

# STATE AGENCY FOR RELIGIOUS ISSUES



2020-2022 ANNUAL REPORT

2023 Tbilisi



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## Chapter 1.

### Freedom of Religion and Belief in the Occupied Territories of Georgia in 2020-2022

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## General Overview

In the occupied territories of Georgia, both in the Autonomous Republic of Abkhazia (hereafter A/R) and in the occupied part of Shida Kartli (Tskhinvali region), the situation in terms of freedom of religion is extremely difficult, in particular: freedom of religion, freedom of expression, expression of faith through confession, preaching, observance of rules and rituals, freedom of movement, the right to receive education in the native language of ethnically Georgians are violated. There are many Georgian Orthodox churches in the occupied territories of Abkhazia and Samachablo (Tskhinvali region), which are subject to various facts of multiple arbitrary transformations and damages.

It should be noted that it is quite difficult to obtain information from the occupied regions of Georgia, where the jurisdiction of the government of Georgia does not extend. Since monitoring cannot be carried out, the condition of only some cultural heritage monuments there is known, and the fate of most of the monuments is unknown. Moreover, there is no information about the archaeological monuments there, and it is clear that all the remaining historical monuments there today are vulnerable and under threat. Nevertheless, the Agency obtained information from various sources about the religious situation in the occupied territories, which we've provided below.

In the occupied territories of Georgia, in the occupied A/R of Abkhazia and in the occupied part of Shida Kartli (Tskhinvali region), the situation in terms of freedom of religion is still extremely difficult. The number of IDPs from both regions is about 500,000.

It is a fact that ethnic and religious discrimination and segregation of Georgian Orthodox Christians have been going on for years in the occupied territories, which is evidenced by the decision of the Grand Chamber of the European Court of Human Rights on January 21, 2021 in the case (Case No. 38263/08) <sup>1</sup>"Georgia vs. Russia". The case against the Russian Federation, which is related to the August 2008 war, ended with the victory of the State of Georgia. During the armed conflict with Georgia, the Russian Federation violated the following articles of the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, Additional Protocol 4 to the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, and Additional Protocol 1 to the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms:

- **Right to life (Article 2);**
- **Prohibition of torture (Article 3);**
- **Right to freedom and security (Article 5);**
- **Right to protection of personal and family life (Article 8);**
- **Freedom of movement (Article 2 of the 4th Additional Protocol);**
- **Property right (Article 1 of the 1st Additional Protocol).**

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<sup>1</sup>[https://hudoc.echr.coe.int/eng?fbclid=IwAR0y\\_72uhd5rMqFRMQ44ttzAFp5c3uEfmW9MFzqSwa5WfPEXyb740m19f4#%22appno%22:%2238263/08%22,%22itemid%22:%22001-207757%22](https://hudoc.echr.coe.int/eng?fbclid=IwAR0y_72uhd5rMqFRMQ44ttzAFp5c3uEfmW9MFzqSwa5WfPEXyb740m19f4#%22appno%22:%2238263/08%22,%22itemid%22:%22001-207757%22)

The Russian Federation has also failed to cooperate with the European Court of Human Rights, thereby violating Article 38 of the Convention for the Protection of Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (case review).

The Grand Chamber of the Court found that Russia exercised effective control over the Tskhinvali region and Abkhazia, and therefore it was held responsible for violating the rights of Georgian citizens. Accordingly, the court confirmed Georgia's claim that the Tskhinvali region and Abkhazia are integral parts of Georgia and are occupied by Russia. At the same time, which is very important, the court ruled that during the 2008 war, Russia carried out ethnic cleansing of Georgians.

After the Strasbourg court on the August 2008 war case, on December 16, 2022, the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court in the Hague, Karim Khan, announced the completion of the investigation stage of the "Georgia situation", that on June 30, 2022, the First Pre-Trial Chamber issued arrest warrants for three suspects (one - a citizen of the Russian Federation, two - representatives of the separatist regime) which refers to the illegal deprivation of liberty, torture, cruel treatment, hostage-taking and subsequent illegal movement of the ethnically Georgian civilians during the occupation of Georgia by the Russian Federation. Mass looting and destruction of Georgian villages and houses belonging to Georgians and refusal of the right of the Georgian population of Tskhinvali region to return to the region are also confirmed. The mentioned facts indicate another important success of the Georgian side against the Russian Federation <sup>2</sup> in international courts.

### **A/R of Occupied Abkhazia**

In terms of religion, the occupied A/R of Abkhazia is in the worst situation. The local ethnically Georgian population has been expelled from the largest part of the mentioned territory, and in none of the Georgian Orthodox churches religious services are conducted in the Georgian language. According to the information obtained by the Agency, there are 16,000 Georgians in Gali district, however in none of the Orthodox churches of the Russian-occupied Abkhazia region, religious services are held in the Georgian language. The Georgian population of Gali needs a Georgian clergyman, because in order to exercise their religious rights, especially on major religious holidays, they have to move to Zugdidi and attend services there, which is often connected to great dangers, and this is when the clergy of the Abkhazia Diocese of the Patriarchate of the Georgian Orthodox Church are ready to move to the A/R of Abkhazia region and perform worship.

According to the latest data, the Gali district schools have completely switched to Russian education. Consequently, in order to receive education in Georgian and preserve their native language, the Georgian population is forced to leave their homes and move to Zugdidi, which is a gross violation of

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<sup>2</sup> <https://www.icc-cpi.int/news/prosecutor-international-criminal-court-karim-aa-khan-kc-announces-conclusion-investigation>; <https://justice.gov.ge/?m=articles&id=UpL8kINlaj>

the right of children and adolescents to receive education in their native language. There is continuous discrimination of local ethnically Georgian population living in the occupied territories of Georgia.

### **Occupied Tskhinvali region**

Like the occupied A/R of Abkhazia, the situation is dire in the occupied part of the Tskhinvali region as well. Georgian cult buildings are in the worst condition, and in all (except for two) Georgian Orthodox churches religious services are not held in the Georgian language. Georgian Orthodox clergymen have been completely expelled from the territory of the occupied part of Tskhinvali region, only four clergymen are left, who are suffering from extreme harassment. It should be noted that until 2008, 23 Georgian clerics were serving in the Tskhinvali region and 9 Georgian Orthodox churches were functioning. Currently, there are only 2 churches in Akhlagori settlement and Ikoti village.

It should be noted that Georgian parishioners living on the other side of the occupation line are restricted from visiting the cemeteries of their relatives and family members and attending religious services in Georgian in the churches in the occupied territory.

### **The Worst Condition of Georgian Cult Buildings in the Occupied Territories**

According to our information, in the occupied A\R of Abkhazia and the Tskhinvali region, a total of 706 cult buildings have been preserved, 151 of which are in the occupied A\R of Abkhazia, and 145 out of which are Orthodox churches; And in the occupied Tskhinvali region there are 555 Orthodox churches. In all of these existing Orthodox churches in the occupied territories (except for two churches in Akhlagori district), Georgian Orthodox clergymen cannot enter. There are also many facts of changing, arbitrary remodeling and damaging the original appearance of churches. It is worth noting that the relevant articles and protocols of the Hague Convention (on the protection of cultural values during armed conflict) adopted in 1954, which would be one of the guarantees for the protection of cultural heritage monuments in A/R of Abkhazia, have not been activated by Russia in Abkhazia region. On October 16, 2010, an agreement on the “State Protection, Study and Promotion of Cultural and Historical Monuments” was signed between the Ministry of Culture of self-proclaimed “Republic of Abkhazia” and the Ministry of Culture of Russian Federation. However, instead of restoration, encroachment of the Georgian historical-cultural heritage deliberately began.

### **Restriction on Movement and Harassment of Georgian Orthodox Clergymen in the Occupied Regions of Georgia**

In Georgia’s occupied regions of Abkhazia and Tskhinvali, the movement of the Georgian Orthodox clergymen is completely prohibited. The de-facto administration of the occupied Tskhinvali region, without any prior warning, closed the so-called crossing points, thereby restricting Georgian Orthodox clerics from entering and returning to the occupied territory. Consequently, they are not given the opportunity to conduct religious services in their native language for the Georgian parishioners.

Despite the fact that the two indivisible regions of Georgia, Abkhazia and Tskhinvali regions, are occupied by the Russian Federation, the government of Georgia implements democratic and human rights-based policy, supports the representatives of different religions in Georgia, the clergy of the Catholic, Lutheran, Armenian Apostolic churches, to move to Abkhazia region, meet their parishioners and perform religious services in compliance with the Law on Occupied Territories. All this is prohibited for the Georgian Orthodox clergy because they are not allowed to enter the occupied territories of Georgia for the purpose of holding religious services. This is clearly ethnic and religious discrimination against only Georgian Orthodox Christians, worshipers of the Georgian Orthodox Church, which is carried out by the occupying country - Russia and its puppet, separatist regimes.

The Metropolitan of Nikozi and Tskhinvali Diocese Reverend Isaiah (Chanturia) is not allowed to enter the territory of the Diocese and perform his religious duties. Since January 1, 2020, Reverend Isaias has been waiting unsuccessfully to receive an entry pass to the occupied territory of Tskhinvali region from the relevant structure of the occupied territories.

### **The situation in the occupied territories in 2020-2022**

In both occupied regions of Georgia, A/R of Abkhazia and Tskhinvali region, the situation is still very difficult in terms of freedom of religion. Even in the reporting years, Georgian Orthodox clergymen are still prohibited from moving in the occupied A/R of Abkhazia and Tskhinvali region; Georgian parishioners living on the other side of the occupation line still do not have the right to attend religious services in their native language in the churches in the occupied territory and are forbidden to visit the cemeteries of relatives and family members. Representatives of the Patriarchate of the Russian Orthodox Church of the occupying country continue to serve illegally in the occupied territories of Abkhazia and Tskhinvali regions. Three illegally built Russian churches are still operating (the Holy Trinity Cathedral in the center of Tskhinvali; the Cathedral of John the Baptist in the Russian military district north of Tskhinvali and the St. Nicholas Cathedral on the outskirts of Tskhinvali) and various schismatic church groups incited by the occupiers have invaded Georgian Orthodox churches. They even oppose each other and create terrible religious chaos in the occupied territories of Georgia. This is when the Georgian Orthodox churches in the occupied territories are still witnessing various facts of arbitrary transformation and damage, which have not been stopped even in the current reporting years and which will be provided in detail below.

#### **A/R of Occupied Abkhazia (2020-2022)**

The so-called "holy metropolis of Abkhazia" supported by the separatist regime of Abkhazia region and by the Russian Federation as the occupying country, headed by Archimandrite Dorotheos Dbar, carries out systematic, harmful and illegal "archaeological" or "restoration" works on the cultural heritage monuments in the occupied territories. It should be noted that Archimandrite Dorotheos Dbar is in split not only with the Georgian Church, but also with the Russian Orthodox Church itself. By the Bishop of Maykop and Adygea, Tikhon Lobkovsky, he has been forbidden to worship since 2012. In 2022, he was summoned to the ecclesiastical court of Maykop and Adygea, but as Dbar himself noted,

both in 2021<sup>3</sup> and 2022 he did not go<sup>4</sup>, and in October 2022 he sent the representation of the "holy metropolis of Abkhazia" to the above-mentioned archbishop<sup>5</sup>. Accordingly, at this stage, Dbar is in a schism, both with the Church of Georgia and Russia, although this does not prevent him from carrying out illegal archaeological "works" near the settlement of Bzhilua (village of Ankhua), on two medieval monuments located at the distance of 3 kms from the skete of St. John the Baptist where illegal Archeological excavations were conducted. The mentioned schismatic clergyman does not even hide the illegal excavations, the unauthorized involvement of St. Petersburg restorers from Russia - the occupying country - and published some of the discovered materials on his personal Facebook. Such as, for example, frescoes<sup>6</sup> and a part of an engraved icon, which were found in this area on September 12, 2022. In May 2022, he published photos of how he was conducting illegal religious services in the ruins of St. George's Church in the village of Ankhua, near which he placed informational banners, where, according to him, "archaeological studies" <sup>7</sup>had been going on for years. The mentioned clergyman has been illegally carrying out "restoration" works in St. John the Baptist Church<sup>8</sup> of the village of Ankhua as well.

The church chaos that is taking place in both occupied territories of Georgia should be noted separately. Since 2013, two illegal schismatic churches have been functioning at the same time in the occupied territory of Abkhazia region: the Diocese of Sukhumi-Bichvinta under the leadership of Bessarion Aplaia, a representative of the "older generation" of the clergy, and under the patronage of the Moscow Patriarchate, and the so-called "holy metropolis of Abkhazia", whose cathedral throne is the Church of Simon the Canaanite of New Athos and which is headed by the representative of the "new generation" - Dorotheos Dbar.

Between the two illegal schismatic church groups of Abkhazia, tensions arise from time to time, mainly due to the request of the so-called Orthodox Church of Abkhazia (priest Bessarion Aplaia) so that the so-called representatives of the "holy metropolis of Abkhazia" (Archimandrite Dorotheos Dbar) release the New Athos Monastery and hand it over to them. However, it is clear that despite the apparently different views declared by these two "generations", both schismatic groups are directly controlled by the occupying state - Russia, and therefore the distribution of the occupied churches does not change either.

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<sup>3</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=2397306083746864&set=a.114632232014272>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=2822301071247361&set=a.114632232014272>

<sup>5</sup> <https://anyha.org/delegation-of-the-holy-metropolis-of-abkhazia-to-maykop/>

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=2866213563522778&set=a.114632232014272;>  
<https://www.facebook.com/photo?fbid=2866192346858233&set=pcb.2866192493524885>

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/paterdarat.dbar/videos/1436579906802912>

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TczG0EUxkp4&t=10s>

On October 12, 2021, the Patriarchate of Georgia offered the priest Bessarion Aplia to hold talks in Tbilisi.<sup>9</sup> It should be noted that this person was ordained as a priest in 1990 by the Church of Georgia. Nevertheless, the priest Bessarion Aplia rejected the proposal of the Georgian Church to start negotiations and called this proposal "cunning"<sup>10</sup>.

### **Occupied Tskhinvali region (2020-2022)**

According to the information sought by the Agency, during the last three years (2019-2022) in the occupied Tskhinvali region, illegal so-called "restoration" works were carried out on the following monuments in order to erase the Georgian traces:

**Zonkari, Church of the Mother of God (VIII-IX centuries)** - until 2019, the building was significantly damaged - the arch was collapsed, the walls were ruined, the ground level in the interior was raised, the western ambulatory was filled with earth. Since 2019, the residents living there, in particular the Valiev family, started arbitrary "construction" works in the church.

**Tsorbisi, the church at the cemetery (8th-9th centuries)** - today the church is referred to as the Church of Tedevs. The building has been fundamentally changed, it has lost its appearance and looks like an agricultural building, rather than a church. The exterior of the church was covered with crushed stone (which is not typical for the architecture of that region), the interior was plastered and the interior stonework, squinches and various architectural forms were covered, which created an artistic look of the building and represented a regional characteristic. On the territory of the church, two slabs of iconostasis with Asomtavruli inscriptions were found. The slabs are currently fixed in place of the iconostasis, however, they were inserted into the stone framing, which damages the old slabs of the mentioned iconostasis. To the south of the church there was a tower, which was demolished to the level of the floor and a completely new one was built. The fence surrounding the church and the tower is damaged.

**St. George's Church of Geri (Late Middle Ages)** – In 2020, the church was covered with a new roof. The works were carried out by the craftsmen who had no experience of working on a cultural heritage monument.

**Rustavi, Church of the St. Archangels (Late Middle Ages)** - as a result of the works carried out in the church in the previous years, the appearance of the building was completely changed - the facade was covered with stones of different sizes, the interior was plastered.

**Vanati, Church of the Savior (8th century)** - the church is damaged, although it was not damaged until 2021. Currently, the church has been completely changed and has lost its authenticity - both the

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<sup>9</sup> <https://www.ekhokavkaza.com/a/31520942.html>; <https://civil.ge/ka/archives/449418>

<sup>10</sup> <https://www.radiotavisupleba.ge/a/31524142.html>; <https://www.radiotavisupleba.ge/a/31525025.html>

interior and the facade have been plastered. Today the church is known as the Church of the Savior of Dmenisi.

**Armazi, St. George's Church (826)** – in 2020, a tree branch fell on the church, damaging the northwestern section of the building's tin roof, causing water to enter the interior. The nuns of the Ikoti nunnery succeeded by their own efforts and covered the damaged roofing sheets with new ones.

In the occupied Tskhinvali region, in Akhgori district, currently, like previous years, there are three nuns in the only functioning Georgian nunnery of Ikoti, who are not allowed to cross the occupation line. In 2022, due to health-related problems, Anton (Chakvetadze), the only one priest serving in the Tskhinvali region, was exceptionally tested in a mobile outpatient clinic sent by the Georgian side near the occupation line, and he was once allowed to have an emergency eye surgery in Georgian government controlled territory. Father Anton is currently in the occupied Tskhinvali region and is still waiting for a new entry pass. In general, it should be noted that the clergy of Georgian nationality, including the head of the diocese, Reverend Isaiah and others, have not received permits and are not allowed to move to the occupied Tskhinvali region.

Metropolitan Isaiah of Nikozi and Tskhinvali Diocese has not been allowed to enter the territory of Diocese for four years. The mentioned clergymen in the occupied territory live in extremely difficult conditions. They have limited access to medical services and right to move from the occupied territory to the territory controlled by the Georgian authorities.

### **Cult Buildings of Religious Minorities of Georgia in the Occupied Regions**

In the occupied territories of Georgia there are cult buildings of several religious communities, namely Muslim, Armenian Apostolic, Catholic, Lutheran and Jewish communities.

**Muslim community:** Mosques in Sokhumi (XX century) and in Gudauta (XIX - XX centuries);

**Jewish community:** A synagogue in Sokhumi (20th century) - a cultural heritage monument of Georgia; A synagogue in Tskhinvali (XX century) – it was almost completely destroyed during Russia's aggression against Georgia in 2008;

**Armenian community:** Cathedral of the Holy Savior (Surb Amenafkrich - 2013) in Gagra;

**Catholic Community:** Catholic Church of St. Simon the Canaanite (1908) in Sokhumi;

**Lutheran community:** Lutheran Church of John the Apostle (XX century) – in Sokhumi.

We note once again that, despite the fact that the two indivisible regions of Georgia, A/R of Abkhazia and Tskhinvali region, are occupied by the Russian Federation, the Georgian government implements a democratic and human rights-based policy and supports the clergymen of different religions of

Georgia: Catholic, Lutheran, Armenian Apostolic churches to move to Abkhazia region, meet their parishioners and perform religious services there in compliance with the Law on Occupied Territories.

Accordingly, the fact that the Russian Federation, as an occupying country, is exercising effective control over the occupied territories, and its puppet separatist regimes are treating only Georgian Orthodox population and clergymen on the basis of religious and ethnic discrimination and segregation, are destroying and changing the appearance of Georgian Orthodox churches and monasteries, are causing ecclesiastical chaos by the schismatic groups deliberately created in the occupied territories, is another proof of a deliberate discriminatory policy aimed at erasing the Georgian religious-cultural traces and changing the centuries-old historical reality of Georgia on the occupied indivisible regions of Georgia.

# **State Agency for Religious Issues**

## **2020 Annual Report**

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## **Government Action Plan for Human Rights Protection 2018-2020**

The State is guided by the "National Strategy for the Protection of Human Rights" and the "Action Plan of the Government of Georgia on the Protection of Human Rights", written according to the years corresponding to this strategy. Within the framework of the Action Plan for 2018-2020, the Agency systematically conducted activities to support a tolerant and non-discriminatory environment as well as to ensure freedom of religion and belief, in accordance with the standards provided by the international and national legislation.

### **Trainings for Clergy**

In order to raise the awareness of the representatives of religious associations (clergymen) in terms of freedom of religion and human rights and basic freedoms, as well as to strengthen religious tolerance and the culture of tolerance (paragraph 18.1.3.2.). on January 21, 2020, the State Agency for Religious Issues and the United Nations Children's Fund, under the auspices of the Administration of All Muslims of Georgia, conducted trainings in Marneuli, which was attended by the Mufti of Eastern Georgia and more than 30 clerics both Shia and Sunni. The training focused on discussion of the main provisions of the Freedom of Religion and Belief, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Code of Child Rights. At the seminar, the experience and role of clergy and religious-humanitarian organizations in supporting children's rights were also discussed.

After the end of the pandemic, it was planned to continue the mentioned series of joint trainings for all religious organizations included in the Interreligious Council under the State Agency for Religious Issues.

### **Raising Public Awareness in Terms of Religious Tolerance**

Presentation of two versions of the annual publication "Interreligious Calendar" and the calendar in Braille

In 2020, an annual interreligious calendar was traditionally published, which includes the holidays of different religious communities in one calendar format. An interreligious calendar in Braille for the blind was also published, the presentation of which was held at the Administration of the Government of Georgia on January 17, 2020. The administrative staff and teachers of the 202<sup>nd</sup> Public School for the Blind and Visually Impaired of Georgia took part in the event.

