10%, Gia Okruashvili - 17% and East Gate Group LLC - 63%.

The company has a Commercial Director (Givi Tkheldize), Technical Director (Giorgi Tsiklauri), Administrative Director (Sofiko Noghashvili) and Operations Director (Raul Antadze). The Supervisory Board is headed by Davit Davitidze.

As for the owner of 63% of the shares of “Georgian Trans Expedition-Poti” LLC, [“East Gate Group” LLC](#), the company was registered in 1997, one of its shareholders, Konstantine Meskhi (12%) is a [donor](#) to the “Georgian Dream” party, in 2014 he donated **50,000 GEL**.

LLC “Trans Alliance Poti”

[“Trans Alliance Poti”](#) is a company registered in 1998. The company is owned by an Armenian citizen, Sargis Martirosyan, and the director is Gizo Chitiani. The company’s main [activity](#) is freight [transportation](#)

.LLC “Satno”

LLC “Satno” is a company [registered](#) in 2000. According to the information published on the reporting portal, it is based in Poti and is engaged in the management, leasing and wholesale of oil products of oil depots, customs warehouses, gas stations and trade-service facilities. The company is 100% owned by Ekaterine Khurtsia, who is the sister-in-law of Giorgi Khakhubia, a member of the Georgian Parliament from the Georgian Dream party, and a [donor](#) to the same party. The position of director of LLC “Satno” is held by Tea Chachibaia.

Marine Shipping and Forwarding LLC

[“Marine Shipping and Forwarding”](#) is a company established in 2010, its director is Jondari (Juna) Kemularia, and the owner of 100% of the shares is Paata Adamia. The main [activities](#) of the company are sea, rail and land transportation.

LLC “Sopmari”

[LLC “Sopmari”](#) is a company founded in 1996, its main activity is limited to international freight transportation. The company’s director is the former mayor of Poti, Vakhtang Alania, and 100% of the shares are owned by Natalia Alania.

LLC “Martlet”

[LLC “Martlet”](#) is a company founded in 2014, its director and 50% shareholder is Levan Toria, and 50% of the shares are owned by Salome Chochua. The company’s activities are road transportation.

LLC “BSA Georgia”

[LLC “BSA Georgia”](#) is a transport company, it was founded in Georgia by a Turkish company - Joint Stock Company [“Bosphorus Navigation Agency”](#), the current director is Temur Babilodze.

B&P LLC

[B&P LLC](#) is a company registered in 2003, its main activity is cargo loading and unloading. The company's general manager is Tengiz Jguburia, and the shares are owned by:

- Wilhelmsen Ships Service Georgia LLC - 20%
- Transford LLC - 80%

Kaisa 2 LLC

[Kaisa 2 LLC](#) is a company registered in 1997, its main [activity](#) includes warehousing services (customs warehouse). The company's director is David Danelia, and the shares are distributed among 10 different persons, including the company “Richmond Corporation Limited”, registered in Ireland, which owns a 30% share.

LLC “Medlog Poti”

[LLC “Medlog Poti”](#) is a company established in 1996, its director is Mukhran Dekanadze, and the members of the Supervisory Board are a group of 4 people from Italy, France and Georgia. Among them are Jemal Inaishvili, former member of the Parliament of Georgia (2005-2008), President of the Georgian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (2004-2005) and Head of the Poti Sea Port (1997-2004). The company is 100% owned by [LLC “Medlog Georgia Development”](#), which in turn is owned by the Georgian company LLC “Inveco” (20%) and the Swiss company [“Medlog S.A.”](#) (80%). The activity of “Medlog Poti” is freight transportation.

Giant Logistics LLC

[Giant Logistics LLC](#) is a company registered in 2009, it owns a terminal in the city of Poti, and also provides cargo transportation [services](#). The company's director and 50% owner is David Tughushi, and Giorgi Idukashvili also owns a 50% stake. The company has received **12 tenders** worth **866,781 GEL** since 2021.

