

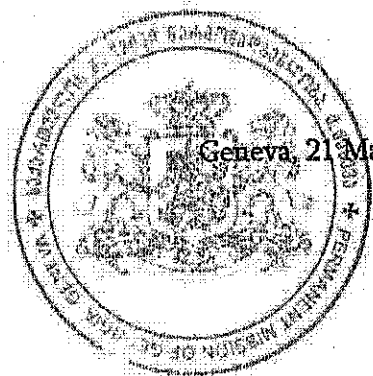


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The Permanent Mission of Georgia to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and in reference to its Note Verbale (reference: RRDD/DESIB/METS/WPHRE/2015/EI/CK), dated 2 February 2015, has the honour to transmit herewith the National Evaluation Report of Georgia on the Second Phase of the World Programme for Human Rights Education.

The Permanent Mission of Georgia to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights the assurances of its highest consideration.

Enclosure: 8 pages



Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
Geneva

National Evaluation Report of Georgia on the Second Phase of the World Programme for Human Rights Education

Section A

Human Rights issues are integral part of educational programmes at the institutions of higher education in Georgia. Besides, public lectures are given by local and foreign lecturers, winter and summer schools are organized, competitions are held; Human Rights Law weeks take place with the participation of several institutions of higher education, periodicals are issued, where above-mentioned topics are considered. Institutions of higher education actively cooperate with the NGOs working on human rights issues.

Since 2005, after Georgia joined the Bologna Process, educational system has become learner and student-centered.

As for the universities, at Ilia State University human rights issues are integral part of the following academic disciplines both at Bachelor's and Master's levels:

1. Political Science (Bachelor's and Master's degree programs)
2. Sociology (Bachelor's and Master's degree programs)
3. Philosophy (Bachelor's and Master's degree programs)
4. Liberal Arts (Bachelor's degree program)
5. Pedagogy of primary school and preschool training (Bachelor's degree program)
6. Teacher preparation educational program (Bachelor's degree program)
7. Psychology (Bachelor's and Master's degree programs)
8. European Studies (Bachelor's and Master's degree programs)
9. Special Education (Master's degree programs)
10. Educational Administration (Master's degree programs)
11. Public Policy administration (Master's degree programs)
12. Social Work (Master's degree programs)

In addition, the following academic courses are included in the Bachelor's degree program in the field of Law:

1. Human Rights Law
2. Crimes against people
3. Juvenile Justice
4. Latest human rights standards as provided by preventive law of Strasbourg Court
5. National human rights law
6. International humanitarian law

Since 2007, the Master's program in Social Sciences (including civic education) on teacher training has been operating at Ilia State University. In 2009-2014 academic years, 6 persons graduated the program.

State regulation model of higher pedagogical education is going to be changed in 2015; this will lead to changes in the system of teachers' university-level preparation. In 2015, Ilia State University plans to develop mandatory component of civic education in any kind of the teacher-training curriculum and to develop citizenship teacher-training program according to teachers professional and object-lessons new standard.

Ilia State University is working on the programs together with civic education working group (CWG). This group combines Civic Education teachers forum, Georgian Citizenship Educational Association, Lectors Association and other organizations interested in this issue. The working process is promoted by The International Foundation for Electoral Systems. At Akaki Tsereteli State University students, particularly the students of Law at the Faculty of Business, Law and Social Sciences study the following courses: Democracy and Citizenship, and Human Rights.

Section B

With regard to civil servants, law enforcement officials and the military, have steps been taken in your country in the following areas:

6. Training policies and other related policies

Q. Has human rights training been institutionalized in pre-service and in-service training, and is it delivered by specialized staff?

A. The curriculum of the Public Administration in-service training at Zurab Zhvania School of Public Administration includes the civic education course, which covers the issues of human rights and it is delivered by professional staff, provided by Civic Education Lecturers Association (CELA).

Q. Is it mandatory for professional qualification and promotion?

A. It is mandatory for all servants, who attend the Public Administration certification course.

Q. Is specialized human rights training available for officials dealing with specific groups in vulnerable situations?

A. The school focus groups include civil servants who are working in vulnerable situations, therefore they are able to attend classes, and where training in human rights are available for public servants.

Q. Have policies and regulations concerning the profession been reviewed to make sure that they are not inconsistent with human rights standards?

A. Yes, all the subjects, including the civic education course are reviewed by the professionals to ensure that they are consistent with human right standards.

7. Training processes and tools

Q. Is training content relevant to the audience, and does it reflect its role and responsibilities, institutional and organizational culture and specific applicable standards?

A. Yes. All the training materials are adjusted to role and responsibilities, institutional and organizational culture and specific applicable standards of the public and local government officials, the audience of trainings delivered by Zurab Zhvania School of Public Administration (ZSPA).

Q. Are learner-centered, participatory and sensitizing training methodologies used, and does training build on peer learning and professional self-esteem?

A. The whole philosophy of training programs, delivered by ZSPA is to promote high level of professionalism in public sector through the in-service training. In this the School actively utilizes the participatory, learner-centered training methodology.