We would like to remind you that the interreligious calendar unites major religious holidays of all religious communities operating in Georgia (eleven in total) - Georgian Apostolic Autocephalous Orthodox Church, Jewish, Catholic, Muslim, Armenian Apostolic, Spiritual Christian-Molokan, Yazidi, Evangelical-Lutheran, Baptist, Evangelical-Protestant communities and Evangelical Faith Church.

## **Publications**

Within the framework of the commitment stipulated by the governmental action plan for the protection of human rights (2018-2020), the Agency has started implementing new projects, which are a kind of continuation of the projects developed so far, namely "Occupied Heritage" and "Functioning Cult Buildings in Tbilisi as of 2020".

The photo album "Occupied Heritage" reflects the results of occupation and annexation by Russia in the occupied territories of Georgia – A/R of Abkhazia and Tskhinvali region. The photos presented in the photo album depicts the deplorable condition of the cult buildings in the occupied territories. New photos are published together with the archival ones, which allows for comparison and drawing objective conclusions.

The second publication is "Functioning Cult Buildings in Tbilisi as of 2020", which implies the publication of a complete photo album of cult buildings of various religious organizations operating in the capital of Georgia, Tbilisi. The Agency completed work on the photo album in 2020, and its publication and presentation was planned for 2021.

## **International Day for Tolerance**

On the occasion of the International Day for Tolerance, the State Agency for Religious Issues has established a tradition - one of the religious communities hosts the leaders and parishioners of other religious organizations.

- On November 16, 2016, religious communities were hosted by the Georgian Orthodox Church;
- On November 16, 2017, the host was the Georgian Jewish community - the reception was held at the Davit Baazov Museum of the History of Georgian Jews and Georgian-Jewish Relations;
- On November 16, 2018, religious organizations were hosted by the Apostolic Administration of the Caucasus;
- On November 16, 2019, the Administration of All Muslims of Georgia hosted representatives of religious organizations.

On the occasion of the International Day for Tolerance in 2020, the Union of Baptist Churches of Georgia held an event for religious organizations of Georgia, which was attended by the representatives of: Apostolic Autocephalous Orthodox Church of Georgia, Administration of All Muslims of Georgia, Jewish Union, Diocese of the Armenian Apostolic Orthodox Church in Georgia, Apostolic Administration of the Caucasus, Evangelical-Lutheran Church, Evangelical-Protestant Church and Tbilisi International Baptist Church.

Traditional meetings related to the International Day for Tolerance have become a manifestation of the Georgian culture of religious tolerance.

#### **Presentation of the Report 2018-2019 and photo album "Faith is an Act of Freedom"**

On February 26, 2020, the State Agency for Religious Issues held a presentation of the 2018-2019 report and photo album "Faith is an Act of Freedom".

Leaders of religious organizations in Georgia - the Apostolic Autocephalous Orthodox Church of Georgia, the Administration of All Muslims of Georgia, the Diocese of the Armenian Apostolic Orthodox Church, the Jewish Union of Georgia, the Apostolic Administration of the Caucasus, the Evangelical-Lutheran Church, Evangelical-Protestant Church, Tbilisi International Baptist Church, the Union of Baptist Churches of Georgia, Evangelical Faith Church, Spiritual Council of Yazidis as well as the representatives of the Parliament and Government of Georgia, international organizations, the diplomatic corps and media were invited to the presentation.

#### **Presentation of the book "Freedom of Religion under the Georgian and International Legislation"**

On July 14, 2020, the presentation of the new publication of the State Agency for Religious Issues, "Freedom of Religion under the Georgian and International Legislation" was held at the National Museum of Georgia named after Simon Janashia.

The book contains, for the first time, all the main Georgian and international legislative acts on the issues of freedom of conscience and religion, documents of various international organizations, the United Nations, the Council of Europe, the OSCE, the Venice Commission and the Oslo Coalition on freedom of religion. Also, the cases and judgements on freedom of religion considered by the European Court of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms. The book contains the legislation of various countries, including the member states of the European Union.

Representatives of the Georgian government, various religious organizations, judicial authorities and academic circles were invited to the presentation.

#### **Presentation of the Bible Book "Genesis" in Braille**

The idea of printing a Bible in Braille appeared in 2019. Since then, the Agency has been implementing a social project and has been printing an interreligious calendar in Braille, which fully meets the needs of customers. Later, the Agency announced the initiative to publish the first Bible book in Braille. "Genesis" is the first canonical book of the Bible, which tells us the story about the creation of the world and the ancient history of humankind. It is noteworthy that according to the conducted survey blind and visually impaired children expressed their desire to have the Bible in Braille.

On June 9, 2020, the State Agency for Religious Issues printed the first book of the Old Testament "Genesis" and organized its presentation at the 202<sup>nd</sup> Tbilisi Public School for Blind and Visually Impaired Students. Leaders of religious organizations in Georgia, representatives of the Union of the Blind of Georgia, staff of 202<sup>nd</sup> Tbilisi Public School and employees of the Agency attended the presentation.

With this social project, the Agency aims to raise the public's sensitivity towards the people with disabilities.

### **Special Conference Dedicated to the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child**

On February 3, 2020, a special conference dedicated to the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child was held at the National Library of the Parliament of Georgia, organized by the State Agency for Religious Issues and the United Nations Children's Fund. The event was attended by: the representatives of religious organizations in Georgia, Parliament and Government of Georgia, international organizations, diplomatic corps, civil society and media.

The main topics of the conference were the UN "Convention on the Rights of the Child"; the "Code of the Rights of the Child" of Georgia; the rights of children in different religions and the role of religious leaders in their protection and promotion. Special attention was paid to the rights of children living in the occupied regions, who are forbidden to receive education in their native language, where the system of medical services, infrastructure is faulty, and therefore the provision of medical services is problematic. The most important problem is child poverty, which has a negative impact on their health and development.

The discussion highlighted once again the important role of religious leaders in the protection of children's rights and their capabilities in promoting child rights, child welfare and development. In this regard, the cooperation between the State Agency for Religious Issues and the United Nations Children's Fund will further increase.

### **Relationship of the State with Religious Organizations**

It should be noted, that during the pandemic of 2020, the government of Georgia, under the leadership of the Prime Minister and with the active involvement of the Agency, cooperated with the religious organizations operating in Georgia. Both, at the beginning of the pandemic in spring of 2020, and during the second wave of the Coronavirus pandemic, the State ensured that religious organizations were given the opportunity to perform their services without hindrance, in compliance with all rules and also the health of all believers was protected as much as possible. Therefore, mass disinfection of religious buildings was carried out throughout the year, religious services were held with maximum observance of the recommended social distance and parishioners were wearing masks. The clergy

provided information to their parishioners about the necessary rules to be followed against the spread of the virus both while being in or outside of the cult buildings.

During the pandemic period, the traditional rule was maintained as much as possible, when the government of Georgia, under the leadership of the Prime Minister, attends the major holidays of the historical religions operating in Georgia, including the greatest holidays of the Apostolic Autocephalous Orthodox Church of Georgia.

On August 9, 2020, the Prime Minister of Georgia attended the opening of the newly built cathedral named after Shalva Akhalsikheli in Akhalsikhe, which was also attended by the representatives of the Parliament, Government of Georgia and Agency.

In 2020, the Prime Minister of Georgia attended the great holiday of Svetitskhovloba in Mtskheta.

Every year, the government of Georgia attends the great holidays of the Muslim community, and according to the tradition established in recent years, the head of the government of Georgia hosts the religious leaders of the Muslim community at the dinner, iftar held on his behalf on the occasion of the holy month of Ramadan (fasting month).

The format of the 2020 meeting was, of course, different due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The Prime Minister of Georgia met with the representatives of the Muslim community at the Administration of the Government of Georgia on May 26 and congratulated them on the end of the holy month of Ramadan-Bayram (Id al-Fitr). On July 31, 2020, the Prime Minister hosted the representatives of the Muslim community at the Administration of the Government of Georgia and congratulated them on Eid al-Adha, the holiday of sacrifice.

Traditionally, the President and Prime Minister of Georgia symbolically light the first and eighth candles in the synagogue on the Hanukkah holiday of the Jewish community.

On February 6, 2020, before the active start of the pandemic in Georgia, the President met with the representatives of religious organizations and the State Agency for Religious Issues at the Presidential Palace of Georgia. The meeting was attended by: the members of the Interreligious Council under the State Agency for Religious Issues and the Agency staff. During the meeting, the President emphasized the culture of tolerance in Georgia and said that unity is of particular importance in order to successfully respond to the new challenges facing the country.

It should be noted that the State Agency for Religious Issues regularly meets with the leaders of various religious organizations and attends their annual reports, charity events, conferences, considers their applications and requests received from them and helps them according to their needs.

## **Relationship with Religious Minorities and Charity Events**

The Agency works closely with various religious associations to address the needs of religious minorities living in densely populated regions of Georgia. It is especially noteworthy that according to the decision of the Agency, the area was allocated to the Evangelical-Protestant Church to build the first church in Tbilisi.

It should also be noted that during the pandemic, the Agency, with the support of the Patriarchate of Georgia, the Union of Baptist Churches of Georgia, continued the series of charity events in 2020. In particular, the events were held:

On January 15, 2020 the State Agency for Religious Issues and Tbilisi International Baptist Church held a joint charity event at Tbilisi Public School N202. The schoolchildren - about 50 blind and disabled students were given New Year gifts and the Agency's annual interreligious calendars published in Braille.

On June 30, 2020, the representatives of the State Agency for Religious Issues and the Union of Baptist Churches of Georgia visited the school named after Ambrose Khelaia in the village of Salkhino, Martvili district, and handed over humanitarian aid to the schoolchildren: 50 boxes of clothes and 80 boxes of school items. The boarding house operates under the patronage of Metropolitan Grigol (Katsia) of Chkondidi Diocese, where 170 children study today. Most of his schoolchildren are socially vulnerable. For the third time, the State Agency for Religious Issues has carried out charity event in the boarding school named after Khelaia.

On July 10, 2020, the representatives of the State Agency for Religious Issues visited Dzegvi orphanage in Mtskheta district and provided the children living there with humanitarian aid - clothing, stationery and other gifts.

On October 8, 2020, the State Agency for Religious Issues and the Union of Baptist Churches of Georgia, within the framework of a joint charity event, handed over 30 boxes of warm cloths, to the beneficiaries of the House of Charity "Catharsis" with about 450 socially vulnerable older people.

On October 17, 2020, the State Agency for Religious Issues and the Union of Baptist Churches of Georgia visited Surami Social Therapy House "Antilios". The beneficiaries of the house were given 20 boxes of warm clothes and wheelchairs for people with disabilities.

On October 19, 2020, at the initiative of the State Agency for Religious Issues representatives of the Union of Baptist Churches donated 30 boxes of warm clothes to the schoolchildren and teachers of St. Nino Gymnasium in the village of Sairkhe, in the Diocese of Chiatura and Sachkhere of the Orthodox Church.

On December 17, 2020, the State Agency for Religious Issues and the Union of Baptist Churches of Georgia held another joint charity event. Humanitarian assistance - 50 boxes of clothes and other household items were given to Martkopi boarding house for persons with disabilities of the Agency for State Care and Assistance for the Victims of Human Trafficking.

With the support of the State Agency for Religious Issue, assistance was provided to representatives of both the majority and minorities in Georgia.

### **Funding of Religious Organizations within the Framework of Compensation for the Damage Caused during the Soviet Totalitarian Regime**

The State Agency for Religious Issues, in accordance with the recommendation N1/216 of January 20, 2020, in order to provide religious associations with partial compensation for the damage caused during the Soviet totalitarian regime, distributed GEL 4,500,000 (four million five hundred thousand) determined by the 2020 state budget to religious associations in the following amounts: to the Islamic community of Georgia - GEL 2,200,000 (two million two hundred thousand); to the Armenian Apostolic Community of Georgia - GEL 600,000 (six hundred thousand); to the Roman Catholic community of Georgia - GEL 400,000 (four hundred thousand) and to the Jewish community of Georgia - GEL 300,000 (three hundred thousand).

Taking into account the consultation with religious associations, the actual circumstances and objective indicators (the number of parishioners, the number of clergy and the number of religious buildings), the State Agency for Religious Issues, in accordance with the recommendation N1/874 of September 28, 2020, decided to distribute the remaining GEL 1,000,000 (one million) for 2020 in a non-discriminatory and fair proportion, in the following amounts: GEL 550,000 (five hundred and fifty thousand) - to the Islamic community of Georgia; GEL 200,000 (two hundred thousand) – to the Armenian Apostolic community of Georgia; GEL 150,000 (one hundred and fifty thousand) – to the Roman Catholic community of Georgia and GEL 100,000 (one hundred thousand) – to the Jewish community of Georgia.

In total, during 2020, the budgeted funds were allocated to religious organizations as follows: GEL 2,750,000 (two million seven hundred and fifty thousand) - to the Islamic community of Georgia; GEL 800,000 (eight hundred thousand) – to the Armenian Apostolic community of Georgia; GEL 550,000 (five hundred and fifty thousand) - to the Roman Catholic community of Georgia and GEL 400,000 (four hundred thousand) - to the Jewish community of Georgia.

In addition, religious associations receive financial and property support from local budgets to meet religious needs in their community.

## Recommendatory Commission on Property and Financial Needs of Religious Associations

### Recommendatory Commission Sessions

In 2020, 6 sessions of the Commission for Studying Property and Financial Issues of Religious Associations were held. In total, the commission considered 232 issues, including:

Religious community	motion	satisfied	flaw	refused
Apostolic Autocephalous Orthodox Church of Georgia	219	147	10	62
Muslim community	6	4	0	2
Armenian Apostolic Church	3	3	0	0
Evangelical-Protestant Church	1	1	0	0
Jewish community	2	2	0	0
Yezidi community	1	0	0	1

#### March 11, 2020- session I

Religious community	motion	satisfied	flaw	refused
Apostolic Autocephalous Orthodox Church of Georgia	61	46	2	13

#### June 12, 2020 – session II

Religious community	motion	satisfied	flaw	refused
Apostolic Autocephalous Orthodox Church of Georgia	53	27	4	22
Muslim community	1	1		
Yezidi community	1			1

#### July 17, 2020 - session III

Religious community	motion	satisfied	flaw	refused
Apostolic Autocephalous Orthodox Church of Georgia	53	33	3	17

**September 28, 2020 – session IV**

Religious community	motion	satisfied	flaw	refused
Apostolic Autocephalous Orthodox Church of Georgia	26	20		6
Muslim community	3	2		1
Armenian Apostolic Church	3	3		
Evangelical-Protestant Church	1	1		

**October 28, 2020 – session V**

Religious community	motion	satisfied	flaw	refused
Apostolic Autocephalous Orthodox Church of Georgia	10	9		1
Muslim community	1	1		

**December 14, 2020 – session VI**

Religious community	motion	satisfied	flaw	refused
Apostolic Autocephalous Orthodox Church of Georgia	16	12	1	3
Muslim community	1			1
Jewish community	2	2		

## **Project "State language for Clergy"**

In 2019, a new project of the Agency, "State Language for Clergy", was launched, the purpose of which is to promote the State language, improve the teaching process, and integrate representatives of national and religious minorities into a single state space.

On January 22, 2020, a meeting was held with the teachers of the project at the State Agency for Religious Issues, where the first part of the project was jointly evaluated and the opportunities and prospects for improvement of the next stage were discussed. After the end of the pandemic, the mentioned project continued.

### **Various Meetings**

On January 31, 2020, the Agency held a meeting with the representatives of the Council of Leaders of National Minorities and various organizations. The chairman of the Agency introduced the religious policy of Georgia to the guests, and also spoke about the State's funding of denominations and the transfer of cult buildings. The meeting was attended by: Council of Leaders of National Minorities, Agora Georgia, "Vrastan" newspaper, Union of Georgian Armenians, Tumanian House, Georgian-Ukrainian Book House, Union "Polonia", Polish School, Union Ruta, Union of Women of Mixed Families, Union of Greeks, Union of Belarusians, Slavic house and studio "Marneuli."

On September 18, 2020, the State Agency for Religious Issues was visited by a delegation of the Evangelical-Lutheran Church of Georgia led by Bishop Markus Schoch, who presented to the Agency the chairman of the German National Committee of the World Lutheran Union, the bishop of the Evangelical-Lutheran Church of Wueterberg, Dr. Frank Ottfried Yuli. The delegation included Evangelical-Lutheran Church adviser Klaus Ritt and pastor Irina Soley. The chairman of the Agency noted at the meeting that the State pays special attention to the protection of the rights of religious minorities and expressed readiness to gradually resolve the issues faced by the Evangelical-Lutheran Church. Joint activities were also planned at the meeting.

On September 19, 2020, with the support of the local government and the assistance of the State Agency for Religious Issues, the Bishop of the Evangelical-Lutheran Church of Georgia Markus Schoch and Bishop Yuli together with other members of the church and the parishioners visited the village of Assureti, where a heart-warming meeting was held with the representatives of the local government and the Orthodox Church. The guests visited the former German settlement and the historical temple restored by the government, which is currently owned by the State, where Orthodox services are held.

On October 16, 2020, in Kutaisi, at the Administration of the State Representative of Imereti, a meeting was held with the highest clergy of Imereti and Guria, which was organized by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and Union 21st Century. The role of the Agency in the process of dialogue between religious organizations was highlighted at the forum, and in this context the declaration

"Woman - Envoy for Peace" adopted at the interreligious conference was mentioned, which was signed by the leaders of religious organizations gathered in "Tolerance Square" on March 8, 2015.

On October 30, 2020, the chairman of the State Agency for Religious Issues met with representatives of the Institute for Freedom of Religion and Belief in Leuven, Belgium.

On November 18, 2020, at the branch of Iran's Al-Mustafa University in Georgia, the State Agency for Religious Issues held a meeting with Rasul Islam, the temporary representative (acting ambassador) of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

On December 24, 2020, the State Agency for Religious Issues met with the representatives of Iran's Al-Mustafa University. University rector Davit Zare's term of office expired and he visited the chairman of the Agency to bid farewell. The current rector of the University, Hasan Yusufzadeh, thanked the chairman of the Agency for the reception and expressed his desire for active cooperation.

### **Meetings with the Representatives of the Diplomatic Corps**

The State Agency for Religious Issues traditionally actively cooperates with the representatives of the diplomatic corps, conducts introductory meetings and informs them about the Agency's activities, implemented projects and future plans. Despite the general pandemic, important meetings were held in 2020:

- Meeting with the Religious Attache of the Republic of Turkey in Georgia Ahmed Erdem - 16.01.2020;
- Meeting with the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Israel to Georgia Ran Gidor - 23.01.2020;
- Meeting with the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Italy to Georgia Enrico Valvo - 30.01.2020;
- Meeting with the Deputy Ambassador of the Kingdom of Norway to Georgia Marko Soldik and the representatives of the Church of Norway Pastor Leif Magne Helgsen - 09.03.2020;
- Meeting with the Acting Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Georgia Rasul Eslam - 07.10.2020;
- Meeting with the Head of the EU monitoring mission, Ambassador Marek Schiegel - 12.10.2020;
- Meetings with the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Hungary to Georgia, Victoria Horvati - 15.10.2020;
- Meeting with the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Estonia to Georgia, Riina Kaliurandi - 20.10.2020;
- Meeting with the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Georgia, Kelly Degnan - 23.10.2020;

- Meeting with the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Great Britain to Georgia, Mark Clayton - 22.12.2020.

### **Relationship with Media**

The State Agency for Religious Issues considers an open and transparent relationship with the media as a priority.

Any publications of the Agency, interreligious calendar and religious maps are uploaded on the website of the Agency.

Any activity of the Agency's representatives: meetings, visits, conferences, participation in various events is uploaded on the Agency's web page, "Facebook", "Twitter" and is aired and transmitted by the media outlets, through the news agency "Interpressnews".

In the reporting period, in 2020, 201 information with their photos were spread on the Agency's website and Facebook.

In 2020, 21 information in English were disseminated through "Twitter".

In the reporting period, in 2020, 141 information were disseminated through the news agency "Interpressnews".

In 2020, 53 events of the Agency were aired in various news programs.

### **Appendix – Administrative Report (2020)**

In 2020, 34 (thirty-four) contracts were signed for administrative expenses, including 8 (eight) contracts under consolidated tender, 10 (ten) contracts under electronic tender and 16 (sixteen) contracts under simplified purchase.

The electronic declarations are submitted on a monthly basis in accordance with the deadlines set by the legislation in force.

On a quarterly basis the budget execution report is submitted to the Ministry of Finance of Georgia electronically (<https://www.ebudget.ge/>).

The plan (EPLAN), all the contracts and all the documents confirming the contract costs are electronically uploaded to the State Procurement Agency, both on CMR and SPA.

10 (ten) electronic tenders were implemented. Technical documentation, relevant protocols, contracts, executions and payments have been uploaded within the time limits established by the law.

