ნოდია, ურუმაშვილი და პარტნიორები
NODIA, URUMASHVILI & PARTNERS

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Amendments to the Law of Georgia on Advertising

On 25 June 2026, amendments were introduced to the Law of Georgia on Advertising. The amendments entered into force immediately upon their publication.

Pursuant to the amendments, paragraph 1 of Article 8^3 of the Law was modified. In particular, the Law prohibits the dissemination, in any form or by any means, including through electronic communications networks, of advertisements concerning gambling, betting (totalizator), lotteries, bingo, and gambling operators. Article 8^3 of the Law establishes exceptions to this general prohibition.

Under the amendments, the scope of exceptions has been broadened. In particular, the exceptions now include, but are not limited to, advertisements disseminated through websites on which the organization of casino games in a systematic-electronic form, the organization of gaming machine games in a systematic-electronic form, or the international organization of casino games in a systematic-electronic form is permitted.

Amendments to the Law of Georgia on National Regulatory Bodies

On 25 June 2026, amendments were introduced to Article 17 of the Law of Georgia on National Regulatory Bodies. The amendments entered into force immediately upon their publication.

Prior to the amendments, the Law of Georgia on National Regulatory Bodies empowered the Parliament of Georgia to decide whether to conduct an audit of the implementation of the annual budget approved by a national regulatory body. Such an audit was to be carried out by an independent auditor selected in accordance with the procedure established by the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament of Georgia.

Under the amendments, the Parliament's aforementioned authority was abolished. It was instead stipulated that the administrative and capital expenditure of a national regulatory body shall be audited by the State Audit Office, in accordance with the procedure established by the Organic Law of Georgia on the State Audit Office.

The obligation of a national regulatory body to prepare an annual report on its activities and to conduct a financial audit of its expenditure and accounting records in accordance with International Accounting Standards remained unchanged. Likewise, the regulatory body's obligation to publicly disclose its annual activity report and the results of the financial audit remains in force.

Amendments to the Law of Georgia on the Fight against Corruption

On 25 June 2026, amendments were introduced to the Law of Georgia on the Fight against Corruption. The amendments entered into force immediately upon their publication.

Pursuant to the amendments, subparagraph (o) of paragraph 1 of Article 2 of the Law was revised. This provision identifies the officials of the State Audit Office. Under the new wording, the following positions were additionally classified as official positions: the Auditor General, the First Deputy Auditor General and other Deputy Auditors General, the heads of primary structural units and their deputies, the heads of secondary structural units, and the members of the Presidium.

The following amendments were introduced to Article 14:

1. Paragraph 5 of Article 14 was amended to provide that a candidate for membership of the Parliament of Georgia is entitled to complete and submit a simplified declaration electronically.

2. A new paragraph 5^5 was added to Article 14, pursuant to which the Auditor General is authorized, where objective

circumstances so warrant, to adopt a reasoned decision extending the statutory deadline for completing the declaration by a period not exceeding one month, or establishing such an extended deadline.

3. Paragraph 12 of Article 14 was revised as follows: The deadline for publication of the declaration was established at two months. The previously fixed one-month period for indicating deficiencies in a declaration was replaced with a period of not more than one month. Under the new wording, information contained in a declaration may not be disclosed as public information prior to the publication of the declaration. The term "person" was replaced with the term "official". The provisions concerning liability and the exceptions applicable to candidates remained unchanged.

Amendments were also introduced to Article 18^1, pursuant to which one of the grounds for issuing a negative assessment of a declaration was removed, namely, the failure to submit information and documentation requested by the State Audit Office.

Under the revised wording, a declaration shall be assessed negatively only in the following circumstances:

- Where the declaration contains incomplete or inaccurate information;
- Where the declaration contains information that is inconsistent with this Law or the Law of Georgia on Public Service.

A new paragraph 1^4 was added to Article 20. Pursuant to this provision, where an official, in the course of monitoring a declaration, fails to submit information or documentation requested by the State Audit Office, or submits such information or documentation incompletely, the official shall be subject to a fine of GEL 1,000.

