



## **GYLA releases the statement in terms of developments in local self-governing bodies**

GYLA reacts over again on the information released by mass media in terms of developments in local self-governing bodies for the past period. On December 20, 2012 GYLA held a press conference on the issue.

Following 2012 parliamentary elections, some concerns have been noticed in the regions in terms of change of high officials of local self-governing bodies (Gamageoba, local council). According to the disseminated information, some modifications are normal, while there are certain instances when substitution of power is implemented under secret or clear pressure. In addition, some newly appointed high officials exceed their authority, thus making negative influence and straining situation in the country.

On December 18, Ivane Osadze, Gamagebeli from Kareli region, participated in the news broadcasted by TV Company "Trialeti". He reported that having occupied the new post, he asked his employees to write applications on resignation. Later on, he will decide who will be left in the office and who will be fired, he added. Oleg Iadze, Gamagebeli from Kaspi municipality also took part in the program, who reported that on November 29 he was successful to receive applications on resignation from all 17 envoys of the territorial agencies. He also added that in the nearest future, he plans to meet with secondary school directors and hopes that they will leave positions voluntarily. The situation is same in other municipalities as well, for instance in Telavi.

**Georgian Young Lawyers' Association calls on relevant high officials to refrain from**

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exceeding their authorities, since their conduct may contain signs of offence. Furthermore, GYLA also applies to state authorities to examine the cases and to react adequately with a view to ensure protection of human rights, rule of law and inadmissibility of discrimination with the political sign. Any unlawful conduct (pressure, intimidation, coercion..) which may be applied in self-government bodies, or against employees or by them, needs to be examined duly, effectively and impartially with adequate legislative response, if necessary.

Promotion of effective governance system is among GYLA's key objectives. We monitored current developments in self-governing bodies. We ask all individuals whose rights were violated or who are under such risk, to apply to GYLA's central or regional offices. It will enable us to examine the details of the problem and to ensure protection of the rights.