34 (thirty-four) administrative contracts (organizational code 5001) and 8 (eight) contracts signed with different religious organizations (organizational code 5002) (LEPL Administration of Muslims of all Georgia (2), LEPL Union of Georgian Jews (2), LEPL Diocese of the Armenian Apostolic Orthodox Holy Church in Georgia (2) and LEPL Apostolic Administration of the Caucasus (2)) have been registered at the Treasury Service of the Ministry of Finance of Georgia.

**Information on financial situation in 2020**  
**LEPL State Agency for Religious Issues**

Organizational code	name	Approved plan for 2020	Cash flow	Performance percentage against approved cash flow plan
5000	LEPL –State Agency for Religious Issues	5,330,000	5,261,254	98.71%
	The number of employees	22		
	total	5,330,000	5,255,675	98.61%
2	expenses	5,320,000	5,250,096	98.69%
2.1	salary	588,000	553,605	94.15%
2.2	Goods and services	220,000	195,918	89.05%
2.5	subsidies	4,500,000	4,500,000	100.00%
2.7	Social maintenance	9,000	0	0.00%
2.8	Other expenses	3,000	574	19.12%
3.1	Growth of non-financial assets	10,000	5,579	55.79%
5001	LEPL- State Agency for Religious Issues - administrative expenses	830,000	755,675	91.05%
	The number of employees	22		
	total	830,000	755,675	91.05%
2	expenses	820,000	750,096	91.48%
2.1	salary	588,000	553,605	94.15%
2.2	goods and services	220,000	195,918	89.05%
2.2.1	Salary of freelancers		63,100	
2.2.2	business trip		2,370	
2.2.3	Office expenses		62,758	
2.2.4	Representative expenses		3,358	
2.2.8	Operation and maintenance costs of transport, equipment and tools		25,795	
2.2.10	Other goods and services		38,536	
2.7	Social maintenance	9,000		0.00%
2.8	Other expenses	3,000	574	19.12%
3.1	Growth of non-financial assets	10,000	5,579	55.79%
5002	Financing of religious associations	4,500,000	4,500,000	100.00%

	expenses	4,500,000	4,500,000	100.00%
2.5	subsidies	4,500,000	4,500,000	100.00%

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**Information on Business trips within the country**

<b>Business trip document</b>	<b>Date of the document</b>	<b>place of business trip</b>	<b>Name and surname</b>	<b>Expense type</b>	<b>number of days</b>	<b>amount</b>
order 3	08/01/2020	Georgia-Kvareli	Omar Chikadze	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
order 3	08/01/2020	Georgia-Kvareli	Mamuka Bukhnikashvili	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
order 4	10/01/2020	Georgia-Tsalka	Abai Pashaev	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
order 4	10/01/2020	Georgia-Tsalka	Mamuka Bukhnikashvili	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
order 6	13/01/2020	Georgia-Akhaltzikhe	Elvardi Zazadze	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
order 6	13/01/2020	Georgia-Akhaltzikhe	Mamuka Bukhnikashvili	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
order 8	20/01/2020	Georgia-Marneuli	Davit Davitashvili	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
order 8	20/01/2020	Georgia-Marneuli	Abai Pashaev	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
order 8	20/01/2020	Georgia-Marneuli	Sergo Parulava	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
order 9	20/01/2020	Georgia-Zugdidi	Omar Chikadze	Daily costs	3	<b>45.00</b>
order 9	20/01/2020	Georgia-Zugdidi	Omar Chikadze	Hotel expenses	2	<b>200.00</b>
order 9	20/01/2020	Georgia-Zugdidi	Mamuka Bukhnikashvili	Daily costs	3	<b>45.00</b>
order 9	20/01/2020	Georgia-Zugdidi	Mamuka Bukhnikashvili	Hotel expenses	2	<b>200.00</b>
order 10	22/01/2020	Georgia Batumi	Giorgi Ukleba	Daily costs	3	<b>45.00</b>
order 10	22/01/2020	Georgia Batumi	Giorgi Ukleba	Hotel expenses	2	<b>200.00</b>
order 19	24/02/2020	Georgia-Kvareli	Giorgi Ukleba	Daily costs	2	<b>30.00</b>
order 26	05/02/2020	Georgia-Ambrolauri	Mamuka Bukhnikashvili	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
order 26	24/06/2020	Georgia-Martvili	Davit Davitashvili	Daily costs	3	<b>45.00</b>
order 26	24/06/2020	Georgia-Martvili	Davit Davitashvili	Hotel expenses	1	<b>125.00</b>
order 26	24/06/2020	Georgia-Martvili	Giorgi Ukleba	Daily costs	3	<b>45.00</b>
order 26	24/06/2020	Georgia-Martvili	Giorgi Ukleba	Hotel expenses	1	<b>125.00</b>
order 26	24/06/2020	Georgia-Martvili	Avtandil Kvernadze	Daily costs	3	<b>45.00</b>

order 26	24/06/2020	Georgia-Martvili	Avtandil Kvernadze	Hotel expenses	1	<b>125.00</b>
order 35	05/08/2020	Georgia-Akhaltzikhe	Zaza Vashakmadze	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
order 35	05/08/2020	Georgia-Akhaltzikhe	Giorgi Ukleba	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
order 35	05/08/2020	Georgia-Akhaltzikhe	Omar Chikadze	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
order 36	06/08/2020	Georgia Batumi	Abesalom Aslanidze	Daily costs	2	<b>30.00</b>
order 36	06/08/2020	Georgia Batumi	Abesalom Aslanidze	travel expenses		<b>60.00</b>
order 38	17/08/2020	Georgia Kutaisi	Zaza Vashakmadze	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
order 38	17/08/2020	Georgia Kutaisi	Omar Chikadze	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
order 39	17/08/2020	Georgia-Telavi	Zaza Vashakmadze	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
order 39	17/08/2020	Georgia-Telavi	Giorgi Ukleba	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
order 39	17/08/2020	Georgia-Telavi	Omar Chikadze	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
order 42	21/08/2020	Georgia Batumi	Zaza Vashakmadze	Daily costs	5	<b>75.00</b>
order 45	27/08/2020	Georgia Batumi	Giorgi Ukleba	Daily costs	2	<b>30.00</b>
order 45	27/08/2020	Georgia Batumi	Giorgi Ukleba	Hotel expenses	1	<b>120.00</b>
order 47	01/09/2020	Georgia-Akhaltzikhe	Giorgi Ukleba	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
order 49	04/09/2020	Georgia - Tetrtskaro	Zaza Vashakmadze	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
order 49	04/09/2020	Georgia - Tetrtskaro	Giorgi Ukleba	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
order 49	04/09/2020	Georgia - Tetrtskaro	Omar Chikadze	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
order 52	09/09/2020	Georgia Batumi	Giorgi Ukleba	Daily costs	3	<b>45.00</b>
order 52	09/09/2020	Georgia Batumi	Giorgi Ukleba	Hotel expenses	2	<b>300.00</b>
order 57	15/10/2020	Georgia Kutaisi	Zaza Vashakmadze	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
order 57	15/10/2020	Georgia Kutaisi	Gvantsa Tskhovrebadze	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
order 57	15/10/2020	Georgia Kutaisi	Giorgi Ukleba	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
order 57	15/10/2020	Georgia Kutaisi	Omar Chikadze	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
order 58	15/10/2020	Georgia-Sachkhere	Giorgi Patashuri	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
order 58	15/10/2020	Georgia-Sachkhere	Nino Chavchavadze	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
order 58	15/10/2020	Georgia-Sachkhere	Abai Pashaev	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
The total number of business trips within the country in 2020						2370

There was no business trip abroad in 2020.

**Financing of Religious Associations (confessions) in 2020**

Name of the Organization	2020
LEPL – Administration of All Muslims of Georgia	2,750,000
LEPL – Apostolic Administration of the Caucasus	550,000
LEPL – Diocese of the Armenian Apostolic Orthodox Holy Church in Georgia	800,000
LEPL – Union of Georgian Jews	400,000
total	<b>4,500,000</b>

**Correspondence (2020)**

**Statistics of proceedings of the State Agency for Religious Issues for 2020**

Correspondence in 2020	quantity
Incoming correspondence	404
Outgoing correspondence	1044
Personnel orders	38
Orders of business trip/leave of absence	63
Organizational orders	35
Internal memorandum report	107

**STATE AGENCY FOR RELIGIOUS  
ISSUES**

**ANNUAL REPORT 2021**

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## Action Plan to Promote the Protection of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities for 2021

In order to promote the protection of the rights of persons with disabilities and the creation of an inclusive tolerant environment, the State Agency for Religious Issues has developed an Action Plan for the Protection of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities for 2021. The purpose of the document is to outline the priority areas and measures that should be implemented in 2021 based on the principles of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Law of Georgia on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. The action plan envisages trainings for: the persons with disabilities on freedom of religion and belief; for the representatives of religious organizations serving in Georgia and the staff of the State Agency for Religious Issues - on the rights of persons with disabilities; creation of special publications (in Braille) for people with disabilities on freedom of religion and belief. The plan is based on the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the Constitution of Georgia and the Law of Georgia on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. The document was developed in cooperation with the Administration of the Government of Georgia, in order to implement the principle - "nothing about us without us". It will be presented to organizations representing persons with disabilities, non-governmental organizations and representatives of the community with disabilities.

The State Agency for Religious Issues promotes the establishment of a recognition and respect of freedom of religion and religious tolerance as a fundamental value for persons with disabilities without discrimination and on equal terms with others and the possibility of their full participation in the field of religion. The above mentioned action plan is also available in electronic form<sup>11</sup>.

On December 9, 2021, the State Agency for Religious Issues held an online training on the issues of freedom of religion and belief for persons with disabilities representing the State Service for Veterans Affairs. The training was held within the framework of the "Action Plan to Promote the Protection of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities for 2021" developed by the State Agency for Religious Issues.

On December 22, 2021, at the Administration of the Government of Georgia the Human Rights Secretariat conducted a training on the rights of persons with disabilities for the employees of the State Agency for Religious Issues, which was held within the framework of the governmental action plan for the protection of human rights.

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<https://religion.gov.ge/kanonmdebloba>

## **Raising Public Awareness in Terms of Religious Tolerance**

### **Presentation of two versions of the annual "Interreligious Calendar"**

In 2021, the annual interreligious calendar was traditionally published, which has been printed since 2015 and which includes the holidays of different religious communities. Also an interreligious calendar in Braille for the blind was published.

On March 4, 2021, a presentation of an interreligious calendar in Braille was held at the Administration of the Government of Georgia where the State Agency for Religious Issues hosted the representatives of the Union of the Blind of Georgia and the pedagogical staff of the 202nd public boarding school for the blind and visually impaired. The meeting, aimed at increasing the sensitivity of the society towards blind people and promoting utmost involvement of people with disabilities in the society, was attended by the Chairman of the Human Rights and Civil Integration Committee of the Parliament of Georgia.

### **Presentation of the second book of the Bible, Exodus, in Braille**

Within the framework of the "2021 Action Plan for Promoting the Protection of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (PWDs)", on March 24, 2021, the State Agency for Religious Issues held a presentation of the second canonical book of the Old Testament, "Book of Exodus (Exodus)" in braille at the Administration of the Government of Georgia, which was attended by leaders of religious organizations in Georgia, representatives of the Union of the Blind of Georgia, staff of the 202<sup>nd</sup> Public School for the Blind and Visually Impaired.

With this social project, the Agency aims to raise public sensitivity towards the people with disabilities.

### **International Day for Tolerance**

On November 16, 2021, on the International Day for Tolerance, Evangelical-Protestant Church of Georgia hosted the representatives of various religious organizations. On the occasion of the International Day for Tolerance, the State Agency for Religious Issues has established a tradition - one of the religious communities hosts the leaders and parishioners of other religious organizations. This helps to bring different religious organizations much closer and strengthens the tolerant environment.

The International Day for Tolerance was first celebrated in 2016 and was hosted by the Georgian Orthodox Church, in the following years – by the Georgian Jewish Community, the Apostolic Administration of the Caucasus, Muslim Community of Georgia, and the Union of Baptist Churches of Georgia.

## **Publications issued by the State Agency for Religious Issues and their presentation**

On June 30, 2021 the presentation of the photo album, "Occupied Heritage", about the cult buildings in the occupied territories of Georgia - in the Autonomous Republic of Abkhazia and the Tskhinvali region, was held at Simon Janashia National Museum of Georgia which was attended by the representatives of religious organizations, Georgian government, diplomatic corps and academic circles.

It should be noted that, during the meeting with Pope Francis in the Vatican, on June 18, 2021, the President of Georgia presented to the Pope the book "Occupied Heritage" published in Georgian-English by the State Agency for Religious Issues.

On September 16, 2021, at the Palace of State Ceremonies of Georgia, the presentation of the complete photo album of cult buildings of religious organizations operating in Tbilisi - "Functioning Cult Buildings in Tbilisi as of 2020" was held. The album includes information about the functioning cult buildings (both old and newly built) of all religious organizations in Tbilisi, namely: the album contains their number, photos, addresses, information about the leaders, the results of 2014 General Population Census on the religious landscape of Tbilisi.

### **Statistics of Functioning Cult Building in Tbilisi as of 2020 are as follows:**

- Apostolic Autocephalous Orthodox Church of Georgia – 197
  - House of prayer – 22
  - Church under construction – 40
- Mosques – 3
- Armenian Apostolic Church – 2
- Synagogues – 2
- Catholic Church – 3 (Apostolic Administration of the Caucasus – 2)
  - (Assyrian-Chaldean Catholic Church – 1)
- Evangelical-Lutheran Church in Georgia – 1
- Union of Georgian Baptist Churches – 1
- International Baptist Church of Tbilisi – 1
- Evangelical Faith Church of Georgia – 1
- Yazidi place of worship – 1
- Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses – 16
- International Society for Krishna Consciousness – 1

### **General Religious Situation in Tbilisi and Comparative Analysis According to 2020**

**Population of Tbilisi – 1 108 717**

**Cult Buildings** – 229

**Specific Share** – 4884

**Specific Share\*** - means number of population per 1 (one) cult building

**Georgian Orthodox Church**

Number of followers – 1 024 931

Cult Buildings – 197

Specific Share – 5 202

**Muslim Community**

Number of followers – 16 268

Cult Buildings – 3

Specific Share – 5 423

**Armenian Apostolic Church**

Number of followers – 29 368

Cult Buildings – 2

Specific Share – 14 684

**Jewish Community**

Number of followers – 1 016

Cult Buildings – 2

Specific Share – 508

**Catholic Church**

Number of followers – 1 662

Cult Buildings – 3

Specific Share – 554

**Yazidis**

Number of followers – 8 214

Cult Buildings – 1

Specific Share – 8 214

**Jehovah's Witnesses**

Number of followers – 3 979

Cult Buildings – 16

Specific Share – 249

**Other** (Other implied: Confession not indicated, refusal to answer, none or representatives of other minority confessions)

**Total in Tbilisi** – 23 369

Total cult buildings of small confessions in Tbilisi -5

Specific share - \*

### **Joint Training of the State Agency for Religious Issues and the United Nations Children’s Fund**

In order to raise the awareness of religious leaders the State Agency for Religious Issues and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) on November 1-2, 2021, organized a two-day seminar on "The Role of Clergy in the Protection of the Rights of the Child" in Borjomi, Hotel “Borjomi Likani”, which aimed to increase the role and importance of religious leaders in the protection of children’s rights.

The training was attended by the representatives of the Apostolic Administration of the Caucasus, Tbilisi International Baptist Church, Union of Baptist Churches of Georgia, Evangelical-Lutheran Church of Georgia, Evangelical-Protestant Church of Georgia, Evangelical Faith Church of Georgia and Spiritual Council of Yazidis in Georgia.

The main topics of the training were: the UN "Convention on the Rights of the Child", the "Code of the Rights of the Child" of Georgia, the rights of children in different religions and the role of religious leaders in their protection and promotion. The Agency assumed the role of mediator between religious organizations and the United Nations Children's Fund, which, in turn, contributes to the maximum protection of children's rights in Georgia.

### **Religious Organizations against Women and Domestic Violence**

On November 9, 2021, an informational meeting on "Domestic Violence and Child Marriage" was held at the Rooms Hotel with the representatives of the State Agency for Religious Issues and religious organizations operating in Georgia. The meeting, organized within the framework of the program "EU for Gender Equality: Overcoming Gender Stereotypes and Gender-Based Violence", discussed the role and efforts of the State in combating domestic violence, child marriage and other harmful practices against women and girls and the important role of religious associations. In this process the program is supported by the European Union and implemented by the United Nations Women’s Organization (UN WOMEN) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

Representatives of the State Agency for Religious Issues stressed the role of religious organizations in the fight against women and domestic violence, as well as the importance of the historical fact that took place on March 8, 2015 in the "Square of Tolerance" where the leaders of religious organizations signed the declaration “Woman – Envoy for Peace”, which expresses the position of religious organizations in Georgia on the protection of women's rights and domestic violence.

The representatives of religious associations noted that they fully shared the State policy in terms of protection of women's rights and were ready to support the activities carried out in this regard as much as possible.

### **Interreligious Council**

There is an Interreligious Council with the State Agency for Religious Issues, which combines almost all religious associations in Georgia, including Georgian Orthodox Church, historical religions and other minority religions, namely:

- Georgian Apostolic Autocephalous Orthodox Church;
- Administration of all Muslims of Georgia;
- Diocese of the Armenian Apostolic Orthodox Holy Church in Georgia;
- Apostolic Administration of the Caucasus;
- Jewish Union of Georgia;
- Tbilisi International Baptist Church;
- Union of Baptist Churches of Georgia;
- Evangelical-Lutheran Church of Georgia;
- Evangelical-Protestant Church of Georgia;
- Evangelical Faith Church of Georgia;
- Spiritual Council of Yazidis of Georgia;
- International Society for Krishna Consciousness.

On October 13, 2021, at the Administration of the Government of Georgia, the State Agency for Religious Issues hosted the representatives of the archive of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the members of the Interreligious Council. The meeting was attended by the representatives of the following religions in Georgia: the Apostolic Autocephalous Orthodox Church of Georgia, Administration of All Muslims of Georgia, the Diocese of the Armenian Apostolic Orthodox Holy Church in Georgia, Apostolic Administration of the Caucasus, the Evangelical-Lutheran Church of Georgia and the Evangelical-Protestant Church of Georgia.

The Agency introduced the joint initiative of the Agency and the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia to the members of the Interreligious Council - based on archival materials, to publish a book on clergymen of different religious organizations who were repressed during the Soviet period and asked the religious leaders of the Interreligious Council to provide all the information they had about the repressed clergy in order to be fully reflected in the publication. All members of the Interreligious Council welcomed the new initiative.

On October 19, 2021, the Interreligious Council and the State Agency for Religious Issues met with the Deputy Minister of Defense of Georgia on the following issue: Draft amendment to the Code of Defense on amendments to the Law on Military Obligations and Military Service and amendments to the Law on Non-Military, Alternative, Labor Service. Members of the Interreligious Council: Georgian Apostolic Autocephalous Orthodox Church, Jewish Union, Evangelical-Lutheran Church, Evangelical-Protestant Church, Armenian Apostolic Church, Evangelical Faith Church, Apostolic Administration of the Caucasus, Tbilisi International Baptist Church, Union of Baptist Churches of Georgia and independently members of the Jehovah's Witnesses' Organization expressed their views on the draft Code.

### **Relationship of the State with Religious Organizations**

It should be noted that in 2021, as well as in 2020, during the difficult period of the pandemic, the government of Georgia, under the leadership of the Prime Minister and with the active involvement of the Agency, cooperated with religious organizations operating in Georgia. In spring of 2020, at the beginning of the pandemic and in 2021, during several strong waves of the Coronavirus pandemic, the Agency assisted religious organizations in order, on the one hand, to enable them to perform their service without hindrance, observing all the rules, and on the other hand, to protect the health of all believers. Accordingly, in 2021, mass disinfection of religious buildings was carried out throughout the year, religious services were held with maximum observance of the recommended social distance and the use of masks. The clergy actively informed their parishioners about the necessary rules to be followed against the spread of the virus during and after their stay in places of worship.

During the pandemic, the tradition was maintained as much as possible, when the government of Georgia, under the leadership of the Prime Minister, attends the major holidays of the both Georgian Apostolic Autocephalous Orthodox Church (Christmas, Easter, etc.) as well as the major holidays of historical religions in Georgia. According to the tradition established in recent years, the head of the Georgian government, on the occasion of Ramazan-Bayram, hosts the representatives of the Muslim Community at a dinner, Iftar held on his behalf.

The format of the meeting in the years of 2020-2021 was different due to the Covid-19 pandemic, and the Prime Minister of Georgia met with the representatives of the Muslim community at the Administration of the Government of Georgia and congratulated them on the holy month of Ramadan.

Traditionally, the President and the Prime Minister of Georgia symbolically light the first and eighth candles in the synagogue on the feast of Hanukkah of the Jewish community.