Q. Do training materials and textbooks promote human rights principles?

A. Yes. Materials and textbooks promote human rights Values.

8. Learning and working environment

Q. Have policy statements, such as codes of conduct and professional ethics, been adopted to promote the profession's contribution to human rights?

A. The School has adopted statute, which is guarantee for promoting human rights and creating democratic environment within the School space.

Q. Have good practices been promoted, recognized and rewarded?

A. The school has history where after graduation of the program trainees have been promoted on their job places. These success stories are identified and widely distributed by the ZSPA on regular basis.

Q. Has interaction and collaboration with the wider community been enhanced?

A. Yes. Teaching personnel have a mandate to pursue human rights education, and students can express their views freely, participate in academic life and have extensive opportunities for interacting with the wider community.

Section C

Teaching on Human Rights is a key priority in General Education System of Georgia. According to the National Objectives of General Education of Georgia, the main purpose of education is to bring up a full-fledged citizen.

In National Curriculum 2011-2016 human rights education is covered by the Social Science Group subjects. The mentioned group unites the following related subjects: History, Geography, Civic Education, Civil Defense and Security.

On all the three levels of General Education (elementary, basic and secondary) the subjects of social sciences are taught in coordination, considering the age peculiarities and abilities of a student.

Teaching the subjects of social sciences supports the process of raising informed and active citizens, forming patriotic and humane people, understanding also his/her responsibilities and rights with respect to democratic society and the rule of law. A student has the opportunity to get familiar with the basics of human rights, international frameworks of human rights protection, mechanisms and instruments for protecting human rights in Georgia and in the world. Teaching the above-mentioned subjects is essential for developing civic competences in students and establishing civic culture in society.

The following topics are included in National Curriculum on all the three levels of teaching:

- Human Rights;
- Empathy and care;
- Good faith and hard work;
- Equality;
- Tolerance;
- Professionalism;
- Justice and respect of law;
- Understanding safe/healthy style of life;
- Respect for homeland and its heroes.

At this stage National Curriculum in force is under revision and in the renewed Curriculum the social science group subjects will be offered in more intensive manner at schools, both public and private. Teaching the social science group subjects will start from the III grade, where the issues of human rights will be more highlighted and promoted among the other topics like: violence, respect to each other, diversity and equality, tolerance, respect for all kinds of minorities and etc.

MoES devotes considerable time to scrutinize how civic education topics are implemented at public schools in Georgia. In 2014, the MoES in active cooperation with respective NGOs drafted “Strategy for Civic Education Teaching Development”, which sets out gender-responsive recommendations to facilitate improvement of civic education teaching in the country.

The MoES is committed to taking appropriate awareness-raising measures at all levels of education in Georgia. Furthermore, gender-responsive training modules for civic education teachers have been prepared; teachers of civic education have been trained. Civic Education Trainers and school teachers of social sciences were also trained in gender equality.

Women’s Information Center conducted the trainings in 2013. The MoES helped Women’s Information Center to organize the participation of civic education trainers and teachers and provided the training facility. Participants were fully satisfied with the training and expressed readiness to cooperate in the future and disseminate the gained knowledge.

The MoES conducts a number of activities (Summer Schools/Camps) for teachers as well as school girls residing in the regions of Georgia densely populated with ethnic minorities. The activities cover two directions: (1) awareness-raising on discrimination and domestic violence; (2) human rights and freedoms, including gender rights. Besides, State language classes are provided to ethnic minority teachers and school children

From 2013, Georgia, namely the MoES, is involved in the Council of Europe's pilot project "Human Rights and Democracy". Other participants of the project are Lithuania, Belarus, Russia and Georgia. The project envisages development of supplementary learning materials for teachers' training program. Each country is given a specific topic to work on. Presently, Georgia is working on the following themes: (1) Intercultural communication; (2) Antidiscrimination; and (3) Hate Speech.

In 2014 teacher professional standard was modified. According to modification development of students' civic, social and intercultural competences is general feature of all teachers.

In 2014-2015 development of citizenship teaching standard is carried out with the active support of Konrad Adenauer foundation under the project 'Civic Education for Democracy'. EU-funded project aims to promote quality education of civic education in the public schools.

The MoES cooperates with the law program of GIZ for distribution of manual "City of Law" in schools.

In October 2014 the Olympiad was organized by the MoES together with local NGO "Mokalake" (Citizen), for IX-XII graders of school with regard to strengthen civic values in youngsters and to facilitate them to become full-fledged members of society. The aim of project was to stimulate the learning process in civic education and to motivate youngsters' interests towards civic education.

In 2014, the Ministry of Education and Science implemented the subprogram entitled "Georgian Language International Summer School in Georgia", in which approximately 40 ethnic minority teachers and 40 ethnic minority schoolchildren were involved. The abovementioned subprogram was aimed at promoting civil integration of ethnic minority school teachers and their engagement in the country's political, economic and social life. It was also designed to facilitate Georgian language learning for schoolchildren and teachers of non-Georgian schools/sectors as well as support professional development of teachers. The activities under the aforementioned subprogram aimed to facilitate realization and exercise of constitutional rights and freedoms of ethnic minority teachers such as their right to be actively involved and participate in the key processes for development of the Georgian State and Society. It is worth to be mentioned that the given subprogram is implemented on a regular basis.