LLC “Kysibi Alliance”

[LLC “Kysibi Alliance”](#) is a company registered in 2019, it owns a customs-container [terminal](#) in the city of Poti, on Larnaca Street. The director of the company is Giga Buadze, the owner of 100% of the shares is [LLC “MS Agency”](#), the director of the latter is Salome Lomtadze, a dual citizen of Russia and Georgia, and the owner of 100% of the shares is Levan Bobokhidze, a dual citizen of Georgia and Ukraine. LLC “MS Agency” also owns shares in other companies, including [LLC “Poti Pirveli Terminal”](#) (30%), whose directors are Romeo Saria and Zviad Chkhartishvili. It is worth noting that “Poti First Terminal” LLC owns five [plots](#) of [land](#) in Poti, [adjacent](#) to the new port, on Ivane Javakhishvili [Street](#), with a total [area](#) of 77,021 sq.m.

LLC “Almar Service”

[LLC “Almar Service”](#) is a company registered in 1997, its main activities are container terminal and customs services. The director of the company is Merab Alania, and the shares are divided between him and Lela Alania. LLC “Almar Service” has received only one tender, worth 165,291 GEL.

LLC “Express Trans-Shipment Services”

[LLC “Express Trans-Shipment Services”](#) is a company established in 1997, its [activities](#) are container terminal and freight transportation. The company's director and owner of 16% of the shares is Giorgi Antadze, the remaining shares are owned by: Akaki Zhgenti - 9%, Tamar Koghoshvili - 15%, Lela Kirtadze - 25%, Oksana Skvortsova - 12.5%, Alexander Skvortsov 10% and [LLC “Potivneshtans”](#) - 12.5%.

LLC “Aragvi”

[LLC “Aragvi”](#) is a company registered in 1999, its director and owner of 50% of the shares is Paata Tsiklauri, David Zarnadze also holds the position of director, and Neli Tsiklauri owns 50% of the shares. The main [activities](#) of “Aragvi” are the provision of services related to customs procedures at its own customs terminal in Poti - unloading and storage of cargo at the terminal, storage, reloading of cargo, customs inspection.

LLC “Poti Logistic Park”

[“Poti Ligatic Park”](#) is a company established in 2009, its director is a US citizen, Shiraz Mamedov, and the shares are owned by: a US-registered company - SJS Link International (51%) and a citizen of Saint Kitts and Nevis, Andrey Vladimirovich Baranov (49%). The company [owns](#) a [land plot](#) in Poti on Paliashvili Street, with an area of 22,891 sq.m. and [buildings](#) located on it. The activities of “Poti Logistics Park” are terminal services and freight [transportation](#).

“Poti Logistics Center” LLC

[“Poti Logistics Center”](#) is a company established in 2024, its director and owner of 36% of the shares is Guram Kerkadze, the remaining shares are owned by: Mikheil Namadov - 27%, Levan Tskitishvili - 27% and Eduard Iagorashvili - 10%. Of these, Mikheil Namadov and Levan Tskitishvili are also [co-owners](#) of “Cairo Logistics” LLC. Levan Tskitishvili is a former football player, he donated **10,000 GEL** to the presidential candidate, Salome Zurabishvili, in 2018, Mikheil Namadov also [donated](#) **15,000 GEL** to the same candidate. “Poti Logistics Center” in [Poti](#) owns 26,201 sq.m. The [land plot](#), with buildings located on it, and according to 2024 data, it was [planned](#) to build a center that will serve wagons, vehicles and containers.

“Potpetrol” LLC

[“Potpetrol” LLC](#) was founded in 2011 and is a company included in “Ibercompany Holding”, the owner of which is Gocha Enukidze, a member of the Parliament of Georgia from “Georgian Dream”. [“Ibercompany”](#) owns 40% of “Potpetrol” LLC, the remaining shares are distributed among the following persons: Nazi Liparteliani - 18%, Gaioz Japaridze - 16%, Nino Khvedelidze - 10%, Kakha Kurasbediani - 10% and Zurab Burdiashvili - 6%. Dimitri Asatiani holds the position of Director.

“Potpetrol” owns a [plot of land](#) on Larnaka Street in Poti, with an area of 690 sq.m., which is leased to “San Petroleum Georgia” LLC, also known as Gulf.

Political donors include Dimitri Asatiani ([donated](#) **14,000 GEL** to the “Georgian Dream” in 2017) and Nazi Liparteliani ([donated](#) **60,000 GEL** to presidential candidate Salome Zurabishvili in 2018).