On November 28 2021, on the occasion of Hanukkah, the Prime Minister of Georgia, State Minister for Reconciliation and Equality, Mayor of Tbilisi City and the Chairman of the State Agency for Religious Issues and the Deputy Chairman of the Agency attended the event held in Great Synagogue of Tbilisi.

Also, the State Agency for Religious Issues regularly meets with the leaders of various religious organizations and attends their annual reports, charity events, conferences, considers their applications and assists as needed.

On December 21 2021, the President of Georgia hosted the leaders of religious organizations of the Interreligious Council under the State Agency for Religious Issues and the representatives of the Agency at the Presidential Palace and congratulated on the coming new year, 2022.

It should be noted that the State Agency for Religious Issues closely cooperates with the Administration of the President of Georgia, within the framework of which various meetings are held annually.

### **Covid-19 Pandemic and Freedom of Religion**

From the very first days of the spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19), the LEPL State Agency for Religious Issues contacted the members of the religious organizations included in the Interreligious Council within the Agency, held individual meetings, introduced /explained on the basis of the Decree N1 of the President of Georgia of March 21, 2020, "measures to be taken to prevent the spread of the new coronavirus (COVID-19) in Georgia" approved by the Resolution N181 of the Government of Georgia of March 23, 2020 and the recommendations of the Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Labor, Health and Social Affairs and the Coordinating Council, on the basis of which the conditions for conducting religious services were explained, namely: the need to maintain a social distance between participants, both indoors and outdoors, the use of masks for the parish, the observance of hygienic rules, the need to clean icons or other cult and religious inventory with a specialized disinfectant solution. At the same time, all the denominations were asked to explain the parishioners the need to stay at home and, if necessary, to stay in self-isolation and consult a doctor.

Accordingly, during the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 and 2021, the State Agency for Religious Issues provided religious organizations with detailed information on existing regulations and assisted in enforcing these regulations, and during the peak period of different waves of the COVID-19 pandemic, the religious organizations themselves made decisions on holding, reducing or canceling the number of religious services.

Thus, during the reporting period of 2020 and 2021, the State ensured that any restriction on freedom of religion or belief served the legitimate aim of protecting public health, constituted a necessary and proportionate measure to achieve the goal and was not discriminatory.

The State acts and will continue to act in accordance with the constitutional principles of secularism, equality and the rule of law and applies non-discriminatory measures to all religious organizations.

As for public health in crisis situations, active involvement of religious communities in response to public health challenges, with the participation of the State Agency for Religious Issues, the State has

already introduced (December 30, 2020) an amendment to Government Decree N975: “On the approval of the list of priority persons subject to compulsory testing for coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) infection (COVID-19) and the rules of conducting it, where an article on the testing of clergymen was added as a point “q”.

At the beginning of 2021, thousands of clergy of the Orthodox Church of Georgia and various denominations throughout Georgia (Administration of All Muslims of Georgia, Armenian Apostolic Church, Armenian Catholic Church, Jewish Community, Evangelical-Lutheran Church, Union of Baptist Churches and Apostolic administration of the Caucasus) underwent PCR testing. The testing was financed by the State.

It should be noted, that the State, in compliance with the principles of secularism, ensured the transparency of the process in a timely manner and, as noted, it was promptly informing religious organizations.

As already mentioned, there is an Interreligious Council with the State Agency for Religious Issues, which is the only one in Georgia in terms of its format and composition, uniting both the religious minorities and the majority in Georgia. It is the active relationship with this Council that ensures continuous exchange of information and improvement of the quality of cooperation between the State and religious organizations.

It should be noted that the State Agency for Religious Issues together with the government of Georgia, in order to take into account the needs of religious organizations, actively communicated with local and regional agencies involved in public health crisis management especially during the COVID-19 pandemic through the Agency’s regional offices in Samtskhe-Javakheti, Shida Kartli and A/R of Adjara.

Through active cooperation with the mentioned Interreligious Council it was possible to take into account the successful charitable and social activities of religious organizations during the period of public health crisis situations. The Coordinating Council cooperated directly with the Georgian Orthodox Church and the SARI took care of the protection of various rights of religious minorities through direct and permanent communication with them. During the crisis period, in addition to the religious organizations included in the Interreligious Council the Agency also assisted those religious organizations that were not included in the Council but applied to the Agency on the basis of which special permits were issued for the operation of religious organizations and their transportation, so as not to restrict religious services, charity and social activities.

We emphasize that in the process of issuing permits to the Evangelical Faith Church of Georgia, the number of permits was increased at their request.

Thus, both during 2020 and 2021, and during the waves of the COVID-19 pandemic, the State Agency for Religious Issues had direct contact with all members of the Interreligious Council:

- Georgian Apostolic Autocephalous Orthodox Church;
- Administration of all Muslims of Georgia;
- Diocese of the Armenian Apostolic Orthodox Holy Church in Georgia;
- Apostolic Administration of the Caucasus;
- Jewish Union of Georgia;
- Tbilisi International Baptist Church;
- Union of Baptist Churches of Georgia;
- Evangelical-Lutheran Church of Georgia;
- Evangelical-Protestant Church of Georgia;
- Evangelical Faith Church of Georgia;
- Spiritual Council of Yazidis of Georgia;
- International Society for Krishna Consciousness.

The Agency and its regional representatives in Kvemo Kartli, Samtskhe-Javakheti and A/R of Adjara were in direct contact with the members of the Interreligious Council listed above, as well as with the religions that are not included in the Interreligious Council at this stage. Below there is an incomplete list of those religious organizations with whom the representatives of SARI cooperated, upon their request, during the COVID-19 pandemic. These organizations are as follows:

- The Salvation Army of Georgia;
- Church of the Word of Life;
- Biblical Church of the Savior;
- Seventh-day Adventist Church;
- Holy Trinity Protestant Church;
- Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses;
- Batumi Biblical Faith Church;
- National Spiritual Assembly of Baha'is of Georgia;
- “The Word of Salvation”.

During the pandemic, the government of Georgia prevented and, if necessary, condemned any manifestation of discrimination, hatred and violence on religious grounds through dialogue, cooperation and active communication with the Interreligious Council. Accordingly, this cooperation was reflected with the local and regional religious leaders, with the active involvement of the Agency’s

regional offices, to combat misinformation, hate speech, discrimination and violence in public health crisis situations and to strengthen the traditional culture of tolerance for Georgia.

Moreover, it is definitely worth noting that on May 20, 2021, the Agency organized that the representatives of religious organizations (Jewish Union of Georgia, Administration of All Muslims of Georgia, the Evangelical-Protestant Church, Evangelical Faith Church of Georgia) and staff of the State Agency for Religious Issues were vaccinated twice at the Academician N. Kipshidze Central University Clinic.

The Agency ensured the organized involvement of the representatives of religious denominations in the process of vaccination against Covid-19, which became an example for the parish.

### **Funding of Religious Organizations within the Framework of Compensation for the Damage Caused during the Soviet Totalitarian Regime**

Although the State of Georgia is not a legal successor of the Soviet regime and therefore does not have an obligation to compensate the damage caused during the Soviet totalitarian period, within the framework of the Resolution N117 of the Government of Georgia of January 27, 2014, 4 religious denominations - Islamic, Jewish, Roman Catholic and Armenian-Apostolic religious associations get symbolic and partial compensation for the damage caused by the Soviet totalitarian regime, which is used for the development, integration and peaceful coexistence of religious communities in the country. (see table N1).

**Table N1**

	2014 ₾	2015 ₾	2016 ₾	2017 ₾	2018 ₾	2019 ₾	2020 ₾	2021 ₾	total
Muslim community	1 100 000	2 200 000	2 750 000	2 750 000	2 750 000	2 750 000	2 750 000	2 750 000	19 800 000
Roman-Catholic Community	200 000	400 000	550 000	550 000	550 000	550 000	550 000	550 000	3 900 000
Armenian Apostolic Community	300 000	600 000	800 000	800 000	800 000	800 000	800 000	800 000	5 700 000
Jewish Community	150 000	300 000	400 000	400 000	400 000	400 000	400 000	400 000	2 850 000
<b>In total</b>	1 750 000	3 500 000	4 500 000	4 500 000	4 500 000	4 500 000	4 500 000	4 500 000	32 250 000

\* Amounts are given in GEL

In addition, religious associations receive financial and property assistance from local budgets to meet the religious needs of their community.

### **The Recommendatory Commission on Property and Financial Needs of Religious Associations**

#### **Recommendatory Commission Sessions**

In 2021, 4 sessions of the Recommendatory Commission on Property and Financial Needs of Religious Associations were held. In total, the Commission considered 147 issues, of which:

Religious community	motion	satisfied	flaw	refused
Apostolic Autocephalous Orthodox Church of Georgia	143	102	8	33
Muslim community	1	1	0	0
Diocese of Armenian Apostolic Orthodox Church of Georgia	3	3	0	0

#### **March 5, 2021 - session I**

Religious community	motion	satisfied	flaw	refused
Apostolic Autocephalous Orthodox Church of Georgia	55	43	2	10

#### **14 June, 2021 - session II**

Religious community	motion	satisfied	flaw	refused
Apostolic Autocephalous Orthodox Church of Georgia	47	29	3	15
Diocese of Armenian Apostolic Orthodox Church of Georgia	1	1		

**7 September, 2021 – session III**

Religious community	motion	satisfied	flaw	refused
Apostolic Autocephalous Orthodox Church of Georgia	22	17	2	3
Muslim community	1	1		

**15 December, 2021 – session IV**

Religious community	motion	satisfied	flaw	refused
Apostolic Autocephalous Orthodox Church of Georgia	19	13	1	5
Diocese of Armenian Apostolic Orthodox Church of Georgia	2	2		

**Relationship with Religious Minorities and Charity Events**

The State Agency for Religious Issues closely cooperates with various religious associations to address the needs of religious minorities living in densely populated regions of Georgia. On March 18, 2021, the representatives of the State Agency for Religious Issues visited the Evangelical-Protestant Church in Gori and received information about the construction works carried out in the church. During the meeting, it became clear that the Evangelical-Protestant Church in Gori needed a chapel hall and the Agency expressed support in construction.

In 2021, on the initiative of the State Agency for Religious Issues, the Administration of All Muslims of Georgia was provided assistance: the main mosque of Batumi was reconstructed/renovated; commercial spaces around the mosque which were attached to the mosque were redeemed; the roof was repaired, the facade and interior walls of the mosque were repaired and painted; the floor was changed and heating was done; the first and second floors of the mosque were expanded; large spaces were added and renovated, namely: the hall, the room for guests and pilgrims, the yard was also

arranged, the lawns were painted and green plants were planted. Therefore, on religious holidays, the mosque can fully accommodate the congregation and prayers are no longer held outside the mosque.

Within the framework of cooperation with religious minorities, the State Agency for Religious Issues in 2021 continued its charity activities, which it has been carrying out regularly since 2015. In 2021, charity events were held in the following regions:

1. On February 9, the State Agency for Religious Issues and Tbilisi International Baptist Church held a joint charity event and provided the State Service for Veterans Affairs with movable medical equipment (crutches, canes, walkers) and interreligious calendars;
2. On February 23, the State Agency for Religious Issues and the Union of Baptist Churches of Georgia held a joint charity event in Surami. Surami Social Therapy House "Antilios" was given 10 boxes of warm clothes;
3. On March 1, the State Agency for Religious Issues and Tbilisi International Baptist Church presented various gifts and annual interreligious calendars published in Braille by the Agency to about 50 blind and disabled pupils of Tbilisi Public School N202;
4. On March 15, the representatives of the State Agency for Religious Issues and the Union of Baptist Churches of Georgia visited the State Service for Veterans Affairs and handed over 160 boxes of clothes to the families of veterans;
5. On March 19, the State Agency for Religious Issues and the Union of Baptist Churches of Georgia held another charity event for IDP children from the Tskhinvali region living in Shaumiani, Marneuli Municipality, who were given 40 boxes of gifts and 160 boxes of warm clothes;
6. On April 1, the representatives of the Agency and the Union of Baptist Churches of Georgia met with the IDPs from the A/R of Abkhazia and handed them 160 boxes of clothing;
7. On April 13, the leadership of the Agency and the Union of Baptist Churches of Georgia visited the Ambrosi Khelaia boarding school in the village of Salkhino, Martvili district, and, 170 boxes of clothes and 150 boxes of school supplies were handed over to the schoolchildren;
8. On June 25, at the initiative of the State Agency for Religious Issues, the representatives of the Union of Baptist Churches of Georgia held a charity event in Akhaltsikhe. Within the framework of the event, a large amount of clothes were handed over to the socially vulnerable parishioners of the Akhaltsikhe, Tao-Klarjeti and Lazeti Dioceses of the Georgian Orthodox Church;
9. On June 27, the State Agency for Religious Issues held a charity event in Tsalka and met with Grigol (Katsia), Bishop of Tsalka, and 22 boxes of clothes and 65 boxes of gifts for children were given for the socially vulnerable members of the diocese.

10. On July 2, 2021, the State Agency for Religious Issues and the Union of Baptist Churches of Georgia held a joint charity event. Ukrainian ophthalmologists, who at the same time are members of the Baptist Church of Ukraine, provided free medical consultations to the IDPs from Abkhazia living in Zugdidi, and then gave glasses as a gift;
11. On July 3, 2021, the State Agency for Religious Issues and the Union of Baptist Churches of Georgia held another joint charity event and handed over 50 boxes of clothes to the socially vulnerable population displaced from Abkhazia living in Zugdidi;
12. On September 29, 2021 a charity event was held in St. Nino's Church in the village of Arli, Adigeni municipality, where school supplies were given to the children of the choir "Irmisa" under the parish school.;
13. On December 28, 2021, the employees of the Agency visited the nursing home "Lazareti" located in Tbilisi. And on the Eve of the New Year, the beneficiaries of the nursing home "Lazareti" were given the gifts by the employees of the Agency - sweets, fruits and food.

### **Various Meetings**

On January 26, 2021, at the Administration of all Muslims of Georgia the State Agency for Religious Issues met with the newly elected Mufti of Eastern Georgia, Etibar Eminov. The representatives of the Agency congratulated Etibar Eminov on his election as mufti, wished him success and expressed a desire for mutual cooperation.

On March 11, 2021, a delegation of the Agency participated in a roundtable discussion on the topic of enhancement of inter-community cooperation in Adigeni Municipality, organized by the Georgian Foundation for Strategic and International Studies (Rondel Foundation). The leaders of the local religious communities (Orthodox Christians, Muslims, Catholics), representatives of the local government of Adigeni Municipality, the Parliament of Georgia, the Administration of the Government of Georgia, the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia, the Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure of Georgia, the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports were discussing the problems in the region.

On May 19, 2021, Vida Montvidaite, Head of the Department of National Minorities under the Administration of the Government of Lithuania, Artur Ludkovsky, Advisor to the Prime Minister of Lithuania on National Minorities, and Andrius Kalindra, Ambassador of the Republic of Lithuania to Georgia, paid a working visit to the State Agency for Religious Issues at the Administration of the Government of Georgia.

On May 19, 2021, within the framework of the working visit to the State Agency for Religious Issues a meeting with, Vagif Seidbayil, Deputy Chairman of the State Committee for Work with Diaspora of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Vusal Mammadov, Head of the Department on Relations with Georgia of the State Committee for Work with Diaspora of the Republic of Azerbaijan and Faig Guliyev

Ambassador of the Republic of Azerbaijan to Georgia was held at the Administration of the Government of Georgia.

On June 26, 2021, on the occasion of the commemoration day of Anthim the Iberian, Metropolitan Theodore (Chuadze) of Akhaltsikhe and Tao-Klarjeti conducted a service in the monastery named after St. Anthim the Iberian in the village of Ude, Adigeni municipality. The service was attended by the representatives of the Parliament of Georgia, the State Representative in Samtskhe-Javakheti region, Adigeni Municipality and Sakrebulo, Aspindza Municipality and the State Agency for Religious Issues.

On November 15, 2021, the State Agency for Religious Issues hosted an Iranian delegation at the Administration of the Government of Georgia, which included Advisor to Ayatollah Shahrastan, Head of the Center for Youth and Elite Talent Dr. Mohammad Rouhani, Media Advisor to Allul Beit Amin Hossein Mirhosseini and the representative of Allul Beit in Georgia Faig Nabiev. It was an introductory meeting.

On November 24, 2021, the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Turkey to Georgia, Fatma Jeren Yazgan, Head of the Turkish NGO Abdurrahman Topbaş, Religious Affairs Attaché of the Embassy of the Republic of Turkey in Georgia, Ahmed Erdem and the Head of the NGO Georgian Youth Aid and Awareness Raising Musa Hajiyev visited the State Agency for Religious Issues at the Administration of the Government of Georgia. At the meeting, they talked about the non-governmental organization "HUDAYI VAKFI", which carries out humanitarian aid and proper information and awareness raising of the society in terms of religion.

On December 9, 2021, the State Agency for Religious Issues hosted a delegation of the Monitoring Committee of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe at the Administration of the Government of Georgia. The delegation included: Co-rapporteurs - Romania, Titus Corlatean Member of the Socialist Group and Claude Kern, Representative of the Alliance for Liberals and Democrats for Europe, Deputy Head of the Secretariat of the Council of Europe Monitoring Committee Bass Klein, Head of the Council of Europe Office in Georgia Natalia Voutova, Secretary of the Georgian Delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe Alexander Ramishvili, Head of the Council of Europe Division of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Ana Doborjginidze.

At the meeting, they talked about the religious policy of the State of Georgia, regarding the main directions of the activities of the Agency and the facts of violation of religious rights of people in the occupied territories.

### **Meetings with the Representatives of the Diplomatic Corps**

The State Agency for Religious Issues actively cooperates with the representatives of the diplomatic corps, holds introductory and working meetings and informs them about the activities of the Agency,

implemented projects and future plans. Despite the widespread pandemic, in 2021 the chairman of the State Agency for Religious Issues held important meetings, namely:

- Meeting with the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Lithuania to Georgia Andrius Kalindra - 04.02.2021;
- Meeting with the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to Georgia Imamura Akira and the Cultural Attaché Imanishi Takao - 11.03.2021;
- Meeting with the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Austria to Georgia Thomas Mülmann - 30.03.2021;
- Meeting with the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Iran to Georgia Akbar Ghasemi Aliabadi - 06.04.2021;
- Meetings with the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Azerbaijan to Georgia, Faig Guliyev -20.04.2021 / 20.10.2021.
- Meeting with the Head of the Council of Europe Office in Georgia Natalia Voutova - 27.04.2021;
- Meeting with the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Romania to Georgia Razvan Rotundu - 15.06.2021;

## **Visits Abroad**

### **Visit to the republic of Azerbaijan**

When visiting a foreign country, the delegation of the State Agency for Religious Issues holds meetings with the leaders of the counterpart organizations, religious and other agencies, in order to discuss and share experiences on issues related to religion.

On August 26, 2021, the delegation of the State Agency for Religious Issues, led by the Agency's chairman, visited the Republic of Azerbaijan, where meetings were held with the representatives of both the legislative and executive authorities, as well as with the leaders of the counterpart organization, the State Committee on Religious Associations of the Republic of Azerbaijan, namely:

- 1) with the Vice Prime Minister of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Ali Ahmadov - 28.08.2021;
- 2) with the Vice Speaker of the Parliament of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the head of the Parliamentary Committee on Religious Unions, Fazail Ibrahimli - 27.08.2021;
- 3) with the first Deputy Minister of Culture of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Vagif Aliyev - 28.08.2021;
- 4) with the first Deputy Chairman of the State Committee for Work with the Diaspora of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Valeh Hajiyev - 27.08.2021;

5) with the Chairman of the State Committee on Religious Associations of the Republic of Azerbaijan Mubariz Gurbanli and Deputy Chairman Gunduz Ismailov - 26.08.2021;

6) with the Chairman of the Caucasus Muslim Division in Azerbaijan, Sheikh-ul-Islam Haji Allahshukur Pashazade - 29.08.2021.

On August 26, 2021 the delegation of the State Agency for Religious Issues visited Alley of Martyrs in Baku. They laid a wreath and paid tribute to the memory of the Azerbaijani demonstrators who were shot on "Black January" during the Soviet period

On August 26, 2021 the members of the delegation of the State Agency for Religious Issues laid a wreath at the monument of Heydar Aliyev, a prominent political figure and national leader of Azerbaijan.

On August 28, 2021 Delegation of the State Agency for Religious Issues, Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador of Georgia to the Republic of Azerbaijan, Zurab Pataradze, Consul General of Georgia in Ganja, Nikoloz Iashvili visited Kakhingilo village of Kakhi district. The Agency's delegation met with the Georgian population living in the region and on behalf of the Government of Georgia congratulated the Georgians living in Kakhi on the Great holiday of the Dormition of the Mother of God.

On August 29, 2021 Agency's delegation also visited the Georgian secondary school in the village of Kakhingilo, Kakhi district.