In 2014, the MoES, through the Zurab Zhvania School of Public Administration launched the State Language Teaching Program for the public servants, representing the ethnic minorities in two regions of Georgia – KvemoKartli and SamtskheJavakheti. The program aims to assist the public servants, representing ethnic minorities to be integrated into the public administration industry of Georgia and have easier access to legislation and other legal documents, affecting their performance. Implementation of the State Language program was launched on April 14, 2014 in eight Regional Training Centers of Z. Zhvania School, located in Dmanisi, Bolnisi, Gardabani, Marneuli, Sagarejo, Tsalka, Akhalkalaki and Ninotsminda municipalities. In 2014 the Z. Zhvania School of Public Administration plans to train up to 2000 public servants for free in SamtskheJavakheti and KvemoKartli regions.

At Zurab Zhvania School of Public Administration under the programme “Management and Administration of Public Organizations”, within all the four study courses: “Financial Management and Internal Audit for Civil Servants”, “State Procurements”, “Management of Public Organizations”, “Management of Human Resources and Workflow in Public Sector”, the following academic discipline – “Civic Education” is taught. It’s an eight-lecture course, and two lectures out of them are intended for teaching “Human Rights and Gender Equality and its Assurance”.

In the recent years, the visible progress has been made towards civic education teachings. Teachers’ competencies were significantly improved, more educational resources became accessible; however, there are still some identifiable problems. In the process of teaching civic education, the emphasis is placed on declarative knowledge, less attention is paid to the strengthening of democratic values, the ability to transfer the learned knowledge into practice.

Regarding activities carried out by the MoES in the field of Human Rights Education in 2014: In the framework of “The program of encouraging especially talented youth” Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia implemented subprograms of school initiatives and school competitions aimed at raising students’ civil consciousness on the issues of human rights and liberty, equality and tolerance, violence and safety.

The following competitions were held in this regard in 2014:

- Video Competition – “Step to Support!”
- Essay Competition – “Step to Support!”
- Blog Competitions – “We Defend the Right of Our Peers”

On December 27, 2014 students conference on violence was held, in which students and teachers of different Georgian schools and teachers participated. The purpose of the conference was to raise awareness of students on the issues of legal culture, human rights and liberty, as well as preventive measures.

The Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia permanently carries out a number of activities aimed at protection of human rights in the field of general education. In particular,

with a view to improving legal culture and raise awareness thereof, the subject “Legal Culture” is delivered to school children in Georgia

Besides, in 2008 international organization: PH International, in cooperation with the Ministries of Education and Science and Internal Affairs of Georgia, in 2008 launched the project “ Legal Education Programme in Georgia” funded by US State Department. Within the scopes of the programme, schoolchildren of the IX grade are taught the topics as follows: what is violence; adolescent and violence including domestic violence. The schoolchildren of the VII grade are offered the programme facilitating non-violent communication and interaction among pupils. The given classes are delivered jointly by law-enforcers, Resource Officers (Mandaturi) of educational institution and class-teacher. To this end, all civic education teachers, class-teachers and school administration staff members involved in the given program were re-trained. Topics of re-training were largely focused on human rights & freedoms, their protection and realization.

- A project “Mock Investigation” was implemented in 2014 in the framework of the memorandum signed between the MoES and the Prosecutor’s Office of Georgia. The aim of this memorandum is juvenile crime prevention, formation of legal culture among public school students and promotion of awareness raising in this regard. In the framework of the above-mentioned program prosecutors are meeting with the students of 150 public schools, selected at this stage.
- In the framework of the joint project of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the MoES “No to Violence”- a social campaign against domestic violence, meetings in various public and private schools, as well as in the institutions of higher education were held throughout Georgia. The project involved awareness raising informational meetings with students and schoolchildren. From November 26 to December 19, 2014, daily meetings were held in Tbilisi and other parts of Georgia in the framework of this campaign.

As for the activities carried out in the field of Vocational Education, since 2012 the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia has been implementing Inclusive Vocational Education program and more than 15 public VET institutions are involved in the program “Implementation of Inclusive Education in Vocational Education and Training System”. The focal point for the program is raising awareness of VET teachers, students and administration of VET institutions on the rights of people with special educational needs and with disability. Therefore, specialists of the Inclusive education work regularly on the above mentioned issues at the VET institutions. Besides, within the program, a study tour to Norway was organized. Directors of the VET institutions and specialists of the inclusive education were involved in it to gain an international experience and get more information on the inclusive

vocational education, employment rights/opportunities for the inclusive VET students and other related topics.

This year with the support of the EU and the International Organization of Migration (IOM) the informational meetings are being held at the Georgian VET institutions on the issues of Safe Migration, including Migrants' rights. The informational meetings were organized in public and private VET institutions (more than 15). The meetings with the VET students will continue throughout the year and up to 20 public VET institutions will be involved.