An individual administrative-legal act, in the form of an order imposing the fine, shall be issued in this regard.

Amendments to the Law of Georgia on Organizing Lotteries, Games of Chance and Other Prize Games

On 25 June 2026, amendments were introduced to the Law of Georgia on the Organization of Lotteries, Games of Chance and Other Prize Games. The amendments entered into force immediately upon their publication.

The amendments introduce a new type of permit-based activity: the international organization of gambling and games of chance in a systematic-electronic (online) form, in which participation by Georgian citizens is prohibited.

The following terms were defined in Article 3 of the Law, which provides definitions of relevant terms:

- Subparagraph (a^3) defines the international organization of gambling and/or games of chance in a systematic-electronic form as the organization of gambling and/or games of chance, in compliance with the requirements established by this Law, through the use of the internet, telephone and/or specially designed electronic means. Participation in such games is prohibited for Georgian citizens.
- International organization of casino games in a systematic-electronic form means the organization of gambling games permitted in a casino through the use of the internet, telephone and/or specially designed electronic means, in which participation by Georgian citizens is prohibited.
- International organization of gaming machine games in a systematic-electronic form means the organization of gambling games permitted in a gaming machine

salon through the use of the internet, telephone and/or specially designed electronic means, in which participation by Georgian citizens is prohibited.

- International organization of betting games in a systematic-electronic form means the organization of games of chance permitted in a betting establishment (totalizator) through the use of the internet, telephone and/or specially designed electronic means, in which participation by Georgian citizens is prohibited.

Amendments were also introduced to Article 11, which determines the activities subject to permits for the purposes of this Law. Three new permits were added to paragraph 1, namely:

- International organization of casino games in a systematic-electronic form (subparagraph (g^1));
- International organization of betting games in a systematic-electronic form (subparagraph (e^1)); and
- International organization of gaming machine games in a systematic-electronic form (subparagraph (z^1)).

A permit for international organization may be issued without requiring the permit holder to obtain a permit for the establishment of the respective physical premises (casino, gaming machine salon or betting establishment).

The amendments also changed the number of internet domains permitted under each license. Under the previous version of the Law, a single permit allowed the use of up to two internet domains: one intended for Georgian citizens and the other for foreign nationals. Under the new wording, each permit, whether for ordinary or international organization, allows the use of only one internet domain. Accordingly, the distinction between internet domains based on the nationality of players has been abolished.

The prohibition established under paragraph 1^3 of Article 12 (the organization of gambling activities not provided for by the relevant rules) was extended to international betting permits as well. A new paragraph 1^4 was added, pursuant to which, in order to obtain a permit for the international organization of betting games in a systematic-electronic form, the permit applicant is required to submit to the Revenue Service, together with the documents prescribed by Article 25 of the Law of Georgia on Licenses and Permits, the information/documents specified in paragraph 1^2 of this Article, except for those provided for in subparagraphs "a.d" and "a.m" of the same paragraph. Furthermore, where gambling activities are organized via the internet, the rules governing gambling activities organized in a systematic-electronic form, submitted to the Revenue Service, must specify the website address designated for the gambling activities, the player registration procedure, and the procedure for managing deposits/balances. The said website must contain, in Georgian and English, the name, registered address and telephone number of the gambling organizer, the number of the relevant permit, a list of the gambling activities, detailed rules of the games, and information regarding the prohibition on Georgian citizens and foreign citizens/persons without citizenship under the age of 18 from participating in gambling activities.

The obligation established under paragraph 2 of Article 13 (to obtain the Revenue Service's consent or notify it of any amendments to the rules governing gambling activities) was also extended to holders of international betting permits.

Pursuant to Article 16^1, the authority of the Government of Georgia and the Minister of Finance of Georgia to establish additional requirements and standards concerning the organization of prize games, the organization of betting games in a systematic-electronic form, and the issuance of relevant permits was also extended to international betting activities.