On August 30, 2021 the delegation of the State Agency for Religious Issues visited the Church of St. Nino in the village of Alibeglo, Kakhi district

On August 30, 2021 the delegation of the State Agency for Religious Issues visited the Georgian State Theater in the village of Alibeglo, Kakhi district. The Georgian Theater named after Ilia Chavchavadze in Alibeglo started functioning in 1985 and its repertoire included works by Georgian and foreign playwrights.

On August 31, 2021 as part of the visit to the Republic of Azerbaijan, the delegation of the State Agency for Religious Issues visited the Holy Trinity Church in the village of Kotokhlo (Shuakhevi), Kakhi district.

### **Relationship with Media**

The State Agency for Religious Issues considers an open and transparent relationship with the media as a priority.

Any publications of the Agency, interreligious calendar and religious maps are uploaded on the website of the Agency.

Any activity of the Agency's representatives: meetings, visits, conferences, participation in various events is uploaded on the Agency's web page, "Facebook", "Twitter" and is aired and transmitted by the media outlets, through the news agency "Interpressnews".

In the reporting period, in 2021, 254 information with their photos were spread. In 2021, 51 information were disseminated through "Twitter".

In 2021, 186 information of the Agency were disseminated through the news agency "Interpressnews".

In 2021, 58 events of the Agency were aired in various news programs.

### **Appendix – Administrative Report**

In 2021, 30 (thirty) contracts were signed for administrative expenses, including 7 (seven) contracts under consolidated tender, 6 (six) contracts under electronic tender, and 17 (seventeen) contracts under simplified purchase.

The electronic declarations are submitted on a monthly basis in accordance with the deadlines set by the legislation in force.

On a quarterly basis the budget execution report is submitted to the Ministry of Finance of Georgia electronically (<https://www.ebudget.ge/>).

The plan (EPLAN), all the contracts and all the documents confirming the contract costs are electronically uploaded to the State Procurement Agency, both on CMR and SPA.

(six) electronic tenders were implemented. Technical documentation, relevant protocols, contracts, executions and payments have been uploaded within the time limits established by the law.

30 (thirty) administrative contracts (organizational code 5001) and 8 (eight) contracts signed with different religious organizations (organizational code 5002) (LEPL Administration of Muslims of all Georgia (2), LEPL Union of Georgian Jews (2), LEPL Diocese of the Armenian Apostolic Orthodox Holy Church in Georgia (2) and LEPL Apostolic Administration of the Caucasus (2)) have been registered at the Treasury Service of the Ministry of Finance of Georgia.

**Information on financial situation in 2021**  
**LEPL State Agency for Religious Issues**

Organizational code	name	Approved plan for 2021	Cash flow	Performance percentage against approved cash flow plan
<b>50 00</b>	LEPL –State Agency for Religious Issues	<b>5,330,000</b>	<b>5,315,667</b>	99.73%
	The number of employees	22	22	
	total	5,330,000	5,315,667	99.73%
2	expenses	5,320,000	5,315,667	99.92%
2.1	salary	587,000	585,800	99.80%
<b>2.2</b>	Goods and services	229,500	229,381	99.95%
<b>2.5</b>	subsidies	4,500,000	4,500,000	100.00%
2.7	Social maintenance	2,500	0	0.00%
<b>2.8</b>	Other expenses	1,000	486	48.60%
<b>3.1</b>	Growth of non-financial assets	10,000	-	0.00%
<b>50 01</b>	LEPL- State Agency for Religious Issues - administrative expenses	<b>830,000</b>	<b>815,667</b>	98.27%
	The number of employees	22	22	100.00%
	total	830,000	815,667	98.27%
2	expenses	820,000	815,667	99.47%
<b>2.1</b>	salary	587,000	585,800	99.80%
<b>2.2</b>	goods and services	229,500	229,381	99.95%
2.2.1	Salary of freelancers		82,278	
2.2.2	business trip		13,536	
2.2.3	Office expenses		72,658	
2.2.4	Representative expenses		3,712	
2.2.6	Medical expenses		315	
2.2.8	Operation and maintenance costs of transport, equipment and tools		32,607	
2.2.10.14	The rest of the expenditure on other goods and services		24,275	
2.7	Social maintenance	2,500	-	0.00%
<b>2.8</b>	Other expenses	1,000	486	48.60%
3.1	Growth of non-financial assets	10,000	-	0.00%
<b>50 02</b>	Financing of religious associations	<b>4,500,000</b>	<b>4,500,000</b>	100.00%

2	expenses	4,500,000	4,500,000	100.00%
2.5.3	subsidies	4,500,000	4,500,000	100.00%

### Information on Business trips within the country in 2021

205311232 - LEPL State Agency for Religious Issues

Business trip document	place of business trip	Name and surname	Expense type	number of days	amount
order 1	Georgia -Tetritskaro	Abai Pashaev	Daily costs	1	15.00
order 1	Georgia -Tetritskaro	Abai Pashaev	Daily costs	1	15.00
order 1	Georgia -Tetritskaro	Zviad Tkabladze	Daily costs	1	15.00
order 1	Georgia -Tetritskaro	Zviad Tkabladze	Daily costs	1	15.00
order 2	Georgia-Akhmeta	Giorgi Patashuri	Daily costs	1	15.00
order 2	Georgia-Akhmeta	Omar Chikadze	Daily costs	1	15.00
order 3	Georgia - Khashuri	Aleksandre Shekiladze	Daily costs	1	15.00
order 3	Georgia - Khashuri	Sergo PARulava	Daily costs	1	15.00
order 3	Georgia - Khashuri	Elvardi Zazadze	Daily costs	1	15.00
order 4	Georgia - Batumi	Giorgi Ukleba	Daily costs	3	45.00
order 4	Georgia - Batumi	Giorgi Ukleba	Hotel expenses	2	180.00
order 4	Georgia - Batumi	Abesalom Aslanidze	Daily costs	3	45.00
order 7	Georgia - Stepantsminda	Aleksandre Shekiladze	Daily costs	1	15.00
order 7	Georgia - Stepantsminda	Omar Chikadze	Daily costs	1	15.00
order 8	Georgia - Gori	Zaza Vashakmadze	Daily costs	1	15.00
order 8	Georgia - Gori	Giorgi Patashuri	Daily costs	1	15.00
order 8	Georgia - Gori	Giorgi Ukleba	Daily costs	1	15.00
order 8	Georgia - Gori	Omar Chikadze	Daily costs	1	15.00
order 9	Georgia - Oni	Konstantine Chrdileli	Daily costs	1	15.00
order 9	Georgia - Oni	Omar Chikadze	Daily costs	1	15.00
order 10	Georgia - Zugdidi	Giorgi Patashuri	Daily costs	2	30.00
order 10	Georgia - Zugdidi	Giorgi Patashuri	Hotel expenses	1	100.00
order 10	Georgia - Zugdidi	Omar Chikadze	Daily costs	2	30.00
order 10	Georgia - Zugdidi	Omar Chikadze	Hotel expenses	1	100.00
order 14	Georgia - Martvil	Zaza Vashakmadze	Daily costs	2	30.00
order 14	Georgia - Martvil	Giorgi Ukleba	Daily costs	2	30.00
order 14	Georgia - Martvil	Omar Chikadze	Daily costs	2	30.00

order 16	Georgia - Batumi	Davit Davitashvili	Daily costs	3	45.00
order 16	Georgia - Batumi	Davit Davitashvili	Hotel expenses	2	200.00
order 16	Georgia - Batumi	Zaza Vashakmadze	Daily costs	3	45.00
order 16	Georgia - Batumi	Zaza Vashakmadze	Hotel expenses	2	200.00
order 16	Georgia - Batumi	Giorgi Patashuri	Daily costs	3	45.00
order 16	Georgia - Batumi	Giorgi Patashuri	Hotel expenses	2	200.00
order 16	Georgia - Batumi	Giorgi Ukleba	Daily costs	3	45.00
order 16	Georgia - Batumi	Giorgi Ukleba	Hotel expenses	2	200.00
order 16	Georgia - Batumi	Abai Pashaev	Daily costs	3	45.00
order 16	Georgia - Batumi	Abai Pashaev	Hotel expenses	2	200.00
order 16	Georgia - Batumi	Omar Chikadze	Daily costs	3	45.00
order 16	Georgia - Batumi	Omar Chikadze	Hotel expenses	2	200.00
order 16	Georgia - Batumi	Elvardi Zazadze	Daily costs	3	45.00
order 16	Georgia - Batumi	Elvardi Zazadze	Hotel expenses	2	200.00
order 16	Georgia - Batumi	Zviad Tkabladze	Daily costs	3	45.00
order 16	Georgia - Batumi	Zviad Tkabladze	Hotel expenses	2	200.00
order 18	Georgia - Batumi	Giorgi Ukleba	Daily costs	3	45.00
order 18	Georgia - Batumi	Giorgi Ukleba	Hotel expenses	2	300.00
order 21	Georgia-Akhaltzikhe	Davit Davitashvili	Daily costs	2	30.00
order 21	Georgia-Akhaltzikhe	Davit Davitashvili	Hotel expenses	1	110.00
order 21	Georgia-Akhaltzikhe	Zaza Vashakmadze	Daily costs	2	30.00
order 21	Georgia-Akhaltzikhe	Zaza Vashakmadze	Hotel expenses	1	110.00
order 21	Georgia-Akhaltzikhe	Giorgi Ukleba	Daily costs	2	30.00
order 21	Georgia-Akhaltzikhe	Giorgi Ukleba	Hotel expenses	1	110.00
order 21	Georgia-Akhaltzikhe	Omar Chikadze	Daily costs	2	30.00
order 21	Georgia-Akhaltzikhe	Omar Chikadze	Hotel expenses	1	110.00
order 21	Georgia-Akhaltzikhe	Zviad Tkabladze	Daily costs	2	30.00
order 21	Georgia-Akhaltzikhe	Zviad Tkabladze	Hotel expenses	1	110.00
order 22	Georgia - Gori	Zaza Vashakmadze	Daily costs	1	15.00
order 22	Georgia - Gori	Giorgi Ukleba	Daily costs	1	15.00
order 22	Georgia - Gori	Omar Chikadze	Daily costs	1	15.00
order 22	Georgia - Zugdidi	Zaza Vashakmadze	Daily costs	2	30.00
order 22	Georgia - Zugdidi	Nino Chavchavadze	Daily costs	2	30.00
order 22	Georgia - Zugdidi	Giorgi Ukleba	Daily costs	2	30.00
order 22	Georgia - Zugdidi	Omar Chikadze	Daily costs	2	30.00
order 23	Georgia - Tsalka	Zaza Vashakmadze	Daily costs	1	15.00
order 23	Georgia - Tsalka	Giorgi Ukleba	Daily costs	1	15.00
order 23	Georgia - Tsalka	Abai Pashaev	Daily costs	1	15.00
order 23	Georgia - Tsalka	Omar Chikadze	Daily costs	1	15.00
order 25	Georgia - Zugdidi	Zaza Vashakmadze	Daily costs	2	30.00
order 25	Georgia - Zugdidi	Omar Chikadze	Daily costs	2	30.00

order 33	Georgia - Martvil	Giorgi Ukleba	Daily costs	1	15.00
order 36	Georgia - Batumi	Zaza Vashakmadze	Daily costs	6	90.00
order 42	Georgia - Lagodekhi	Omar Chikadze	Daily costs	1	15.00
order 43	Georgia - Kutaisi	Giorgi Ukleba	Daily costs	1	15.00
order 45	Georgia - Gori	Grigoli Mumlauri	Daily costs	1	15.00
order 45	Georgia - Gori	Giorgi Ukleba	Daily costs	1	15.00
order 53	Georgia-Akhaltzikhe	Davit Davitashvili	Daily costs	2	30.00
order 53	Georgia-Akhaltzikhe	Davit Davitashvili	Hotel expenses	1	110.00
order 53	Georgia-Akhaltzikhe	Zaza Vashakmadze	Daily costs	2	30.00
order 53	Georgia-Akhaltzikhe	Zaza Vashakmadze	Hotel expenses	1	110.00
order 53	Georgia-Akhaltzikhe	Grigoli Mumlauri	Daily costs	1	15.00
order 53	Georgia-Akhaltzikhe	Giorgi Ukleba	Daily costs	1	15.00
order 53	Georgia-Akhaltzikhe	Omar Chikadze	Daily costs	2	30.00
order 53	Georgia-Akhaltzikhe	Omar Chikadze	Hotel expenses	1	110.00
order 53	Georgia-Akhaltzikhe	Zviad Tkabladze	Daily costs	2	30.00
order 53	Georgia-Akhaltzikhe	Zviad Tkabladze	Hotel expenses	1	110.00
order 61	Georgia - Batumi	Davit Davitashvili	Daily costs	3	45.00
order 61	Georgia - Batumi	Davit Davitashvili	Hotel expenses	2	200.00
order 61	Georgia - Batumi	Zaza Vashakmadze	Daily costs	3	45.00
order 61	Georgia - Batumi	Zaza Vashakmadze	Hotel expenses	2	200.00
order 61	Georgia - Batumi	Aleksandre Shekiladze	Daily costs	3	45.00
order 61	Georgia - Batumi	Aleksandre Shekiladze	Hotel expenses	2	200.00
order 61	Georgia - Batumi	Omar Chikadze	Daily costs	3	45.00
order 61	Georgia - Batumi	Omar Chikadze	Hotel expenses	2	200.00
order 63	Georgia - Borjomi	Natela Gudadze	Daily costs	3	45.00
order 63	Georgia - Borjomi	Davit Davitashvili	Daily costs	3	45.00
order 63	Georgia - Borjomi	Zaza Vashakmadze	Daily costs	1	15.00
order 63	Georgia - Borjomi	Aleksandre Shekiladze	Daily costs	3	45.00
order 63	Georgia - Borjomi	Omar Chikadze	Daily costs	1	15.00
order 65	Georgia - Batumi	Giorgi Ukleba	Daily costs	3	45.00
order 65	Georgia - Batumi	Giorgi Ukleba	Hotel expenses	2	290.00
order 67	Georgia - Tsalka	Zaza Vashakmadze	Daily costs	1	15.00
order 67	Georgia - Tsalka	Giorgi Ukleba	Daily costs	1	15.00
order 67	Georgia - Tsalka	Omar Chikadze	Daily costs	1	15.00
order 71	Georgia - Batumi	Abesalom Aslanidze	Daily costs	5	75.00
order 71	Georgia - Batumi	Abesalom Aslanidze	travel expenses		48.00
order 71	Georgia - Batumi	Abesalom Aslanidze	Hotel expenses	4	320.00
order 76	Georgia - Batumi	Giorgi Ukleba	Daily costs	3	45.00
order 76	Georgia - Batumi	Giorgi Ukleba	Hotel expenses	2	240.00
order 78	Georgia - Batumi	Giorgi Ukleba	Daily costs	3	45.00

order 78	Georgia - Batumi	Giorgi Ukleba	Hotel expenses	2	240.00
The total number of business trips within the country in 2021					7458

Business trip document	place of business trip	Name and surname	Expense type	number of days	amount
order 40	Azerbaijan-Baku	Zaza Vashakmadze	Daily costs	4	438.00
order 40	Azerbaijan-Baku	Zaza Vashakmadze	travel expenses		415.00
order 40	Azerbaijan-Baku	Zaza Vashakmadze	Hotel expenses	3	1,173.12
order 40	Azerbaijan-Baku	Gvantsa Tskhovrebadze	Daily costs	4	438.00
order 40	Azerbaijan-Baku	Gvantsa Tskhovrebadze	travel expenses		415.00
order 40	Azerbaijan-Baku	Gvantsa Tskhovrebadze	Hotel expenses	3	1,173.12
order 40	Azerbaijan-Baku	Giorgi Ukleba	Daily costs	4	438.00
order 40	Azerbaijan-Baku	Giorgi Ukleba	travel expenses		415.00
order 40	Azerbaijan-Baku	Giorgi Ukleba	Hotel expenses	3	1,173.12
The total number of business trips abroad in 2021					6,078.36

Total business trip expenses in 2021	13,536.36
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**Financing of Religious Associations (confessions) in 2021**

Name of the Organization	2020
LEPL – Administration of All Muslims of Georgia	2,750,000
LEPL – Apostolic Administration of the Caucasus	550,000
LEPL – Diocese of the Armenian Apostolic Orthodox Holy Church in Georgia	800,000
LEPL – Union of Georgian Jews	400,000
total	4,500,000

**Correspondence (2021)**

Statistics of proceedings of the State Agency for Religious Issues for 2021

Correspondence in 2021	quantity
Incoming correspondence	343
Outgoing correspondence	1189
Personnel orders	19
Orders of business trip/leave of absence	85
Organizational orders	40
Internal memorandum report	121

**STATE AGENCY FOR RELIGIOUS  
ISSUES**

**REPORT 2022**

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## **Action Plan to Promote the Protection of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities for 2022**

In order to promote the protection of the rights of persons with disabilities and the creation of an inclusive tolerant environment, the State Agency for Religious Issues has developed an Action Plan for the Protection of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities for 2022. The purpose of the document is to outline the priority areas and measures that should be implemented in 2022 based on the principles of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Law of Georgia on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. The action plan envisages trainings for: the persons with disabilities on freedom of religion and belief; for the representatives of religious organizations serving in Georgia and the staff of the State Agency for Religious Issues - on the rights of persons with disabilities; creation of special publications (in Braille) for people with disabilities on freedom of religion and belief. The plan is based on the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the Constitution of Georgia and the Law of Georgia on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. The document was developed in cooperation with the Administration of the Government of Georgia, in order to implement the principle - "nothing about us without us". It will be presented to organizations representing persons with disabilities, non-governmental organizations and representatives of the community with disabilities.

### **Raising Public Awareness in Terms of Religious Tolerance**

#### **Presentation of two versions of the annual "Interreligious Calendar"**

In 2022, the State Agency for Religious Issues published an annual inter-religious calendar in an updated format. This year, for the first time, each month of the calendar was decorated with photos of religious buildings of different denominations. Also, traditionally, an interreligious calendar was published in Braille for the blind.

We remind you that the interreligious calendar unites the main religious holidays all the religious communities operating in Georgia (eleven in total) - the Apostolic Autocephalous Orthodox Church of Georgia, Jewish, Catholic, Muslim, Armenian Apostolic, Spiritual Christian-Molokan, Yezidi, Evangelical-Lutheran, Baptist, Evangelical-Protestant communities and Evangelical Faith Church of Georgia.

## **Presentation of the third book of the Bible "Leviticus" in Braille**

In order to promote the protection of the rights of persons with disabilities and the creation of an inclusive tolerant environment, the State Agency for Religious Issues has developed an action plan for the promotion of the protection of the rights of persons with disabilities (PWD) for 2022, within the framework of which in 2022 the interreligious calendar for the blind in Braille and the third canonical book of the Old Testament "Leviticus" were traditionally published. The presentation of the book was held on January 20, 2022 at the Administration of the Government of Georgia, where the State Agency for Religious Issues presented the representatives of the Union of the Blind of Georgia with the third canonical book of the Old Testament "Leviticus" and an interreligious calendar.

## **International Day for Tolerance**

Under the initiative and organization of the State Agency for Religious Issues, a number of interreligious events are held, which encourage direct communication and dialogue between religions, a clear example of which is the celebration of the International Day for Tolerance (November 16). On this occasion, one of the religious associations hosts the representatives of all other religions (in the church, residence, etc.).

On November 16, 2022, on the occasion of the International Day for Tolerance, the representatives of the religious organizations included in the Interreligious Council were hosted by the Evangelical Faith Church, which were attended by the representatives of: the Apostolic Autocephalous Orthodox Church of Georgia, the Jewish Union of Georgia, Administration of All Muslims of Georgia, Spiritual Council of Yezidis, the Diocese of the Armenian Apostolic Orthodox Church of Georgia, Evangelical-Protestant Church, the Apostolic Administration of the Caucasus, the Evangelical-Lutheran Church of Georgia, the International Baptist Church of Tbilisi and the Union of Baptist Churches of Georgia.

**The International Day for Tolerance was celebrated for the first time in 2016 and was hosted by the Orthodox Church of Georgia, in the following years - the Georgian Jewish Community, the Apostolic Administration of the Caucasus, the Muslim Community of Georgia, the Union of Baptist Churches of Georgia and the Evangelical-Protestant Church of Georgia.**

## **Projects**

### **"Religious Diversity of Post-Soviet Georgia"**

In 2022, the State Agency for Religious Issues started working on the project, which implies publication of a photo album about the cult buildings of religious organizations operating in Georgia. Regarding the mentioned project, the Agency actively cooperated with the representatives of the religious organizations included in the Interreligious Council, who got involved in the project and helped the Agency in collecting information and photographs about the cult buildings of their denomination.

It should be noted that the new project-research developed by the Agency is a kind of continuation of the photo album published in 2020, entitled "Functioning Cult Buildings in Tbilisi as of 2020", which refers to the information together with the photos about the functioning cult buildings of all religious organizations in Tbilisi, the capital of Georgia.

