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NGOs call upon the Parliament not to override the veto

We, the signatory organizations, welcome the decision of the President of Georgia to veto the amendments to the Law on Broadcasting which, together with other changes, introduce vague procedures of procurement for the Public Broadcaster, increase the time of placement of commercial advertising and sponsorship, and deal with other problematic issues. The proposed law considerably increases the risks of non-transparency and corruption in the Public Broadcaster, and is also going to cause damage to private broadcasters and the Georgian media environment as a whole.

Therefore, we call upon the Parliament of Georgia not to override the President III veto,

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to take into account the substantiated arguments of the President, members of the Sector Economy Committee, private media outlets and civil society organizations, and to adopt the amendments in view of these arguments in the form which will not cause damage to the media environment and will be in line with the idea of the Public Broadcaster.

- 1. Georgian Young Lawyers' Association
- 2. Transparency International Georgia
- 3. Georgian Democracy Initiative (GDI)
- 4. Open Society Georgia Foundation
- 5. Union "Sapari"
- 6. Liberal Academy Tbilisi
- 7. Georgian Charter of Journalistic Ethics
- 8. International Society for Fair Elections and Democracy (ISFED)
- 9. Economic Policy Research Center
- 10. Human Rights Center
- 11. Media Institute
- 12. Georgia's Reforms Associates (GRASS)
- 13. NGO CiDA
- 14. Association "Atinati"
- 15. We for Healthy Future
- 16. Community Union "Nukriani"
- 17. Bridge of Friendship "Kartlosi"

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- 18. Bolnisi Language House
- 19. Tkibuli District Development Fund
- 20. Akhaltsikhe Youth Center
- 21. Democratic Development Union of Georgia
- 22. Union of Meskhetian Democrats
- 23. For Better Future
- 24. Civic Initiatives Association
- 25. Dusheti Development Fund
- 26. Resource Center of Self-Government of Racha-Lechkhumi and Kvemo Svaneti
- 27. Public Monitoring and Research Center
- 28. Anti-Violence Network of Georgia Regional Committee of Mtskheta-Mtianeti
- 29. SIQA Georgian Association of Educational Initiatives
- 30. Regional Development Center
- 31. Inter-Ethnic Unity of Kvemo Kartli
- 32. Association "Spektri"
- 33. Georgian Rural Council
- 34. Samtskhe-Javakheti Media Center
- 35. Women for Regional Development