A new paragraph 1^4 was added to Article 19, establishing the documents to be submitted for the purpose of obtaining an international casino permit. In particular, in order to obtain a permit

for the international organization of casino games in a systematic-electronic form, the permit applicant is required to submit to the Revenue Service, together with the documents prescribed by Article 25 of the Law of Georgia on Licenses and Permits, the information/documents specified in paragraph 1^3 of this Article, except for those provided for in subparagraphs "a.d" and "a.m" of the same paragraph. Furthermore, where gambling activities are organized via the internet, the rules governing gambling activities organized in a systematic-electronic form, submitted to the Revenue Service, must specify the website address designated for the gambling activities, the player registration procedure, and the procedure for managing deposits/balances. The said website must contain, in Georgian and English, the name, registered address and telephone number of the gambling organizer, the number of the relevant permit, a list of the gambling activities, detailed rules of the games, and information regarding the prohibition on Georgian citizens and foreign citizens/persons without citizenship under the age of 18 from participating in gambling activities.

The obligations established under paragraphs 4 and 5 of Article 20^1 (notification of the arrangement of a cashier's office and of any changes to essential products) were extended to holders of international casino permits and permits for slot machine gaming establishments.

A new paragraph 2^1 was added to Article 32. Pursuant to this paragraph, holders of permits for the international organization of gambling activities are prohibited from allowing Georgian citizens to participate in gambling activities.

Under the amendments, holders of permits for the international organization of gambling activities are subject to a fine of GEL 20,000 for violations of permit conditions. A fine of GEL 20,000 is also imposed for failure to comply with the deadline for payment of the permit fee.

Amendments to the Law of Georgia on Licenses and Permits

On 24 and 25 June 2026, amendments were made to the Law of Georgia on Licences and Permits. One of the amendments of 25 June will enter into force on 31 March 2027. The other amendments entered into force upon promulgation.

The amendment of 24 June 2026 restated paragraph 2 of Article 1 of the Law. That paragraph sets out the persons and activities to which the Law does not apply. The amendment added to that list the granting of a right to harvest timber as a result of an auction held by the forest management body for the purpose of timber harvesting.

The amendment also changed the date of entry into force of the amendment adopted on 30 June 2023. That amendment adds three permits to Article 24 of the Law (paragraphs 4^1 - 4^3): a permit for water abstraction from a surface water body, a permit for discharge into a surface water body, and a combined permit for water use of a surface water body. Before this change, these provisions were to enter into force on 1 September 2026. Under the new date, they will enter into force on 1 September 2027.

One of the amendments of 25 June 2026 added paragraph 3^2 to Article 6 of the Law, which lists the types of licenses. Paragraph 3^2 establishes a license for the import and processing of genetically modified organisms admitted in the territory of Georgia and intended for the production of animal feed (except maize, wheat and grapevine). This amendment will enter into force on 31 March 2027.

The second amendment of 25 June 2026 added three new types of permits to Article 24 of the Law, which lists the types of permits:

- a permit for the international organization of casino games in a system-electronic form (paragraph 37^4);
- a permit for the international organization of slot machine

games in a system-electronic form (paragraph 38^2);
- a permit for the international organization of totalizator games in a system-electronic form (paragraph 39^2).

The same amendment restated paragraph 2 of Article 34. Under that paragraph, if a permit holder fails to fulfil the permit conditions within the prescribed period despite the imposition of liability, the fine imposed shall be tripled. This rule shall not apply to holders of gambling and prize game permits where they breach the deadline for paying the permit fee.

Paragraph 4^1 of Article 34 was also restated. Under that paragraph, if a permit holder fails to fulfil the permit conditions despite the imposition of a fine under sub-paragraph (b), (d), (f), (h), (j), (n), (p), (r) or (t) of Article 37^1 of the Law of Georgia on Organizing Lotteries, Gambling and Other Prize Games, the permit issuing authority shall decide to revoke the permit. The amendment added sub-paragraph (t) of Article 37^1 to that list.