### **"Clergymen Repressed in Georgia during the Soviet Period"**

It is also worth noting that in 2022, the State Agency for Religious Issues started working on the second project "Clergymen repressed in Georgia during the Soviet period". The work depicts representatives of various religious groups who were imprisoned, exiled and/or executed. The Agency has been working on this project together with the archive of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia. Within the framework of the joint project, a number of unique documents, letters and photos of historical importance were found.

The project "Clergymen Repressed in Georgia during the Soviet Period" is quite voluminous and takes a couple of years.

### **Joint Training of the Agency and the United Nations Children's Fund**

In 2022, a three-day training (November 9, 10, 11) was held in Borjomi for religious leaders of Georgia on the topic "Freedom of Religion and the Best Interests of the Child". The training was conducted within the framework of the partnership of the State Agency for Religious Issues with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and represents a kind of continuation of the long-term cooperation with the religious leaders of Georgia.

The aim of the training is to provide religious leaders with in-depth knowledge and skills to effectively deliver messages on children's rights. The training included the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and its four general principles: 1) the Code of Child Rights of Georgia; 2) scheduled vaccination of children; 3) vaccination against COVID 19; and 4) child abuse.

Participants in the training were engaged in both theoretical and practical training sessions and were introduced to the materials such as the Convention on the Rights of the Child; Code of Children's Rights of Georgia; Children's rights in a historical perspective, thus once again emphasizing the recognition and protection of the rights of the child, the harmonious development of the child, respect for child's personality and individual abilities, social development and protection of the right to education

### **State Relationship with Religious Organizations**

It should be noted that after the end of the pandemic in 2022, the tradition was restored, when the government of Georgia, under the leadership of the Prime Minister, attend the main holidays of the historical religions in Georgia, including - the greatest holidays of the Apostolic Autocephalous Orthodox Church of Georgia, Muslim, Jewish and other religious communities, and according to the tradition established in recent years, the head of the government of Georgia hosts the Muslim community at dinner, iftar held on his behalf in connection with Ramadan-Bayram.

On April 30, 2022, on behalf of the Prime Minister of Georgia, a traditional iftar related to Ramadan-Bayram was held in honor of the Muslim community of Georgia, which was attended by the representatives of the government of Georgia, the Muslim community, the State Agency for Religious Issues and the ambassadors of Muslim states accredited in Georgia.

On July 11, 2022, the Prime Minister of Georgia congratulated Muslim clergymen and parishioners, ambassadors of Islamic countries, on the holiday of sacrifice - Eid al-Adha.

Traditionally, the President and Prime Minister of Georgia symbolically light the first and eighth candles in the synagogue on the Hanukkah holiday of the Jewish community. In 2022, this holiday was celebrated on December 18, and the Prime Minister of Georgia Irakli Gharibashvili greeted the Georgian Jews and invited guests gathered in the Great Synagogue of Tbilisi and congratulated them on the holiday. The event celebrating Hanukkah was attended by: Chairman of the State Agency for Religious Issues Zaza Vashakmadze, former Israeli Ambassador Shaftai Tzur, members of the Israeli Knesset and other invited guests.

On June 12, 2022, religious leaders of different religions of Georgia and representatives of the State Agency for Religious Issues attended the "Tawafa Yezidi" celebration of Tbilisi Yezidi Temple of the Yezidi community of Georgia. The festival of the temple started with a religious ritual and traditionally ended with changing the flag on the roof of the temple.

Also, the State Agency for Religious Issues regularly meets with the leaders of various religious organizations and attends their annual reports, charity events, conferences, discusses their appeals and helps as needed.

On March 4, 2022, the chairman of the State Agency for Religious Issues visited Gori, where he met with the representatives of the Evangelical-Protestant Church of Georgia.

In Gori, a new church is under construction on the plot of land transferred on the recommendation of the Agency. The chairman of the Agency was interested in the construction progress and other needs of the Protestant community.

It should be noted that the Evangelical-Protestant Church has not got a house of worship to perform religious services for years. With the help of the Agency, the Evangelical-Protestant Church was given a building for a prayer house in Gori for the first time. Later, the Agency gave a recommendation for the construction of a new house of prayer in Rustavi, where they were additionally given a plot of land with existing buildings on it to expand the church. It should also be noted that, on the recommendation of the Agency, the Evangelical-Protestant Church in Gori was additionally given a plot of land (283 sq/m) for social and charitable activities.

On March 31, 2022, the chairman of the State Agency for Religious Issues hosted the representative of the Union of Evangelical Churches of Europe, Dr. Stefan Kosoaraba, the representative of the Eastern Europe Center for Evangelical Theology, Pastor Uwe Seidner, the historian Bogdan Montaeon and the new leader of the Evangelical-Lutheran Church of Georgia, Dr. Rolf Barais. The meeting was attended by the former bishop, Markus Schoch, and the Agency staff. At the introductory meeting, the chairman of the Agency told the guests about the projects implemented by the State for the promotion and development of the religious policy.

On September 12, 2022, at the Administration of the Government of Georgia, the chairman of the State Agency for Religious Issues met with the members of the Union of Baptist Churches of Georgia and the new leadership of the German international charity organization "FriedensBote", namely: the head of the "FriedensBote" organization, Alexander Wheeler, the financial director, Alexander Jantsen, the member of the board of the organization, Pierre Vaubailon and the representatives of the Union of Baptist Churches of Georgia.

On November 11, 2022, in Adigeni district, the day of commemoration of St. Serapion of Zarzma, "Zarzmoba" was celebrated, which was attended by the clergy, local government representatives and employees of the State Agency for Religious Issues. Many cultural events were held on the occasion of the public holiday, which ended with the exhibition and sale of folk crafts and the awarding of honorary citizens of Adigeni.

On November 16, 2022, on the occasion of the International Day for Tolerance, with the help and active involvement of the State Agency for Religious Issues, a conference organized by the Evangelical Alliance and the Evangelical Faith Church of Georgia was opened in the Olympic Hall, the aim of

which is to promote Christian values and a healthy way of life. The event was attended by the representatives of religious organizations, diplomatic corps and government of Georgia, as well as foreign guests, among whom was the world-famous British missionary, director and documentarian, doctor of theology, David Gordon Hathaway. Within the framework of the event, a speech was held by veteran Christian stars of the US "National Basketball Association" (NBA). The conference ended on November 18.

On November 19, 2022, the chairman and staff of the State Agency for Religious Issues attended the 7<sup>th</sup> session of the VI Synod of the Evangelical-Lutheran Church of Georgia and the South Caucasus in Tbilisi Church of Reconciliation. At the synod session, Rolf Barais was elected as the bishop of the Evangelical-Lutheran Church.

### **Cooperation with State Agencies**

#### **Parliament of Georgia**

On May 18, 2022, in the Parliament of Georgia, the State Agency for Religious Issues and the Human Rights Protection and Civil Integration Committee of the Parliament, in accordance with the 2022 action plan for the protection of the rights of persons with disabilities, held a training for religious persons on the topic the rights of persons with disabilities. The training was attended by the representatives of religious organizations that are members of the Interreligious Council of the Agency: the Apostolic Autocephalous Orthodox Church of Georgia, the Administration of All Muslims of Georgia, the Diocese of the Armenian Apostolic Orthodox Church of Georgia, the Apostolic Administration of the Caucasus, the Jewish Union of Georgia, the International Baptist Church of Tbilisi, the Union of Baptist Churches of Georgia, the Evangelical-Lutheran Church of Georgia, the Evangelical-Protestant Church of Georgia, the Evangelical Faith Church of Georgia and the Spiritual Council of Yezidis of Georgia. The aim of the training was to raise the awareness of the representatives of religious organizations about the rights of persons with disabilities.

### **Memorandum of Cooperation**

On May 4, 2022 a memorandum of cooperation was signed between the State Agency for Religious Issues and Tbilisi City Assembly.

The memorandum envisages joint training and seminar programs for the employees of Tbilisi City Assembly regarding the strengthening of the principles of secularism and religious neutrality. The memorandum also envisages the implementation of joint projects related to the protection of religious-cultural heritage and the exposition of museum materials, photo-video and audio materials.

Within the framework of the mentioned memorandum, in order to raise awareness of public servants in terms of freedom of religion and human rights and basic freedoms, as well as to strengthen the culture of tolerance and religious tolerance (paragraph 18.1.3.2.), in 2022 a three-day training (May 16-18) was held at Tbilisi City Assembly for the employees of Tbilisi City Assembly on the topic: "Secularism and Religious Neutrality", after which 72 employees of Tbilisi City Assembly were given certificates.

On June 16, 2022, at Tbilisi Chess Palace, the Chairman of the State Agency for Religious Issues and the President of the Georgian Chess Federation signed a memorandum of cooperation.

The memorandum envisages promotion of chess among clergymen and representatives of various religious organizations and, for this purpose, holding of annual chess championships among religious organizations, the implementation of joint programs and projects in the field of chess, etc.

Within the framework of the mentioned memorandum, on June 16-17, 2022, the first Interreligious Chess Championship of Georgia was held in Tbilisi Chess Palace, in which representatives of religious organizations registered in Georgia, both clergy and parishioners participated, in particular the representatives of: the Georgian Orthodox Church, the Administration of All Muslims of Georgia, the Georgian Diocese of the Armenian Apostolic Orthodox Church, the Apostolic Administration of the Caucasus, the Evangelical-Lutheran Church of Georgia, the Evangelical-Protestant Church of Georgia, the Jewish Union of Georgia, the International Baptist Church of Tbilisi, the Union of Baptist Churches of Georgia and the Spiritual Council of Yezidis.

The tournament ended with an award ceremony. The championship will become traditional.

### **Activities Carried out in the Format of the Interreligious Council**

The State Agency for Religious Issues closely cooperates with various religious associations to address the needs of religious minorities living in densely populated regions of Georgia. An Interreligious Council operates under the State Agency for Religious Issues, which is unique in its format and composition in Georgia, as it unites both the religious minority and the majority in Georgia. It is the active communication with this Council that ensures continuous exchange of information and raising the quality of cooperation between the State and religious organizations. Religious organizations that are members of the Interreligious Council are:

- Georgian Apostolic Autocephalous Orthodox Church;
- Administration of all Muslims of Georgia;
- Diocese of the Armenian Apostolic Orthodox Holy Church in Georgia;
- Apostolic Administration of the Caucasus;
- Jewish Union of Georgia;
- Tbilisi International Baptist Church;
- Union of Baptist Churches of Georgia;

- Evangelical-Lutheran Church of Georgia;
- Evangelical-Protestant Church of Georgia;
- Evangelical Faith Church of Georgia;
- Spiritual Council of Yazidis of Georgia;
- International Society for Krishna Consciousness.

In 2022, the State Agency for Religious Issues carried out a number of activities in the format of cooperation with the Interreligious Council. In particular: since the establishment of the Agency until 2022, 1006 sq.m. plot of land in Gori, with the church and buildings on it was given to the Evangelical-Protestant Church of Georgia. In 2022, with the help of the Agency, the Evangelical-Protestant Church received a permit and a project to build a temple. The State provided financial assistance to the Evangelical-Protestant Church and allocated GEL 15,000 for the construction of a new cult building. On December 9, 2022, they were additionally given 283 sq/m plot of land. Currently, a new temple is being built in Gori.

In 2021, on the recommendation of the Agency, 39 mosques were transferred to the Administration of All Muslims of Georgia and in 2022 - 21 mosques. In 2022, with the involvement and recommendation of the Agency, they were given state-owned 1,300 sq.m. plot of land in Tbilisi. Also, on the recommendation of the Agency, the project of the building to be built on the same plot of land was agreed with the architecture service of the Tbilisi City Hall, and permission was given to the Muslim community for the construction of a mosque and an administrative building.

**On the recommendation of the Agency, the Diocese of the Armenian Apostolic Orthodox Church of Georgia was provided financial assistance twice from the local budget, in the amount of GEL 20,000, for the purpose of rehabilitating two churches in Tbilisi.**

### **Institute of Chaplains**

In the format of cooperation with the Interreligious Council, on October 13, 2022, at the Administration of the Government of Georgia, on the initiative of the State Agency for Religious Issues and the Evangelical Faith Church of Georgia, a meeting was held to introduce and share the world practice of chaplaincy, which was attended by almost all religious organizations included in the Interreligious Council under the State Agency for Religious Issues, namely: the Georgian Orthodox Church, the Jewish Union of Georgia, the Administration of All Muslims of Georgia, the Armenian Apostolic Orthodox Church, the Apostolic Administration of the Caucasus, the Evangelical-Lutheran Church, the Evangelical-Protestant Church, the International Baptist Church of Tbilisi, the Union of Baptist Churches of Georgia, the Evangelical Faith Church, the Spiritual Council of Yezidis. Representatives of the Ministry of IDPs from the occupied territories of Georgia, the Ministry of Labor, Health and Social Protection, the Ministry of Justice of Georgia and the Ministry of Defense of Georgia were also present at the meeting. The event was organized by the State Agency for Religious Issues.

At the meeting, presentations were made by: the priest of the Church of the Mother of God, the United States Central Intelligence Agency Chaplain Greg Young, the head of the Canadian Chaplains' Association Bruce Ivanyshyn, the chaplain of the Toronto Police Pastor Hilar Alcock, the head of the Department of Human Rights Protection of the National Police of Ukraine, police colonel Ruslan Goryachenko and the head of the Public Organization of Chaplains of Ukraine, Pastor Yaroslav Malko.

As it became clear from the discussion, according to the Western practice, chaplain service, except for institutions with limited freedom is provided in a number of cases. Chaplaincy services are actively used by various agencies such as the armed forces, hospitals, fire and police departments. Accordingly, a chaplain is a person who, in order to realize the freedom of religion and belief guaranteed by the constitution, ensures the religious, spiritual, moral, psychological and ideological support of the staff and promotes the formation of an appropriate spiritual state, which, in turn, supports the personal stability of the staff.

The practice of developed countries shows that chaplain services are widely used and participate not only in solving the problems of soldiers, policemen, prisoners, employees of the penitentiary system and doctors, but also in realizing the constitutionally guaranteed rights of their family members in terms of belief and worldview, by satisfying their spiritual, religious, moral, psychological and ideological needs.

A few weeks after the mentioned meeting, the head of the "Patrol Chaplain" the president of "Global Christian Support" Yaroslav Malko, visited the chairman of the State Agency for Religious Issues. At the meeting, which was held at the Administration of the Government of Georgia, future cooperation was planned.

Within the framework of this cooperation, in order to learn and share practical experience of chaplaincy, the United States chaplaincy organization "Global Christian Support" (GCS) invited a group of 15 people staffed by the Agency. The participants of the trainings will have meetings with the structures related to the chaplain's service (judicial, police, defense and security services) and upon successful completion of the training, they will receive a chaplain's assistant certificate and after additional training - a chaplain's certificate.

On December 8, 2022, the State Agency for Religious Issues received a letter from the Administration of the Government of Georgia, regarding a new draft of the "Defense Code" initiated by the Ministry of Defense of Georgia which was sent to us. The State Agency for Religious Issues, within the scope of its competence, studied and submitted recommendations to the Administration of the Government of Georgia regarding the creation/development of the Institute of Chaplains, in particular: the right to request a meeting with a military chaplain should be added to the 5<sup>th</sup> part of Article 38 of the "Defense Code" draft. Also, the provision of religious needs of military personnel should be added as Article 43.

## **Project "State Language for Clergy"**

In 2022, after the pandemic, the project of state importance - "State Language for Clergy" was renewed, within the framework of which together with the School of State Administration named after Zurab Zhvania, the study of the State language continued for the clergy serving in Georgia, which began in 2019.

It should be noted that at the first stage, the clergy of the Muslim community of Georgia, the Armenian Apostolic Church and the Evangelical-Lutheran Church participated in the project. It is also worth noting that the employees of the State Agency for Religious Issues held seminars on human rights, religious diversity and religious organizations in Georgia for teachers of Z. Zhvania State Administration School.

On October 27, 2022 the presentation of the second stage of the project "State Language for Clergy" was held at the Administration of the Government of Georgia in which ethnic Azerbaijani Muslims living in Georgia, clergymen of the Evangelical-Lutheran Church and the Armenian Apostolic Orthodox Church of the Diocese of Georgia participated. It should be noted that the head of the Evangelical-Lutheran Church and two leaders of the Administration of All Muslims of Georgia, the sheikh and the mufti of Eastern Georgia, will master the State language through this project. Trainings will be held in Tbilisi, Marneuli, Mughanlo, Gardabani and Akhalkalaki.

Within the framework of the project, on October 28, 2022, for the second time at the Administration of the Government of Georgia, the employees of the State Agency for Religious Issues conducted a training on secularism and religious neutrality for the teachers of Z. Zhvania State Administration School.

A total of 100 clergymen have been trained since the beginning of the project, and the project is still ongoing.

### **Funding of Religious Organizations within the Framework of Compensation for the Damage Caused during the Soviet Totalitarian Regime**

Despite the fact that the State of Georgia is not a legal successor of the Soviet regime and therefore has no obligation to compensate for the damage caused during the Soviet totalitarian regime, within the framework of the Resolution N117 of the Government of Georgia of January 27, 2014, 4 religious denominations - Islamic, Jewish, Roman Catholic and Armenian-Apostolic religious associations get symbolic and partial compensation for the damage caused by the Soviet totalitarian regime, which is used for the development, integration and peaceful coexistence of religious communities in the country.

In addition, religious associations receive financial and property support from local budgets in order to meet the religious needs of their communities.

In addition to the existing funds, according to the decree N524 of the Government of Georgia dated March 24, 2022 for four religious associations (the Muslim Community of Georgia, the Apostolic Administration of the Caucasus, the Georgian Diocese of the Armenian Apostolic Orthodox Church, the Jewish Union of Georgia) 1 million GEL was added to 4.5 million GEL, that was until 2022, from the government's reserve fund. The amount added to the existing funding was distributed by the State Agency for Religious Issues as follows:

Islamic community of Georgia - 600,000 GEL

Armenian Apostolic Community of Georgia - 200,000 GEL

Roman Catholic Community of Georgia - 100,000 GEL

Jewish community of Georgia - 100,000 GEL

In total, during 2022, GEL 5.500000 (five million five hundred thousand) was allocated to four religious organizations. (See Table N1).

**Table N1**

Religious association	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	total
Muslim community	1 100 000	2 200 000	2 750 000	2 750 000	2 750 000	2 750 000	2 750 000	2 750 000	3 350 000	23 150 000
Catholic community	200 000	400 000	550 000	550 000	550 000	550 000	550 000	550 000	650 000	4 550 000
Armenian Apostolic Community	300 000	600 000	800 000	800 000	800 000	800 000	800 000	800 000	1 000 000	6 700 000
Jewish Community	150 000	300 000	400 000	400 000	400 000	400 000	400 000	400 000	500 000	3 350 000
<b>In total</b>	1 750 000	3 500 000	4 500 000	4 500 000	4 500 000	4 500 000	4 500 000	4 500 000	5 500 000	37 750 000

\*Amounts are given in GEL

In addition, religious associations receive financial and property assistance from local budgets to meet the religious needs of their community.

**Recommendatory Commission on Property and Financial Needs of Religious Associations**

**Recommendatory Commission Sessions**

In 2022, 5 sessions of the Recommendatory Commission on Property and Financial Needs of Religious Associations were held. In total, the Commission considered 186 issues, including:

Religious community	motion	satisfied	flaw	refused
Apostolic Autocephalous Orthodox Church of Georgia	154	129	11	14
Muslim community	22	22	0	0
Diocese of Armenian Apostolic Orthodox Church of Georgia	8	7	0	1
Armenian Catholic Ordinariate of Eastern Europe	1	0	1	0
Evangelical-Protestant Church	1	1	0	0

**March 18, 2022 – session I**

Religious community	motion	satisfied	flaw	refused
Apostolic Autocephalous Orthodox Church of Georgia	59	53	4	2
Muslim community	1	1		

**May 13, 2022 – session II**

Religious community	motion	satisfied	flaw	refused
Apostolic Autocephalous Orthodox Church of Georgia	35	26	4	5
Muslim community	10	10		
Armenian Catholic Ordinariate of Eastern Europe	1		1	

**July 22, 2022 – session III**

Religious community	motion	satisfied	flaw	refused
Apostolic Autocephalous Orthodox Church of Georgia	24	20	2	2
Diocese of Armenian Apostolic Orthodox Church of Georgia	3	3		

**November 1, 2022 – session IV**

Religious community	motion	satisfied	flaw	refused
Apostolic Autocephalous Orthodox Church of Georgia	23	20	1	2
Diocese of Armenian Apostolic Orthodox Church of Georgia	2	1		1

**December 9, 2022 – session V**

Religious community	motion	satisfied	flaw	refused
Apostolic Autocephalous Orthodox Church of Georgia	13	10		3
Muslim community	11	11		
Evangelical-Protestant Church	1	1		
Diocese of Armenian Apostolic Orthodox Church of Georgia	3	3		

## Various Meetings

On February 16, 2022, at the Administration of the Government of Georgia, the chairman of the State Agency for Religious Issues, Zaza Vashakmadze, held an introductory meeting with the temporary charge d'affaires of the Republic of Iran in Georgia, Mohammad Kobad Rad, and provided information on the projects implemented within the framework of the governmental action plan for human rights, the current situation in terms of freedom of religion and on current challenges. The guest took the initiative to sign a memorandum of cooperation between the Agency and Iran's Al-Mustafa University. Hassan Yousefzade Arbat, representative of Al-Mustafa University in Georgia, also attended the meeting.