Political donations were made by Gocha Enukidze and the manager and director of his stake in Ibercompany, Levan Diasamidze, in particular: Gocha Enukidze [donated](#) **160,000 GEL** to the Georgian Dream in 2016-2020, **60,000 GEL** to presidential candidate Salome Zurabishvili in 2018, and **60,000 GEL** to the United National Movement in 2012. Levan Diasamidze [donated](#) **40,000 GEL** to the Georgian Dream in 2020.



FOOD MANUFACTURING COMPANIES

Among the food manufacturing companies operating in Poti, we have come to our attention 5 companies, some of which clearly show connections between business and politics. Individuals associated with the companies have donated a total of **298,230 GEL**, of which **263,230 GEL** went to the Georgian Dream, and **35,000 GEL** went to the presidential candidate, Salome Zurbashvili.

“Bevrili Group” LLC

“Bevrili Group” is a [company](#) registered in 2001, its activities are mainly focused on grain processing and food production, and it also has a warehouse and a mill in the city of Poti. The company’s General Director and owner of 29.84% of the shares is Neru Chankseliani, Nodar Pertseliani also holds the position of Director, Valerian Tutberidze owns 0.118% of the company’s shares, and Bakhva Kurdadze owns 0.41%. The main owner of “Bevrili Group” - 70% of the shares is Goderdzi Chankseliani. He is a [member of the Parliament](#) of Georgia from the “Georgian Dream”. Neru and Goderdzi Chankseliani are brothers.

“Bevrili Group” LLC has several subsidiaries with 100% share ownership: [“Bevrili Baker Group” LLC](#), Director - Roman Purtseliani, [“Bevrili Retail Group” LLC](#), Director - Amiran Chankseliani; [“Bevrili Trading Group” LLC](#), Director - Neru Chankseliani and [“Gruzbeli” LLC](#).⁸ Director - Irakli Kvekveskiri. Of these, “Bevrili Retail Group” mainly [operates](#) in Poti and has a network of mini markets, “Bevrili Baker Group” LLC also [operates](#) in Poti and its main direction is the production and sale of bakery products.

⁸ “Gruzbel” LLC has had its registration [suspended](#) since April 1, 2026

Among the political donors from among the individuals associated with “Bevrili Group” are the Chankseliani brothers, they donated a total of **113,230 GEL**. Goderdzi Chankseliani [donated](#) 50,000 GEL to the Georgian Dream in 2025, Nehru Chankseliani [donated](#) 48,230 GEL to the same party in 2016-2025, and 15,000 GEL to presidential candidate Salome Zurabishvili in 2018.

A [journalistic investigation](#) prepared by Radio Liberty in 2024 found that the state forgave Chankseliani’s companies a total of **5.4 million GEL**:

- “Bevrili Groups”: In 2019, the financial police launched an investigation against the company on charges of tax evasion, which carries a prison sentence of 5 to 8 years. The company was ordered to pay 3.1 million GEL. However, in 2023, the government signed a tax agreement with it and reduced the debt to 50,000 GEL.
- [Grande Group](#): Another company, 70% of which is owned by Goderdzi Chankseliani, was ordered by the state to pay 2.9 million GEL for fictitious transactions and falsification of documents. In this case, the government also gave up its positions and the company contributed only 110,000 GEL to the budget.

“Unigrain Georgian Group” LLC

[“Unigrain Georgian Group” LLC](#) is a company registered in 2005. It has owned a soybean processing [plant](#) in Poti since 2013. The company’s director and owner of 18% of the shares is Giorgi Adeishvili, Jumber Gogitidze owns 7% of the shares, and “Eranos Partners” LLC owns 75%.

The company and its shareholders have donated **155,000 GEL** in 2016-2020:

- Giorgi Adeishvili - [donated](#) 85,000 GEL to the Georgian Dream
- Jumber Gogitidze - [donated](#) 20,000 GEL to the presidential candidate, Salome Zurabishvili
- Unigrain Georgian Group LLC - [donated](#) 50,000 GEL to the Georgian Dream

The company’s principal 75% shareholder, [Eranos Partners LLC](#), is owned by Nino Mackenzie and a UK citizen, Paul Thomas Henderson. The company’s shareholders are Nino Mackenzie (51%) and the UK-registered company Anglo Georgian Alpine Resorts Limited.

LLC “Korida”

[LLC “Korida”](#) is a company registered in 2006, its director is Revaz Narmania, and the company is owned by Joint Stock Company “Nikora”. “Korida” is a meat products [manufacturing](#) company.