Amendments to the Law of Georgia on Design

On 24 June 2026, amendments were introduced to the Law of Georgia on Design. The amendments entered into force on 1 September 2026, while the transitional provisions entered into force immediately upon publication.

Pursuant to the amendments, paragraphs 6 - 10 were added to Article 13 of the Law, introducing, for the first time, the possibility of restoring the right of priority where an application was not filed within the prescribed period for claiming priority. Restoration of the right of priority is permissible provided that the applicant has filed an application with Sakpatenti and submitted a request for restoration no later than one month after the expiry of the six-month period for claiming priority, has indicated in the request the reason for missing the deadline and provided supporting evidence, and it is established that the deadline was missed despite the applicant having exercised due care or that the failure to comply with the deadline was unintentional.

Sakpatenti shall examine the request and issue a decision within 10 business days following payment of the relevant fee. The fee must be paid no later than 15 calendar days after submission of the request; otherwise, the request shall be left unexamined. The applicant may not be refused the request without first being given an opportunity to submit their observations.

A new Article 28^1 was added to the Law, regulating cases in which the registration of a design has been cancelled due to non-payment of the fee for renewal of the registration term. Restoration of the registration is permissible provided that the holder submits a request to Sakpatenti, indicates therein the reason for missing the deadline and provides supporting evidence, and it is established that the deadline was missed despite the holder having exercised due care or that the failure to comply with the deadline was unintentional. The request must be submitted within whichever of the following periods expires first:

a) Within two months from the date on which the circumstances causing the failure to meet the deadline have ceased to exist;

b) Within 12 months from the expiry of the additional six-month period prescribed for payment of the fee for renewal of the registration term.

Information concerning the restoration of design registration shall be entered in the Register and published in the Bulletin.

Under the same amendments, paragraph 2 of Article 28 was revised. Prior to the amendments, if the holder failed to pay the fee for the subsequent period within six months following the expiry of the registration term, the registration was cancelled without the possibility of restoration. This provision has been removed under the new wording, and restoration of registration has become possible in accordance with the procedure established under Article 28^1.

Paragraph 1 of Article 23 was also revised, adding the restoration of the right of priority and the restoration of the holder's rights to the list of actions for which fees are payable. Furthermore, under the revised wording of paragraph 1 of Article 25, Article 28[1] was added to the list of provisions applicable to international designs.

The amendments require the Government of Georgia and Sakpatenti to bring the relevant Government Resolution on Fees and the Design Registration Instructions, respectively, into compliance with this Law by 1 September 2026.

Amendments to the Law of Georgia on Grants

On 25 June 2026, amendments were introduced to the Law of Georgia on Grants. The amendments entered into force immediately upon publication.

The amendments expanded the categories of entities eligible to act as grantors and grantees by including JSC Georgian Energy Development Fund, an entity registered in Georgia. In particular, subparagraph (f) was added to paragraph 1 of Article 3, pursuant to which the Fund may act as a grantor when issuing grants for the achievement of its statutory objectives. At the same time, subparagraph (m) was added to Article 4, under which the Fund was designated as an eligible grantee in respect of grants received for the achievement of its statutory objectives.

Paragraph 2 of Article 2 was revised to provide that funds allocated for the achievement of entrepreneurial purposes shall not be considered grants. Prior to the amendments, the only exception to this rule concerned funds transferred to a legal entity holding the status of an agricultural cooperative. Under the new wording, this exception also extends to funds granted by and transferred to JSC Georgian Energy Development Fund.

Paragraph 2 of Article 5[1], which regulates the procedure for obtaining the consent of the Government of Georgia or a person/body authorized by it to issue a grant, was also revised. Prior to the amendments, the obligation to submit a draft written agreement in order to obtain such consent, as well as the requirement to provide additional documentation, applied, in addition to the grantor, to grantees specified in subparagraph (c) or (e) of Article 4. The amendments extended this obligation to the grantee specified in subparagraph (m), namely, JSC Georgian Energy Development Fund.

