



*DISCRIMINATION AND INCLUSION
ISSUES IN GEORGIA*

RELIGIOUS AND ETHNIC DISCRIMINATION

The Azeri community in the Kvemo Kartli region frequently reports being marginalized in local self-government decision-making processes. Their voices are not being adequately heard or considered in policies. There are documented restrictions on the construction or expansion of mosques, which infringes upon their religious freedom.



DISCRIMINATION AGAINST FOREIGNERS



Georgia's growing international presence and the influx of foreigners coming into Georgia has highlighted instances of discrimination against foreigners. For example, there was a case of harassment of an Indian Bolt Courier. A notable incident involved an Indian Bolt courier experiencing verbal abuse and discrimination, highlighting xenophobic sentiments present in some segments of society.

BARRIERS TO INCLUSION FOR DISABLED CHILDREN



Public transportation, especially in regions outside the capital Tbilisi, is often not adapted for children with disabilities, limiting their mobility and participation in community life. Moreover, many public schools lack adapted infrastructure (ramps, accessible restrooms) and a sufficient number of special educators. This severely hinders their access to quality education, leading to educational disparities and social isolation.

GENDER-BASED DISCRIMINATION



Despite legal frameworks aimed at promoting equality. Organizations like Union "Sapari" actively work to combat discrimination against women, focusing on issues such as domestic violence, gender-based violence, and women's political and economic empowerment. Their work often involves legal aid, advocacy, and awareness campaigns. The continued need for such organizations highlights the persistent challenges women face in achieving full equality.



This is a particularly sensitive and challenging issue in Georgia, often leading to violence and legal restrictions. The planned "March for Dignity" during Tbilisi Pride on July 5, 2021, was canceled after far-right and radical groups physically assaulted journalists and supporters of the LGBTQ+ community. In September 2024, transgender woman Kesaria Abramidze was murdered in her home, occurring just one day after the adoption of a law significantly restricting LGBTQ+ rights. These events highlight a concerning trend of escalating violence and institutionalized discrimination against LGBTQ+ individuals in Georgia.

DISCRIMINATION AGAINST THE LGBTQ+ COMMUNITY



THE ROLE OF art and youth

Youth-led projects involve peer education, creating safe spaces for marginalized groups, or advocating for policy changes at local and national levels. "Dance, Move, Act" project in Kutaisi is a strong example of how combining art (dance, painting, photography) with youth-focused initiatives can directly address issues of discrimination and promote inclusion by creating opportunities, challenging perceptions, and building a more accepting community.



**Thank you for the
attention!**