LLC “Korida” has been participating in simplified procurement since 2012 and has received **41 contracts** worth **224,932 GEL** in total.

LLC “Vitamin 2017”

[LLC “Vitamin 2017”](#) is a company registered in 2016, its director is Ioseb Batiashvili, and the shares are owned by Levan Chioreli (70%) and Levan Kacharava (30%). Both are shareholders of “American Monolith” Ltd. “Vitamin 2017” is [engaged](#) in the import, export/re-export of bananas and other agricultural products (oranges, pineapples, garlic, etc.), one of its branches is [located](#) in Poti. According to the information on the company’s website, “Vitamin 2017” cooperates with almost all large supermarket chains operating in Georgia.

The top part of the research on political donations of Levan Kacharava, the owner of 30% of the company's shares, states that he also made a [donation](#) directly to "Vitamin 2017" LLC, in the amount of **30,000 GEL**, in 2017, in favor of the "Georgian Dream" party.

LLC “Jolio”

[LLC “Jolio”](#) is a company registered in 2019, its director and owner of 30% of the shares is Paata Liparteliani, the remaining shares are owned by Guram and Khatuna Liparteliani. The company owns an enterprise in Poti and its activities are the production of oil and meal from raw sunflower. The company used to produce oil from sunflowers obtained from Ukraine, however, currently, due to the Russia-Ukraine war, the supply of raw materials has been stopped and the production process has been stopped.

It is worth noting that the founder of LLC “Jolio”, in the past the director of the company and the owner of 100% of the shares is Giorgi Adeishvili, the director of LLC “Unigrain Georgian Group” and the owner of 18% of the shares, as well as a [donor](#) to the “Georgian Dream”.



COMPANIES IN THE TRADE, CONSTRUCTION, REPAIR AND INFRASTRUCTURE SECTORS

Individuals associated with the companies represented in this section of the study also made substantial political donations, totaling **585,700 GEL**, of which the largest amount - 415,700 GEL - was donated to the “Georgian Dream”, 145,000 GEL was donated to the “United National Movement”, 20,000 GEL - to the “Gakharia for Georgia” party, and 5,000 GEL - to the presidential candidate Salome Zurbashvili.

MP Development LLC

[MP Development LLC](#) is a [company](#) established in 2012 and part of the Wissol Group. Its shares are owned by Velagio LLC (50%) and G-Star LLC. The Supervisory Board includes businessmen close to the Georgian Dream, brothers Levan and Samson (Soso) Pkhakadze, as well as Vasil Pkhakadze and Davit Rafava. The directors are Papuna Katsitadze and Tamar Gamgoneishvili.

MP Development LLC owns 19 shopping centers, one of which is 2,682 sq.m. [Poti Mall](#) located on Mshvidoba Street in Poti.

It is noteworthy that Levan and Ioseb (Soso) Pkhakadze are among the 100 [richest](#) Georgians according to Forbes Georgia - Levan Pkhakadze is in [13th place](#) (791.73 GEL), while Soso (Ioseb) Pkhakadze is in [75th place](#) (767.24 million).

Individuals associated with “MP Development” have made political donations of **207,700 GEL**, namely:

- Samson (Soso) Pkhakadze [donated](#) 60,000 GEL to the “United National Movement” in 2012;

- Levan Pkhakadze [donated](#) 60,000 GEL to the “United National Movement” in 2012;
- Mamuka Dolidze [donated](#) 10,000 GEL to the United National Movement in 2012, and 60,000 GEL to the Georgian Dream in 2020;
- Tamar Gamgoneishvili [donated](#) 12,700 GEL to the Georgian Dream in 2016, and 5,000 GEL to presidential candidate Salome Zurbashvili in 2018.

“TS Co” LLC

[“TS Co” LLC](#) is a company established in 2021, its director and 100% shareholder is Boris Adamia. The company’s activities include providing various types of technical services for trucks, and it operates on a [land plot](#) leased from [“Stevedoring Company” LLC](#) on Larnaca Street in Poti.

Prime Beton LLC

Prime Concrete LLC is a company registered in 2008. Currently, its shares are [owned](#) by: Prime Management Company LLC (60%) and Peani LLC (40%). The founder and director of the company is Alexander Sokolovsky. The owners of the shares of the LLC have changed several times.