Amendments to the Civil Procedure Code of Georgia

On 24 June 2026, amendments were introduced to the Civil Procedure Code of Georgia. The amendments entered into force on 1 August 2026.

Pursuant to the amendments, a new type of simplified proceedings was introduced into the Code, namely, a simplified procedure for the examination of applications seeking the adoption of interim relief measures for the protection of rights under the Cape Town Convention. Within the framework of this procedure, the rules governing the consideration of applications for interim relief in respect of aircraft objects covered by the Cape Town Convention were established. Such interim measures include:

1. The preservation of an aircraft object, including the preservation of its value;
2. The placement of an aircraft object in the possession of another person, or its delivery for storage or safekeeping;
3. The prohibition of the movement of an aircraft object;
4. The leasing of an aircraft object or the management of the aircraft object and the income derived therefrom, where such measures are not otherwise covered by other interim relief measures;
5. The sale of an aircraft object and the distribution of the proceeds derived from such sale, provided that an agreement to this effect exists between the creditor and

the debtor as defined under the Cape Town Convention;

6. The deregistration of an aircraft object from the State Register of Civil Aircraft of Georgia and its removal from the customs territory of Georgia.

The court shall issue an order granting interim relief, which shall be subject to immediate enforcement.

Amendments to the Administrative Procedure Code of Georgia

On 16 September 2026, amendments were introduced to the Administrative Procedure Code of Georgia. The amendments entered into force on 15 October 2026.

Pursuant to the amendments, a new chapter was added to the Administrative Procedure Code, establishing a special procedure whereby the Pension Fund of Georgia may request information from entities subject to its supervision, where such entities fail to provide the requested information voluntarily. Such entities include banks, employers, participants in the funded pension scheme, and others.

In particular, where the grounds provided for in paragraph 4 of Article 7 and paragraphs 2 and 3 of Article 37^5 of the Law of Georgia on Funded Pension are present, during an inspection of an employer (or its legal successor), the Legal Entity under Public Law - Pension Fund of Georgia shall be authorized, within the scope of such inspection, to apply to the court with a motion requesting that a commercial bank, an employer (or its legal successor), a participant, a pension recipient, an heir of a deceased participant, or any other person provide information and/or documentation, provided that the Pension Fund of Georgia has requested the relevant person to submit such information and/or documentation at least once in accordance with the procedure established by Georgian legislation, but the person has failed to submit the requested information and/or documentation within the prescribed period.

An order requiring a commercial bank, an employer (or its legal successor), a participant, a pension recipient, an heir of a deceased participant, or any other person to provide information and/or documentation to the Pension Fund of Georgia shall be issued by a judge of the Tbilisi City Court.

The motion submitted by the Pension Fund of Georgia must be duly substantiated and must specify:

a) The name and identification details of the person in respect of whom the Pension Fund of Georgia is requesting information and/or documentation;

b) The commercial bank, employer (or its legal successor), participant, pension recipient, or heir of a deceased participant from whom the Pension Fund of Georgia is to obtain the information and/or documentation;

c) A description of the information and/or documentation requested by the Pension Fund of Georgia;

d) The form and deadline for providing the information and/or documentation to the Pension Fund of Georgia.

The amendments also establish the procedure for issuing a court order requiring a commercial bank, an employer (or its legal successor), a participant, a pension recipient, an heir of a deceased participant, or any other person to provide information and/or documentation to the Pension Fund of Georgia. In particular, upon the basis of the motion submitted by the Pension Fund of Georgia, the judge shall issue an order within 14 days of the submission of the motion. The judge shall examine the motion submitted by the Pension Fund of Georgia sitting as a single judge and without an oral hearing. Following an assessment of whether the motion submitted by the Pension Fund of Georgia is duly substantiated, the judge shall issue a reasoned order either granting the motion or refusing to grant it.

