

PUBLIC DEFENDER OF GEORGIA

“Everyone has the right to seek and to enjoy in other countries asylum
from persecution“

Universal Declaration of Human Rights

“Georgia shall grant asylum to citizens of other states and stateless
persons in compliance with universally recognized norms of
international law, in accordance with the procedures established by law“

“Citizens of other states and stateless persons living in Georgia shall have
rights and obligations equal to those of citizens of Georgia except in cases
provided for by the Constitution and law“

Constitution of Georgia

AIM OF THE PROJECT:

In order to promote rights and entitlements of project beneficiaries throughout the country and promote compliance of Georgian legislation and practices with international standards this project aimed at monitoring the situation of asylum-seekers, persons granted international protection and stateless persons, collecting information from all stakeholders, and engaging in advocacy efforts on their behalf. Project studies, assesses and analyzes the situation with regards to providing a guaranty of legal protection from the state.

Drafting of subchapters of the Annual Parliamentary Report on “Situation of Human Rights and Freedoms in Georgia, on “Human Rights Situation of Asylum Seekers and Persons with International Protection” and “Human Rights Situation of Stateless Persons” with recommendations to relevant state bodies are planned within the Project.

The Project falls into several components and includes monitoring and awareness-raising activities. Border monitoring for ensuring access to the asylum procedures and to the territory, respect of the non-refoulment principle and non-penalization for irregular border crossing of persons in need of international protection, Refugee status determination procedures, penitentiary establishments, and common court monitoring are the important components of the Project.

Statelessness is one of the areas of supervision for the Office of Public Defender. With this regard, the system for identification of stateless persons, improvement of the assistance provided to persons in statelessness determination procedure (SDP), and protection of stateless persons that requires further work in law and in practice is under the monitoring of the project. Within the project, it is expected that the Subchapters on human rights situation of stateless persons would be prepared as an integral part of the Annual Report of the Public Defender; active engagement in the work of STL working group under the State Commission on Migration Issues, including through legislative amendments and necessary interventions at the Parliament and/or through strategic litigation at the Constitutional court level is planned under the project as well.

The project also works on various applications and cases dealing with asylum issues; analyzes the human rights situation of persons of concern based on individual meetings and systemic monitoring of the overall situation in each respective area and refer to other PDO departments or other relevant authorities, whenever necessary.

1. PUBLIC DEFENDER OF GEORGIA

The Public Defender (Ombudsman) of Georgia is a constitutional institution which supervises human rights and freedoms in the territory of Georgia; It shall independently examine the situation with regard to the protection of human rights and freedoms, and the facts of their violation, based on both received statements and appeals and on his/her own initiative and detect violations of human rights and freedoms and promote restoration of violated rights

2. WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

Citizens of Georgia, foreign citizens and stateless persons, as well as legal entities under private law, and political and religious associations are eligible to apply to the Office of the Public Defender via application or complaints

3. HOW TO APPLY FOR A PUBLIC DEFENDER

Public Defender can be addressed by the written application or/and complaints via post or directly to the Office of the Public Defender

REQUEST FOR INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION IN GEORGIA

4. AGENCY RESPONSIBLE FOR EXAMINATION OF A REQUEST FOR INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION

The Migration Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia is the only administrative body who is responsible for receiving applications, examining, and issuing a decision

5. REQUEST FOR ASYLUM

Direct or indirect, oral or written expression of intent/desire by an alien or a stateless person, to seek international protection in Georgia

JOINT PROJECT OF THE OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER OF GEORGIA AND UNHCR

TARGETED GROUP:

Stateless persons, asylum seekers, refugees and humanitarian status holders

HOTLINE OF THE OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER: 1481

Working hours 24/7, including weekends
www.ombudsman.ge
info@ombudsman.ge

Addresses of the Office of the Public Defender of Georgia

TBILISI

N80 D.Aghmashenebeli ave. Tbilisi 0102
Hotline: 1481

UPPER SVANETI

N19 Seti square
Tel.: 1481

OZURGETI

N14 Chavchavadze street
Tel.: 1481

MARNEULI

N51 Rustaveli street
Tel.: 591701073 ; 1481

AKHALKALAKI

N14 Chavchavadze str.
Tel.: 595807844 ; 1481

GORI

N1 Sameba street
mob.: 1481

ZUGDIDI

N58 Kostava
mob.: 1481

KUTAISI

M18 Rustaveli street
mob: 1481

BATUMI

N10 Dumbadze street
Tel.: 1481

TELAVI

Tel.: 1481