The Supervisory Board of Prime Beton LLC consists of 3 members: Chairman - Giorgi Akhvlediani, members - Lasha Chipashvili and Natia Janelidze. It is worth noting that Natia Janelidze is the wife of Davit Chkhetiani, former [Deputy](#) Commander of the Western Region of the Georgian Ministry of Defense.

Prime Beton LLC has been involved in state procurement since 2012. Various procuring organizations paid the company a total of **72,901,804 GEL** for **21** won tenders and **8** simplified procurements.

It is worth noting that Prime Beton LLC [received](#) assistance from the Georgian government, although the specific type of assistance provided to the company is unknown.

LLC “Road Builder 13”

[LLC “Road Builder 13”](#) is a company registered in 1999, its main activity is various construction works. The director of the LLC and the owner of 51% of the shares is Iraidia Phatsia, Dalila Gabelaia owns 19% of the shares, and Nikoloz Kvaratskhelia owns 30%. The latter [donated](#) a total of **10,000 GEL** to the Georgian Dream party in 2017.

LLC “Road Builder 13” has been participating in state procurement since 2011 and has received contracts worth **36,429,600 GEL** in total.

LLC “Georgian Cement Company”

[LLC “Georgian Cement Company”](#) is a cement manufacturing company registered in 2012, its current director is Tevdore Partsvania, and the 100% owner of the company is “Reynosa” LLC registered in Cyprus. The company participated in the tender only once, in 2018, and the value of the contract amounted to **1,229,580 GEL**.

LLC “Techno Rent”

[LLC “Techno Rent”](#) is a company established in 2014. The company carries out construction and [repair works](#). The director and 100% shareholder of “Techno Rent” is Lasha Sharabidze.

“Total” LLC

[“Total” LLC](#) is a company registered in 2007, its director and 100% shareholder is Nugzar Baramia, who on August 16, 2016 [donated 10,000 GEL](#) to the “Gakharia for Georgia” party and also [10,000 GEL](#) to “Georgia”

The main activity of “Total” LLC is construction, the company has been involved in [tenders](#) since 2011 and has received contracts worth **12,985,565 GEL** in total.

“Metalex” LLC

[“Metalex” LLC](#)⁹ is a company registered in 2000 and operates in the ferrous and non-ferrous metals sector. The company's director is Ramaz Gujabidze, who also owns a 2.5% stake. The company's shareholders also include the former mayor of Poti, Gocha Kurdgelia (3.5%), Zurab Gabedava (1.75%), Giorgi Kandelaki (5%), Zaza Vadakaria (1.75%), Tamaz Chkhikvishvili (17%), Tengiz Jalagonia (6%), Tornike Pkhovelishvili (2.5%), Irakli Pkhovelishvili (2.5%), a Turkish citizen, Omar Sarim (5%) and a limited partnership registered in the United Kingdom, "Steinlord Enterprises LLP" (52.5%).

Individuals associated with Metalex LLC have made political donations totaling **468,000 GEL**, including:

- To the Georgian Dream Party - 403,000 GEL
- To the presidential candidate Salome Zurabishvili - 40,000 GEL
- To the United National Movement Party - 25,000 GEL

Donations have been made to:

- Ramaz Gujabidze - [318,000 GEL](#) (2012-2024)
- Gocha Kurdgelia - [120,000 GEL](#) (2012-2020)
- Zaza Vadakaria - [20,000 GEL](#) (2020)
- Zurab Gabedava - [10,000 GEL](#) (2020) Year)

The tender is being conducted by the company “Khalibi” LLC, owned by the director of “Metalex” LLC, Ramaz Gujabidze, about which we [wrote](#) back in 2020. According to current data, “Khalibi” LLC has received purchases worth **885,926 GEL**.

⁹ The company's registration has been [suspended](#) since April 1, 2026

“Bekori” LLC

[“Bekori”](#) is a company founded in 2007, its owner and director is Aleksandre Kakulia. The company’s activity is the production of metal products. “Bekori” also participates in state procurements, has [won](#) 10 tenders worth **720,000 GEL**, and also received one [simplified](#) procurement worth **4,950 GEL**.

“Apogeo” LLC

[“Apogeo” LLC](#) is a company founded in 1996. Its business is the processing of granite, decorative materials and marble. The company’s director and 100% shareholder is Soso Beraia.