The judge's order shall be drawn up in three copies, one of which shall be sent to the Pension

Fund of Georgia, the second to the relevant person, commercial bank, employer (or its legal successor), participant, pension recipient, heir of a deceased participant, or any other person, and the third shall remain with the court.

The judge's order shall enter into force upon expiry of the time limit for appealing against it. An appeal against the order shall suspend its effect. A complaint seeking the annulment of the judge's order must be lodged with the court that issued the order within 48 hours of the delivery of a copy of the order to the relevant party. The judge shall immediately forward the complaint, together with the case materials, to the appellate court. The appellate court shall examine the complaint within 10 days of its submission. The order issued by the appellate court shall be final and shall not be subject to further appeal.

Amendments to Ordinance No 520 of the Government of Georgia on Approving the Procedure for Reviewing and Deciding the Granting of Georgian Residence Permits

On 9 July 2026, amendments were introduced to Government of Georgia Ordinance No. 520 on Approving the Procedure for Reviewing and Deciding the Granting of Georgian Residence Permits.

In particular, pursuant to the amendments, where an individual is not required to obtain the right to engage in labor activities, they must submit, together with their application for a work residence permit, a document confirming that they are not required to obtain such a right.

An enterprise that employs no more than three foreign nationals and has been registered for no longer than three months shall not be required to submit documentation confirming its turnover.

Where a work residence permit is sought for the purpose of carrying out activities in a managerial or executive position or serving on the audit committee of a public-interest entity, the application for a residence permit must include information obtained from the reporting website (Reportal.ge) of the Accounting, Reporting and Auditing Supervision Service, confirming the enterprise's size category and/or its status as a public-interest entity.

Amendments to Ordinance No 70 of the Government of Georgia on Approving the Procedure for Granting the Right to Labor Activity to a Labor Immigrant and a Self-Employed Foreigner

On 9 July 2026, amendments were introduced to Government of Georgia Ordinance No. 70 on Approving the Procedure for Granting the Right to Labor Activity to a Labor Immigrant and a Self-Employed Foreigner. The amendments entered into force immediately upon publication.

In particular, the requirement to obtain the right to engage in labor activities no longer applies to a partner of an enterprise.

Furthermore, the following categories of foreign nationals are no longer required to obtain the right to engage in labor activities:

- A person holding a valid special residence permit issued on the basis of a written initiative of a member of the Government of Georgia;
- A person engaged in short-term professional activities, provided that the total duration of such activities does not exceed four months and, in any event, does not exceed the period of their lawful stay in Georgia. In such cases, prior to the commencement of the activities, the employer/service organizer of the relevant person must register them in the special electronic system available at www.labourmigration.moh.gov.ge;
- A foreign national carrying out activities in a public institution or for the benefit of an enterprise established with state equity participation;

- A foreign national carrying out activities entirely remotely, without the need to enter Georgia;
- A foreign national carrying out activities for the benefit of a non-resident person, where such activities are related to operations conducted outside Georgia, except where the foreign national is themselves an entrepreneur and requires a residence permit in order to stay in Georgia;
- A foreign national carrying out activities for the benefit of a public-interest entity in the capacity of a manager/director or as a member of its audit committee;
- A foreign national who has been granted the right to temporary stay in Georgia.

An application for obtaining the right to engage in labor activities by a self-employed foreign national may not be submitted by an authorized representative acting under a power of attorney.

A video interview with a self-employed foreign national, which forms part of the procedure for obtaining the right to engage in labor activities, shall be conducted exclusively in English or Georgian.

Where a local employer intends to employ more than five foreign nationals, or where the number of foreign nationals employed by the employer exceeds 5% of its total workforce (except where 5% represents fewer than five individuals), the employer must obtain approval of the annual maximum quota for the employment of foreign nationals. Such quota may be increased on the basis of a duly substantiated application. Conversely, where the allocated quota is not fully utilized, it may be reduced for the following year.

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