On April 8, 2022, at the administration of the Government of Georgia, the Chairman of the State Agency for Religious Issues, Zaza Vashakmadze, met with the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Azerbaijan to Georgia, Faig Guliyev, the First Secretary of the Embassy Anar Rasulov and the Third Secretary Ramel Latifov. The meeting was attended by Metropolitan of Akhaltsikhe, Tao-Klarjeti and Lazeti Diocese, the temporary ruler of Khornabuji and Hereti Diocese Theodore (Chuadze) and head of St. George's Church in Kakhi priest Petre Khumarashvili. At the meeting, they discussed the issues of relationship between Georgia and the Republic of Azerbaijan in the field of religion, the possibility of signing of memorandums between the Agency and the State Committee on Religious Associations of Azerbaijan, and as well as between the Institute of Theology under the same committee and Tbilisi Theological Academy.

On April 13, 2022, at the Administration of the Government of Georgia, the Chairman of the State Agency for Religious Issues met with the OSCE High Commissioner for National Minorities, Kairat Abdrakhmanov. The chairman of the Agency informed the OSCE high commissioner about the activities carried out by the Agency in the field of religion and particularly noted the severe situation in terms of freedom of religion in the occupied territories of Georgia, the A/R of Abkhazia and the Tskhinvali region, the facts of persecution and harassment of the Georgian Orthodox Church, restriction of religious services, as well as encroachment of religious buildings in the regions occupied by the Russian side and the erasure of the Georgian cultural identity in them.

On May 20, 2022, at the Administration of the Government of Georgia, the Chairman of the State Agency for Religious Issues met with the experts of the European Committee against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI). The experts were interested in the current situation in Georgia in terms of combating religious intolerance and discrimination, the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on minority groups, and the measures taken by the government to minimize the effects of the pandemic.

On June 7, 2022, at the Administration of the Government of Georgia, the State Agency for Religious Issues hosted the delegation of the Republic of Azerbaijan, which included the deputy chairman of the counterpart organization, the State Committee on Religious Associations of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Sahib Nagiyev and the committee's staff, the Ambassador of Azerbaijan to Georgia, Faig Guliev, and

the employees of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan. The guests received comprehensive information about the religious policy of the State of Georgia, important changes and new challenges in this field, namely: on current projects, increased funding for religious organizations to compensate for the material and moral damage caused during the Soviet period, transfer of mosques and other important topics.

On June 22, 2022, the chairman of the State Agency for Religious Affairs, Zaza Vashakmadze, met with the world-famous British missionary, director and documentarian, Doctor of Theology, David Gordon Hathaway, who is popular in Georgia for the films "The Kidnapping of Europe" and "Who Owns Jerusalem?!". The British missionary was in Tbilisi at the invitation of the Evangelical Faith Church of Georgia.

On June 24, 2022, at the Administration of the Government of Georgia, the chairman of the State Agency for Religious Issues met with the Iranian politician, member of the Iranian Parliament, Mrs. Zohre Elahian. Zohre Elahian is a member of the Presidium of the National Security and Foreign Policy Commission of the Parliament, the Women's faction of the Parliament, she chairs the Non-governmental Organizations faction of the Parliament and the Human Rights Committee. At the beginning of the meeting, the chairman of the Agency briefed the guest about the activities of the Agency, its main functions and tasks. He also spoke about the religious policy of the State of Georgia and the traditionally tolerant relationships that have been established between the religious denominations in Georgia.

On August 10, 2022, the chairman of the State Agency for Religious Issues at the Administration of the Government of Georgia met with the head of the NATO Liaison Office in Georgia Alexander Vinikov. The chairman spoke about the creation and activities of the Agency, the demographic and ethnic characteristics of the religious communities of Georgia and on successful projects implemented by the State in the direction of freedom of religion. At the meeting, they discussed a visit of religious leaders to the NATO headquarters in Brussels, organized by the NATO Liaison Office.

On September 13, 2022, the OSCE delegation visited the State Agency for Religious Issues at the Administration of the Government of Georgia. In particular, the personal representative of the OSCE Chairmanship on combating racism, xenophobia and discrimination, intolerance and discrimination against Christians and representatives of other religions, Professor Regina Pollak, the personal representative of the OSCE Chairmanship on combating anti-Semitism, Rabbi Andrew Baker, the personal representative of the OSCE Chairmanship on Combating Intolerance and Discrimination against Muslims, Ambassador Ismail Hakki Musa, Special Adviser to the Polish Chairmanship of the OSCE, Ewa Sapiezynska, OSCE/ODIHR Adviser on Racism, Xenophobia, Tatiana Perichi and OSCE/ODIHR Adviser on Anti-Semitism, Mikolaj Ezhechenkovsky. The chairman briefly introduced the religious policy of the State of Georgia and the projects and activities of the Agency to the guests. He also specially noted the relationship between Georgians and Jews and emphasized the unique character of Georgian Islam, namely the fact that Georgian Shiites and Sunnis pray in the same mosque amid the world's conflict. The contribution of Georgian Catholics to the development of Georgian culture was also emphasized. The chairman of the Agency spoke about the situation of minority religions in Georgia and highlighted their fruitful cooperation in the format of the Interreligious Council which has no analogues in Georgia.

### **Relationship with the Religious Minorities and Charity Events**

The Agency systematically conducts charity event and assists the majority religious organizations in Georgia, as well as the minorities throughout the country. In 2022, a number of humanitarian aid was provided within the framework of the joint charity event of the Agency and the Union of Baptist Churches of Georgia. In particular:

On February 15, 2022, within the framework of the joint charity event of the State Agency for Religious Issues and the Union of Baptist Churches of Georgia, about 200 gift boxes were given to displaced children living in Gldani-Nadzaladevi district;

On February 17, 2022, the State Agency for Religious Issues held a charity event for the schoolchildren of St. Nino's Orthodox Gymnasium in the village of Sairkhe, Sachkhere district, who were given 20 school bags and 100 gift boxes;

On February 21, 2022, the State Agency for Religious Issues and the Union of Baptist Churches of Georgia held a charity event for the residents of Tsalka Diocese. 150 gift boxes and 30 school bags were given to children, as well as 70 boxes of clothes for both children and adults;

On February 24, 2022, the State Agency for Religious Issues held a charity event at St. King Vakhtang Gorgasali boarding school in Dedoplistskaro, the diocese of Khornabuji and Hereti and gave 200 gift boxes to the schoolchildren of the boarding school. On March 23, 2022, 25 boxes of clothes were additionally given to the same boarding school.

On March 25, 2022, the representatives of the State Agency for Religious Issues visited the 202<sup>nd</sup> Public School for the Blind and Visually Impaired in Tbilisi and gave various gifts, the third canonical book of the Old Testament "Leviticus" published by the Agency in Braille and annual interreligious calendar up to 50 schoolchildren.

On March 30, 2022, the representatives of the State Agency for Religious Issues visited the Ukrainian refugees living in the Hotel "Kopala" in Tskneti and gave them clothes, sweets and children's gift boxes;

On April 1, 2022, the representatives of the State Agency for Religious Issues and the International Baptist Church of Tbilisi visited the citizens of Ukraine staying at the Hotel "Kopala" on Rike and handed over clothes, sweets and children's gift boxes;

On April 4, 2022, the representatives of the State Agency for Religious Issues and the Union of Baptist Churches of Georgia visited the village of Salkhino, Martvili district, and gave 80 boxes of clothes and 120 boxes of school supplies to the schoolchildren of the boarding school named after Ambrosi Khelaia;

On April 28, 2022, the representatives of the State Agency for Religious Issues visited the Diocese of Borjomi and Bakuriani and presented 15 boxes of clothes and 25 children's gift boxes to the parishioners of the Diocese;

On August 30, 2022, the State Agency for Religious Issues and the Union of Baptist Churches of Georgia, within the framework of a joint charity event, assisted the beneficiaries of the International Humanitarian Union "Catharsis". About 460 socially vulnerable elderly and 133 Ukrainian refugees who joined "Catharsis" were given humanitarian aid from Germany;

On September 1, 2022, the State Agency for Religious Issues and the Union of Baptist Churches of Georgia held a joint charity event in the diocese of Chiatura and Sachkhere of the Orthodox Church of Georgia and the schoolchildren and teachers of St. Nino's Gymnasium in the village of Sairkhe were given humanitarian aid from Germany;

On November 5, 2022, the State Agency for Religious Issues and the Union of Baptist Churches of Georgia gave 40 boxes of clothes to the residents of Tsalka Diocese as part of a joint charity campaign;

On November 18, 2022, the State Agency for Religious Issues and the Union of Baptist Churches of Georgia handed over 40 boxes of clothing to the socially vulnerable population of Kaspi;

On November 25, 2022, the State Agency for Religious Issues and the Union of Baptist Churches of Georgia handed over 45 boxes of clothes to the socially vulnerable population of Chiatura and Sachkhere Diocese;

On December 22, 2022, the State Agency for Religious Issues and the Union of Baptist Churches of Georgia presented 40 boxes of clothes and 100 boxes of New Year's gifts to the schoolchildren of Father Giorgi Mtatsmindeli Gymnasium in Gori.

### **Meetings with the Representatives of the Diplomatic Corps**

The State Agency for Religious Issues traditionally actively cooperates with the representatives of the diplomatic corps, conducts introductory and working meetings and informs them about the Agency's activities, implemented projects and future plans. The following meetings were held in 2022, namely:

- With the Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador of the Hellenic Republic to Georgia, Maria Theodorou - 22.02.2022;
- With the Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador of the State of Qatar to Georgia, Hassan bin Ahmed Al Mutawa and the second secretary of the embassy, Nasser bin Saad Al Nuaimi - 24.03.2022;
- With the Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador of the Republic of Hungary to Georgia, Anna Maria Siko - 06.04.2022;
- With the Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador of the Kingdom of Sweden to Georgia, Ulrik Tideström - 18.05.2022;
- With Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador of the Republic of Bulgaria to Georgia, Veselin Valkanov - 07.07.2022;
- With the Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador of the Republic of Turkey to Georgia, Ali Kaan Orbai - 26.07.2022;
- With the Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador of the Republic of Iran to Georgia, Mahmoud Adib - 07.10.2022;
- With the Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador of the Republic of Armenia to Georgia, Ashot Smbatyan - 18.10.2022;
- With the Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador of the Republic of Latvia to Georgia, Edite Mednes - 31.10.2022;
- With the Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador of the State of Israel to Georgia, Hadas Meitzad - 21.11.2022;

- With the Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to Georgia, Peter Fischer - 15.12.2022.

## **Visits Abroad**

### **Visit to the Republic of Moldova**

On January 19, 2022, a delegation of the State Agency for Religious Issues visited the Republic of Moldova, within the framework of which meetings were held both with the representatives of the legislative and executive authorities, as well as with various religious leaders and the representatives of the counterpart organization of the Republic of Moldova, namely:

- 1) with the Deputy Minister of Culture of Moldova, who supervises the issues of religion in the Republic of Moldova, Ion Budechi - 19.01.2022;
- 2) with the Secretary General of the Ministry of Justice of Moldova, Stella Chobanu - 20.01.2022;
- 3) with the Chairperson of the Culture, Education, Research, Youth, Sports and Mass Media Committee of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova, Co-Chair of the Moldovan-Georgian Parliamentary Friendship Group, Liliana Nicolaescu-Onofrey - 21.01.2022;
- 4) with the Chairperson of the Committee on Legal Affairs, Immunity and Appointments of the Parliament of Moldova, Olesia Stamati - 21.01.2022;
- 5) with the Metropolitan of Bessarabia, Petru Paduraru - 22.01.2022;
- 6) with the Bishop of the Catholic Church of Moldova, Anton Kosha - 22.01.2022;
- 7) with the Director of the Moldovan Jewish Cultural Center, "Kedemi", Daria Kotorobai and the Rabbi of the Jewish Community of Moldova, Daniel Isaacson - 22.01.2022.

### **Visit to the Republic of Azerbaijan**

On the initiative and organization of the State Agency for Religious Issues, in 2022, two visits related to St. George's Day were paid to the Republic of Azerbaijan on May 6 and November 23. As part of the visit, a delegation went to the Kakhi region of Azerbaijan, which included the Metropolitan of Akhaltsikhe and Tao-Klarjeti of the Patriarchate of Georgia, the temporary ruler of the Diocese of Khornabuji, Hereti and Nekresi, Metropolitan Theodore (Chuadze) and representatives of the Patriarchate, nuns and chanters, as well as the representatives of the Parliament, Kakheti Administration, the City Hall and City Assembly of Lagodekhi and Dedoplistskaro Municipalities, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Georgia to Azerbaijan, Zurab Pataradze, Chairman of the State Agency for Religious Issues, Zaza Vashakmadze and Agency staff.

Members of the delegation visited St. George's Church in Kakhi district and St. George's Church of Kurmukhi, where they attended the religious service, which was conducted by the Metropolitan of Akhaltsikhe and Tao-Klarjeti, Theodore (Chuadze) and the leader of St. George's Church in Kakhi, priest Petre Khumarashvili.

### **Visit to the Republic of Poland**

On September 26, the "Warsaw Human Dimension Conference" was opened in Warsaw, the capital of Poland, which was organized by the current Polish Chairmanship of the OSCE and supported by the OSCE Democratic Institutions and Human Rights Office. The conference lasted for ten days and covered such important topics as human rights and fundamental freedoms within the framework of the OSCE.

On September 28, the topic of the plenary session was fundamental freedoms, which refers to issues such as freedom of religion and belief, freedom of assembly and association, human rights defenders and freedom of movement.

The delegation of the State Agency for Religious Issues, consisting of the chairman of the Agency, Zaza Vashakmadze, and the senior specialist of the Legal Maintenance Office, Davit Davitashvili, took part in the work of the session. Davit Davitashvili gave a speech at the session and spoke about the religious policy of the State of Georgia, the projects and activities implemented by the Agency.

On September 29, the conference session was dedicated to the topic "Tolerance and Non-discrimination" - the fight against racism, xenophobia, discrimination and intolerance, including on the basis of religion and belief. The chairman of the State Agency for Religious Issues, Zaza Vashakmadze, and the senior specialist of the Legal Maintenance Office, Davit Davitashvili, took part in the work of the session. The format of the conference provided for side events, the topic of which had to be in line with the topic of the plenary session on that day, which allowed the participants to single out any specific issue from the human dimension commitments of the OSCE and focus on it. At the side event of the session on September 29, the chairman of the Agency gave a speech to the audience about the facts of violation of the right to life, religion, expression, education in the native language, freedom of movement of Georgians by nationality and Orthodox by confession, as well as about the cases of intimidation of the population and encroachment of religious holy places in the occupied territories of Georgia, the Autonomous Republic of Abkhazia and the Tskhinvali region.

### **Visit to Switzerland**

On November 23-24, 2022, in Geneva, Switzerland, a review of the combined 9th and 10th periodic reports submitted by Georgia to the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination on the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination was held.

The inter-agency delegation participating in the discussion was led by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia, which brought together the representatives of various agencies, including the chief specialist of the Legal Maintenance Office, Davit Davitashvili, from the State Agency for Religious Issues. The committee was provided with information about the human rights protection strategy, the measures implemented in the fight against discrimination and hatred, human rights violations as a result of the occupation of Georgian territories by Russia, and the facts of ethnic and religious discrimination of Georgians. Also, the issues were related to the steps taken to protect the rights of ethnic minorities, foreigners, stateless persons, migrants, refugees, forcibly displaced persons and Roma and others.

The members of the Committee thanked the delegation of Georgia for openness and involvement, as well as for constructive and productive dialogue and positively evaluated the reforms implemented by the country.

### **Relationship with Media**

The State Agency for Religious Issues considers an open and transparent relationship with the media as a priority.

Any publications of the Agency, interreligious calendar and religious maps are uploaded on the website of the Agency.

Any activity of the Agency's representatives: meetings, visits, conferences, participation in various events is uploaded on the Agency's web page, "Facebook", "Twitter" and is aired and transmitted by the media outlets, through the news agency "Interpressnews".

In the reporting period, in 2022, 272 information with their photos was spread. In total, in 2020-2022, 727 information with their photos was aired.

In 2022, 53 information in English was disseminated through "Twitter". In total, during 2020-2022, 125 English-language information was aired.

The Agency actively cooperates with the news agency "Interpressnews". In the reporting period, in 2022, 258 pieces of information were covered. In total, in 2020-2022, "Interpressnews" disseminated 585 pieces of information with photos.

The events of the Agency were covered by various TV channels. In 2022, 46 events were covered. In total, in 2020-2022, 157 TV stories were broadcast.

## **Appendix - information on the expenses of the LEPL State Agency for Religious Issues**

In 2022, 34 (thirty four) contracts were signed for administrative expenses, including 8 (eight) contracts under consolidated tender, 6 (six) contracts under electronic tender and 20 (twenty) contracts under simplified purchase.

The electronic declarations are submitted on a monthly basis in accordance with the deadlines set by the legislation in force.

On a quarterly basis the budget execution report is submitted to the Ministry of Finance of Georgia electronically (<https://www.ebudget.ge/>).

The plan (EPLAN), all the contracts and all the documents confirming the contract costs are electronically uploaded to the State Procurement Agency, both on CMR and SPA.

6 (six) electronic tenders were implemented. Technical documentation, relevant protocols, contracts, executions and payments have been uploaded within the time limits established by the law.

34 (thirty four) administrative contracts (organizational code 5001) and 12 (twelve) contracts signed with different religious organizations (organizational code 5002) (LEPL Administration of Muslims of all Georgia (3), LEPL Union of Georgian Jews (3), LEPL Diocese of the Armenian Apostolic Orthodox Holy Church in Georgia (3) and LEPL Apostolic Administration of the Caucasus (3)) have been registered at the Treasury Service of the Ministry of Finance of Georgia.

Information on financial situation in 2022

LEPL State Agency for Religious Issues

Organizational code	name	Approved plan for 2022	Cash flow	Performance percentage against approved cash flow plan
<b>5000</b>	LEPL –State Agency for Religious Issues	<b>6,388,800</b>	<b>6,373,751</b>	99.76%
	The number of employees	22		
	total	6,388,800	6,373,751	99.76%
<b>2</b>	expenses	6,378,800	6,364,247	99.77%
2.1	salary	646,800	643,704	99.52%
2.2	Goods and services	228,000	217,163	95.25%
2.5	subsidies	5,500,000	5,500,000	100.00%
<b>2.7</b>	Social maintenance	3,000	2,710	90.33%
<b>2.8</b>	Other expenses	1,000	670	67.00%
<b>3.1</b>	Growth of non-financial assets	10,000	9,504	95.04%
<b>5001</b>	<b>LEPL State Agency for Religious Issues - administrative expenses</b>	<b>888,800</b>	<b>873,751</b>	98.31%
	The number of employees	22		
	total	888,800	873,751	98.31%
<b>2</b>	expenses	878,800	864,247	98.34%
2.1	salary	646,800	643,704	99.52%
2.2	Goods and services	228,000	217,163	95.25%
2.2.1	Salary of freelancers		80,657	
2.2.2	business trip		27,657	
2.2.3	Office expenses		37,312	
2.2.4	Representative expenses		1,960	
2.2.6	Medical expenses		310	
2.2.8	Operation and maintenance costs of transport, equipment and tools		44,638	
2.2.10	The rest of the expenditure on other goods and services		24,629	

<b>2.7</b>	Social maintenance	3,000	2,710	90.33%
<b>2.8</b>	Other expenses	1,000	670	67.00%
<b>3.1</b>	Growth of non-financial assets	10,000	9,504	95.04%
<b>5002</b>	Financing of religious associations	<b>5,500,000</b>	<b>5,500,000</b>	100.00%
<b>2.5</b>	Expenditures - Budgetary funds without funds	4,500,000	4,500,000	100.00%
<b>2.5</b>	subsidies	4,500,000	4,500,000	100.00%
<b>2.5</b>	Government Reserve Fund	1,000,000	1,000,000	100.00%
<b>2.5</b>	subsidies	1,000,000	1,000,000	100.00%

### Information of Business trips within the country in 2022

#### 205311232 - LEPL State Agency for Religious Issues

Business trips within the country						
Business trip document	date	place of business trip	Name and surname	Expense type	number of days	amount
Order_3/1	10 / 1 / 2022	Georgia - Sachkhere	Zaza Vashakmadze	Daily costs	1	<b>30.00</b>
Order_3/1	10 / 1 / 2022	Georgia - Sachkhere	Nino Chavchavadze	Daily costs	1	<b>30.00</b>
Order_5/1	11 / 1 / 2022	Georgia - Sachkhere	Aleksandre Shekiladze	Daily costs	1	<b>30.00</b>
Order_5/1	11 / 1 / 2022	Georgia - Sachkhere	Lasha Mchedlidze	Daily costs	1	<b>30.00</b>
Order_4/1	11 / 1 / 2022	Georgia - Sachkhere	Avtandil Kvernadze	Daily costs	1	<b>30.00</b>
Order_4/1	11 / 1 / 2022	Georgia - Batumi	Abesalom Aslanidze	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
Order_8/1	12 / 1 / 2022	Georgia - Batumi	Abesalom Aslanidze	travel expenses		<b>60.00</b>
Order_8/1	12 / 1 / 2022	Georgia-Tsalka	Zaza Vashakmadze	Daily costs	1	<b>30.00</b>

Order_9/1	14 / 1 / 2022	Georgia-Tsalka	Nino Chavchavadze	Daily costs	1	<b>30.00</b>
Order_9/1	14 / 1 / 2022	Georgia-Tsalka	Vaja Artmeladze	Daily costs	1	<b>30.00</b>
Order_9/1	14 / 1 / 2022	Georgia-Tsalka	Zviad Tkabladze	Daily costs	1	<b>30.00</b>
Order_9/1	14 / 1 / 2022	Georgia - Batumi	Abesalom Aslanidze	Daily costs	5	<b>150.00</b>
Order_9/1	14 / 1 / 2022	Georgia - Batumi	Abesalom Aslanidze	travel expenses		<b>69.00</b>
Order_9/1	14 / 1 / 2022	Georgia - Batumi	Abesalom Aslanidze	Hotel expenses	4	<b>400.00</b>
Order_9/1	14 / 1 / 2022	Georgia-Borjomi	Natela Gudadze	Daily costs	4	<b>120.00</b>
Order_9/1	14 / 1 / 2022	Georgia-Borjomi	Davit Davitashvili	Daily costs	4	<b>120.00</b>
Order_9/1	14 / 1 / 2022	Georgia-Borjomi	Zaza Vashakmadze	Daily costs	1	<b>30.00</b>
Order_9/1	14 / 1 / 2022	Georgia-Borjomi	Aleksandre Shekiladze	Daily costs	4	<b>120.00</b>
Order_13/1	26 / 1 / 2022	Georgia-Borjomi	Vaja Artmeladze	Daily costs	1	<b>30.00</b>
Order_22/1	25 / 2 / 2022	Georgia-Adigeni	Zaza Vashakmadze	Daily costs	1	<b>30.00</b>
Order_22/1	25 / 2 / 2022	Georgia-Adigeni	Zaza Vashakmadze	Daily costs	1	<b>30.00</b>
Order_22/1	25 / 2 / 2022	Georgia-Adigeni	Zaza Vashakmadze	Hotel expenses	1	<b>120.00</b>
Order_22/1	25 / 2 / 2022	Georgia-Adigeni	Vaja Artmeladze	Daily costs	1	<b>30.00</b>
Order_22/1	25 / 2 / 2022	Georgia-Adigeni	Lasha Mchedlidze	Daily costs	1	<b>30.00</b>

Order _22/1	25 / 2 / 2022	Georgia- Adigeni	Lasha Mchedlidze	Daily costs	1	<b>30.00</b>
Order _32/1	28 / 3 / 2022	Georgia- Adigeni	Lasha Mchedlidze	Hotel expenses	1	<b>120.00</b>
Order _32/1	28 / 3 / 2022	Georgia- Adigeni	Sergo Parulava	Daily costs	1	<b>30.00</b>
Order _35/1	31 / 3 / 2022	Georgia- Adigeni	Zviad Tkabladze	Daily costs	1	<b>30.00</b>
Order _35/1	31 / 3 / 2022	Georgia- Gardabani	Lasha Mchedlidze	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
Order _35/1	31 / 3 / 2022	Georgia- Gardabani	Zviad Tkabladze	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
Order _35/1	31 / 3 / 2022	Georgia- Akhaltzikhe	Giorgi Patashuri	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
Order _41/1	14 / 4 / 2022	Georgia- Akhaltzikhe	Aleksandre Shekiladze	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
Order _41/1	14 / 4 / 2022	Georgia- Tetritskaro	Abai Pashaev	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
Order _48/1	27 / 4 / 2022	Georgia- Tetritskaro	Lasha Mchedlidze	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
Order _62/1	23 / 5 / 2022	Georgia-Kvareli	Davit Davitashvili	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
Order _62/1	23 / 5 / 2022	Georgia-Kvareli	Avtandil Kvernadze	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
Order _62/1	23 / 5 / 2022	Georgia-Kutaisi	Aleksandre Shekiladze	Daily costs	2	<b>30.00</b>
Order _64/1	30 / 5 / 2022	Georgia-Kutaisi	Aleksandre Shekiladze	Hotel expenses	1	<b>100.00</b>
Order _73/1	17 / 6 / 2022	Georgia-Kutaisi	Lasha Mchedlidze	Daily costs	2	<b>30.00</b>
Order _76/1	21 / 6 / 2022	Georgia-Kutaisi	Lasha Mchedlidze	Hotel expenses	1	<b>100.00</b>

Order _81/1	8 / 7 / 2022	Georgia - Sachkhere	Nino Chavchavadze	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
Order _81/1	8 / 7 / 2022	Georgia - Sachkhere	Lasha Mchedlidze	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
Order _81/1	8 / 7 / 2022	Georgia - Batumi	Abesalom Aslanidze	Daily costs	5	<b>150.00</b>
Order _81/1	8 / 7 / 2022	Georgia - Batumi	Abesalom Aslanidze	travel expenses		<b>69.00</b>
Order _81/1	8 / 7 / 2022	Georgia - Batumi	Abesalom Aslanidze	Hotel expenses	4	<b>400.00</b>
Order _81/1	8 / 7 / 2022	Georgia-Tsalka	Natela Gudadze	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
Order _81/1	8 / 7 / 2022	Georgia-Tsalka	Nino Asatiani	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
Order _81/1	8 / 7 / 2022	Georgia-Tsalka	Nino Chavchavadze	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
Order _81/1	8 / 7 / 2022	Georgia-Tsalka	Omar Chikadze	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
Order _81/1	8 / 7 / 2022	Georgia-Kutaisi	Zaza Vashakmadze	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
Order _81/1	8 / 7 / 2022	Georgia-Kutaisi	Omar Chikadze	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
Order _81/1	8 / 7 / 2022	Georgia-Kaspi	Nino Chavchavadze	Daily costs	1	<b>30.00</b>
Order _81/1	8 / 7 / 2022	Georgia-Kaspi	Lasha Mchedlidze	Daily costs	1	<b>30.00</b>
Order _81/1	8 / 7 / 2022	Georgia- Dusheti	Giorgi Patashuri	Daily costs	2	<b>60.00</b>
Order _81/1	8 / 7 / 2022	Georgia- Dusheti	Aleksandre Shekiladze	Daily costs	1	<b>30.00</b>
Order _81/1	8 / 7 / 2022	Georgia- Dusheti	Omar Chikadze	Daily costs	1	<b>30.00</b>

Order _81/1	8 / 7 / 2022	Georgia-Kaspi	Zaza Vashakmadze	Daily costs	1	<b>30.00</b>
Order _81/1	8 / 7 / 2022	Georgia-Kaspi	Vaja Artemladze	Daily costs	1	<b>30.00</b>
Order _81/1	8 / 7 / 2022	Georgia - Sachkhere	Davit Davitashvili	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
Order _94/1	22 / 7 / 2022	Georgia - Sachkhere	Zaza Vashakmadze	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
Order _94/1	22 / 7 / 2022	Georgia - Sachkhere	Nino Chavchavadze	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
Order _101/1	29 / 7 / 2022	Georgia - Sachkhere	Omar Chikadze	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
Order _112/1	24 / 8 / 2022	Georgia-Tianeti	Zaza Vashakmadze	Daily costs	1	<b>30.00</b>
Order _113/1	25 / 8 / 2022	Georgia-Tianeti	Vaja Artemladze	Daily costs	1	<b>30.00</b>
Order _113/1	25 / 8 / 2022	Georgia-Gori	Zaza Vashakmadze	Daily costs	1	<b>30.00</b>
Order _114/1	26 / 8 / 2022	Georgia-Gori	Giorgi Patashuri	Daily costs	1	<b>30.00</b>
Order _114/1	26 / 8 / 2022	Georgia-Gori	Nino Chavchavadze	Daily costs	1	<b>30.00</b>
Order _114/1	26 / 8 / 2022	Georgia-Gori	Vaja Artemladze	Daily costs	1	<b>30.00</b>
Order _117/1	31 / 8 / 2022	Georgia- Dedoplistskaro	Lela Chipashvili	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
Order _117/1	31 / 8 / 2022	Georgia- Dedoplistskaro	Nino Asatiani	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
Order _117/1	31 / 8 / 2022	Georgia- Dedoplistskaro	Zaza Vashakmadze	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
Order _115/1	31 / 8 / 2022	Georgia- Dedoplistskaro	Marine Mazmishvili	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>

Order _115/1	31 / 8 / 2022	Georgia- Dedoplistskaro	Omar Chikadze	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
Order _115/1	31 / 8 / 2022	Georgia- Dedoplistskaro	Avtandil Kvernadze	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
Order _115/1	31 / 8 / 2022	Georgia - Batumi	Davit Davitashvili	Daily costs	3	<b>45.00</b>
Order _115/1	31 / 8 / 2022	Georgia - Batumi	Davit Davitashvili	Hotel expenses	2	<b>200.00</b>
Order _115/1	31 / 8 / 2022	Georgia - Batumi	Zaza Vashakmadze	Daily costs	3	<b>45.00</b>
Order _133/1	5 / 10 / 2022	Georgia - Batumi	Zaza Vashakmadze	Hotel expenses	2	<b>200.00</b>
Order _133/1	5 / 10 / 2022	Georgia - Batumi	Aleksandre Shekiladze	Daily costs	3	<b>45.00</b>
Order _140/1	19 / 10 / 2022	Georgia - Batumi	Aleksandre Shekiladze	Hotel expenses	2	<b>200.00</b>
Order _140/1	19 / 10 / 2022	Georgia - Batumi	Omar Chikadze	Daily costs	3	<b>45.00</b>
Order _140/1	19 / 10 / 2022	Georgia - Batumi	Omar Chikadze	Hotel expenses	2	<b>200.00</b>
Order _144/1	2 / 11 / 2022	Georgia-Kaspi	Giorgi Patashuri	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
Order _144/1	2 / 11 / 2022	Georgia-Kaspi	Omar Chikadze	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
Order _144/1	2 / 11 / 2022	Georgia - Sachkhere	Giorgi Patashuri	Daily costs	1	<b>30.00</b>
Order _144/1	2 / 11 / 2022	Georgia - Sachkhere	Nino Chavchavadze	Daily costs	1	<b>30.00</b>
Order _144/1	2 / 11 / 2022	Georgia- Adigeni	Lela Chipashvili	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
Order _146/1	4 / 11 / 2022	Georgia- Adigeni	Nino Asatiani	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>

Order _146/1	4 / 11 / 2022	Georgia- Adigeni	Davit Davitashvili	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
Order _146/1	4 / 11 / 2022	Georgia- Adigeni	Zaza Vashakmadze	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
Order _146/1	4 / 11 / 2022	Georgia- Adigeni	Marine Mazmishvili	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
Order _148/1	7 / 11 / 2022	Georgia- Adigeni	Aleksandre Shekiladze	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
Order _148/1	7 / 11 / 2022	Georgia- Adigeni	Grigoli Mumlauri	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
Order _148/1	7 / 11 / 2022	Georgia- Adigeni	Omar Chikadze	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
Order _148/1	7 / 11 / 2022	Georgia- Adigeni	Lasha Mchedlidze	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
Order _148/1	7 / 11 / 2022	Georgia-Kaspi	Giorgi Patashuri	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
Order _150/1	8 / 11 / 2022	Georgia-Kaspi	Konstantine Chrdileli	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
Order _150/1	8 / 11 / 2022	Georgia- Ambrolauri	Giorgi Patashuri	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
Order _150/1	8 / 11 / 2022	Georgia- Ambrolauri	Omar Chikadze	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
Order _150/1	8 / 11 / 2022	Georgia - Batumi	Zaza Vashakmadze	Daily costs	8	<b>120.00</b>
Order _150/1	8 / 11 / 2022	Georgia - Batumi	Zaza Vashakmadze	Hotel expenses	7	<b>840.00</b>
Order _150/1	8 / 11 / 2022	Georgia - Batumi	Omar Chikadze	Daily costs	8	<b>120.00</b>
Order _150/1	8 / 11 / 2022	Georgia - Batumi	Omar Chikadze	Hotel expenses	7	<b>840.00</b>
Order _150/1	8 / 11 / 2022	Georgia- Borjomi	Nino Chavchavadze	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>

Order _150/1	8 / 11 / 2022	Georgia- Borjomi	Omar Chikadze	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
Order _156/1	17 / 11 / 2022	Georgia-Gori	Omar Chikadze	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
Order _156/1	17 / 11 / 2022	Georgia-Gori	Lasha Mchedlidze	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
Order _161/1	21 / 11 / 2022	Georgia-Gori	Zaza Vashakmadze	Daily costs	1	<b>30.00</b>
Order _160/1	21 / 11 / 2022	Georgia-Gori	Vaja Artemeladze	Daily costs	1	<b>30.00</b>
Order _160/1	21 / 11 / 2022	Georgia-Gori	Omar Chikadze	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
Order _165/1	28 / 11 / 2022	Georgia- Dusheti	Giorgi Patashuri	Daily costs	1	<b>30.00</b>
Order _165/1	28 / 11 / 2022	Georgia- Dusheti	Vaja Artemeladze	Daily costs	1	<b>30.00</b>
Order _167/1	30 / 11 / 2022	Georgia- Martvili	Nino Chavchavadze	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
Order _167/1	30 / 11 / 2022	Georgia- Martvili	Marine Mazmishvili	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
Order _168/1	5 / 12 / 2022	Georgia- Martvili	Omar Chikadze	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
Order _168/1	5 / 12 / 2022	Georgia- Martvili	Lasha Mchedlidze	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
Order _172/1	19 / 12 / 2022	Georgia - Sachkhere	Nato oniani	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
Order _172/1	19 / 12 / 2022	Georgia - Sachkhere	Nino Asatiani	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
Order _174/1	21 / 12 / 2022	Georgia - Sachkhere	Nino Chavchavadze	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
Order _174/1	21 / 12 / 2022	Georgia - Sachkhere	Marine Mazmishvili	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>

Order _174/1	21 / 12 / 2022	Georgia - Sachkhere	Sergo Parulava	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
Order _174/1	21 / 12 / 2022	Georgia - Sachkhere	Zviad Tkabladze	Daily costs	1	<b>15.00</b>
business trips within the country in total in 2022						<b>7,053.00</b>

business trip abroad						
<b>Business trip document</b>	<b>date</b>	<b>place of business trip</b>	<b>Name and Surname</b>	<b>Expense type</b>	<b>number of days</b>	<b>amount</b>
Order _2/1	10/01/2022	Moldova- Chisinau	Davit Davitashvili	Daily costs	4	<b>434.00</b>
Order _2/1	10/01/2022	Moldova- Chisinau	Davit Davitashvili	travel expenses		<b>1,126.58</b>
Order _2/1	10/01/2022	Moldova- Chisinau	Davit Davitashvili	Hotel expenses	3	<b>1,013.70</b>
Order _2/1	10/01/2022	Moldova- Chisinau	Zaza Vashakmadze	Daily costs	4	<b>378.00</b>
Order _2/1	10/01/2022	Moldova- Chisinau	Zaza Vashakmadze	travel expenses		<b>1,130.22</b>
Order _2/1	10/01/2022	Moldova- Chisinau	Zaza Vashakmadze	Hotel expenses	3	<b>1,102.50</b>
Order _2/1	10/01/2022	Moldova- Chisinau	Gvantsa Tskhovrebadze	Daily costs	4	<b>434.00</b>
Order _2/1	10/01/2022	Moldova- Chisinau	Gvantsa Tskhovrebadze	travel expenses		<b>1,130.22</b>
Order _2/1	10/01/2022	Moldova- Chisinau	Gvantsa Tskhovrebadze	Hotel expenses	3	<b>1,013.70</b>
Order _50/1	28/04/2022	Azerbaijan- Kakhi	Lela Chipashvili	Daily costs	1	<b>106.81</b>
Order _50/1	28/04/2022	Azerbaijan- Kakhi	Zaza Vashakmadze	Daily costs	1	<b>106.81</b>

Order_50/1	28/04/2022	Azerbaijan-Kakhi	Giorgi Patashuri	Daily costs	1	<b>106.81</b>
Order_50/1	28/04/2022	Azerbaijan-Kakhi	Gvantsa Tskhovrebadze	Daily costs	1	<b>106.81</b>
Order_50/1	28/04/2022	Azerbaijan-Kakhi	Omar Chikadze	Daily costs	1	<b>106.81</b>
Order_50/1	28/04/2022	Azerbaijan-Kakhi	Avtandil Kvernadze	Daily costs	1	<b>106.81</b>
Order_50/1	28/04/2022	Azerbaijan-Kakhi	Sergo Parulava	Daily costs	1	<b>106.81</b>
Order_50/1	28/04/2022	Azerbaijan-Kakhi	Zviad Tkabladze	Daily costs	1	<b>106.81</b>
Order_120/1	09/09/2022	Poland-Warsaw	Davit Davitashvili	Daily costs	3	<b>299.25</b>
Order_120/1	09/09/2022	Poland-Warsaw	Davit Davitashvili	travel expenses		<b>1,560.00</b>
Order_120/1	09/09/2022	Poland-Warsaw	Davit Davitashvili	Hotel expenses	2	<b>655.50</b>
Order_120/1	09/09/2022	Poland-Warsaw	Zaza Vashakmadze	Daily costs	3	<b>230.85</b>
Order_120/1	09/09/2022	Poland-Warsaw	Zaza Vashakmadze	travel expenses		<b>1,560.00</b>
Order_120/1	09/09/2022	Poland-Warsaw	Zaza Vashakmadze	Hotel expenses	2	<b>655.50</b>
Order_158/1	18/11/2022	Azerbaijan-Kakhi	Lela Chipashvili	Daily costs	1	<b>122.35</b>
Order_158/1	18/11/2022	Azerbaijan-Kakhi	Nino Asatiani	Daily costs	1	<b>122.35</b>
Order_158/1	18/11/2022	Azerbaijan-Kakhi	Zaza Vashakmadze	Daily costs	1	<b>122.35</b>
Order_158/1	18/11/2022	Azerbaijan-Kakhi	Giorgi Patashuri	Daily costs	1	<b>122.35</b>
Order_158/1	18/11/2022	Azerbaijan-Kakhi	Marine Mazmishvili	Daily costs	1	<b>122.35</b>

Order _158/1	18/11/2022	Azerbaijan- Kakhi	Vaja Artmeladze	Daily costs	1	<b>122.35</b>
Order _158/1	18/11/2022	Azerbaijan- Kakhi	Avtandil Kvernadze	Daily costs	1	<b>122.35</b>
Order _159/1	21/11/2022	Switzerland- Geneva	Davit Davitashvili	Daily costs	4	<b>1,094.32</b>
Order _159/1	21/11/2022	Switzerland- Geneva	Davit Davitashvili	travel expenses		<b>2,652.50</b>
Order _159/1	21/11/2022	Switzerland- Geneva	Davit Davitashvili	Hotel expenses	3	<b>1,877.04</b>
Order _159/1	21/11/2022	Switzerland- Geneva	Davit Davitashvili	Hotel expenses	1	<b>543.91</b>
business trip abroad in total in 2022						<b>20,602.72</b>

#### **Financing of Religious Associations (confessions) in 2022**

Name of the Organization	2022 budget	2022 Government Reserve Fund	2022 Total: including Government Reserve Fund
LEPL – Administration of All Muslims of Georgia	2,750,000	600,000	3,350,000
LEPL – Apostolic Administration of the Caucasus	550,000	100,000	650,000
LEPL – Diocese of the Armenian Apostolic Orthodox Holy Church in Georgia	800,000	200,000	1,000,000
LEPL – Union of Georgian Jews	400,000	100,000	500,000
total	4,500,000	1,000,000	5,500,000

## Correspondence in 2022

### Statistics of proceedings of the State Agency for Religious Issues for 2022

Correspondence in 2022	quantity
Incoming correspondence	424
Outgoing correspondence	1022
Personnel orders	71
Orders of business trip/leave of absence	178
Organizational orders	78
Internal memorandum report	240