



TI GEORGIA MONITORED VOTING BY PRELIMINARY DETAINEES THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY

- Only 7% of preliminary detainees were able to exercise their constitutional right to vote for the reasons beyond their control
- On voting day all prisons were transferred under the strict regime

Tbilisi, Georgia - On 5 January 2008 Transparency International Georgia (TI Georgia) deployed its observers to eight preliminary detention facilities throughout the country to monitor voting by preliminary detainees registered in these facilities. According to Georgia's legislation, preliminary detainees (as opposed to convicts) have the right to vote. The legislation also stipulates that in order to cast their votes they are required to present their ID cards or passports to the precinct election commission representatives like all other voters.

TI Georgia's monitors conducted monitoring in all eight prisons (including the prison hospital in Tbilisi), which had preliminary detainees. These were: Prisons No. 1 and 5 in Krtsanisi District (Tbilisi), the Prison Hospital in Krtsanisi District (Tbilisi), Prison No. 8 in Gldani District (Tbilisi), the Women's Colony in Isani District (Tbilisi), Prison No. 4 in Zugdidi District (Samegrelo region), Prison No. 3 in Khelvachauri District (Ajara region), and Prison No. 2 in Kutaisi District (Imereti region).

The total number of registered preliminary detainees in these eight establishments was 2,152. However, because the vast majority of the detainees had no IDs or passports with them, only 149 were able to cast votes on January 5th. According to the prison administrators, some of the detainees had their IDs and passports at home; others' IDs and passports were included in their official investigation folders kept by investigators (prosecutor's office). As a result, out of 2,152 detainees only 7% of them were able to vote, as only this 7% had IDs or passports. The remaining 93% who had no IDs or passports with them were unable to exercise their constitutional right to vote for reasons beyond their control.

TI Georgia did not observe any procedural violations in the preliminary detentions, except for in Prison No. 1 in Krtsanisi, where four detainees were allowed to vote without presenting IDs or passports. Rather, the important problem concerning preliminary detainees was that the absolute majority was deprived of the constitutional right to participate in electing the president. This problem could have been resolved in advance of the elections by informing the detainees that they would be required to have their IDs or passports in order to be able to receive ballot papers, and by asking their family members to deliver these documents to them, as well as by requesting the investigators to temporarily return the withheld documents to their owners. Unfortunately, the Ministry of Justice and the Central Election Commission failed to address this problem in a timely manner in preparation for the snap presidential elections.

Along with monitoring voting by preliminary detainees, TI Georgia monitored voting by prison personnel as well. As this monitoring revealed, on election day all prisons were transformed under the so-called *strict regime* and accordingly, all prison employees were registered to vote at their places of employment and not at their residences. Even those employees who were not on duty on election day had to go to their places of employment in order to vote, as they were added to the voter lists in those precincts. Voting results in these polling stations varied considerably from voting results in other polling stations in the same election district. Overall, Saakashvili received 92.2% of votes in these polling stations.





Voting Results by Prisons

Below you will find the voting results in the prison precincts and the summary of results for the districts where these precincts were located:

Krtsanisi 47, Prison Results		Krtsanisi 48, Prison Results		Krtsanisi District Results Summary	
Candidates	Votes	Candidates	Votes	Candidates	Votes
1. Gachechiladze	34 (9%)	1. Gachechiladze	42 (6%)	1. Gachechiladze	28.25%
2. Patarkatsishvili	5	2. Patarkatsishvili	6	2. Patarkatsishvili	6.29%
3. Gamkrelidze	5	3. Gamkrelidze	5	3. Gamkrelidze	3.95%
4. Natelashvili	6	4. Natelashvili	20	4. Natelashvili	5.51%
5. Saakashvili	347 (94%)	5. Saakashvili	585 (88%)	5. Saakashvili	50.76%
6. Maisashvili	1	6. Maisashvili	4	6. Maisashvili	0.99%
7. Sarishvili	0	7. Sarishvili	0	7. Sarishvili	0.13%
Total	368				

Kutaisi Prison Results		Kutaisi District Results Summary	
Candidates	Votes	Candidates	Votes
1. Gachechiladze	17 (4.6%)	1. Gachechiladze	30.63%
2. Patarkatsishvili	6	2. Patarkatsishvili	4.39%
3. Gamkrelidze	3	3. Gamkrelidze	7.96%
4. Natelashvili	3	4. Natelashvili	8.19%
5. Saakashvili	335 (92%)	5. Saakashvili	44.16%
6. Maisashvili	0	6. Maisashvili	1.81%
7. Sarishvili	0	7. Sarishvili	0.19%
Total	364		

Khoni Prison Results		Khoni District Results Summary	
Candidates	Votes	Candidates	Votes
1. Gachechiladze	6 (4%)	1. Gachechiladze	17.76%
2. Patarkatsishvili	1	2. Patarkatsishvili	1.81%
3. Gamkrelidze	3	3. Gamkrelidze	4.06%
4. Natelashvili	1	4. Natelashvili	4.36%
5. Saakashvili	139 (92.6%)	5. Saakashvili	70.05%
6. Maisashvili	0	6. Maisashvili	0.30%
7. Sarishvili	0	7. Sarishvili	0.13%
Total	150		

Khelvachauri Prison Results		Khelvachauri District Results Summary	
Candidates	Votes	Candidates	Votes
1. Gachechiladze	31 (13%)	1. Gachechiladze	23.13%





2. Patarkatsishvili	3	2. Patarkatsishvili	19.93%
3. Gamkrelidze	0	3. Gamkrelidze	1.81%
4. Natelashvili	1	4. Natelashvili	7.04%
5. Saakashvili	203 (85.2%)	5. Saakashvili	42.65%
6. Maisashvili	0	6. Maisashvili	0.28%
7. Sarishvili	0	7. Sarishvili	0.15%
Total	238		

Tskaltubo Prison Results		Tskaltubo District Results Summary	
Candidates	Votes	Candidates	Votes
1. Gachechiladze	2 (1%)	1. Gachechiladze	19.08%
2. Patarkatsishvili	1	2. Patarkatsishvili	3.56%
3. Gamkrelidze	3	3. Gamkrelidze	4.60%
4. Natelashvili	1	4. Natelashvili	6.40%
5. Saakashvili	176 (96.1%)	5. Saakashvili	63.43%
6. Maisashvili	0	6. Maisashvili	0.72%
7. Sarishvili	0	7. Sarishvili	0.17%
Total	183		

Zugdidi Prison Results		Zugdidi District Results Summary	
Candidates	Votes	Candidates	Votes
1. Gachechiladze	6 (0.9%)	1. Gachechiladze	13.64%
2. Patarkatsishvili	3	2. Patarkatsishvili	2.91%
3. Gamkrelidze	3	3. Gamkrelidze	2.84%
4. Natelashvili	1	4. Natelashvili	3.38%
5. Saakashvili	640 (97.8%)	5. Saakashvili	69.18%
6. Maisashvili	1	6. Maisashvili	0.51%
7. Sarishvili	0	7. Sarishvili	0.13%
Total	654		

In Gldani, Isani, and Rustavi, the prison votes were not counted separately. They were added to the other (ordinary) results for the precincts, thus no separate data is available.

Monitoring Findings by Prisons

Prison No. 1, Krtsanisi District, Tbilisi: four preliminary detainees voted without IDs.

Prison No. 5, Krtsanisi District, Tbilisi: Out of 233 detainees, only one had an ID, but he was not included in the voter list. Thus, none of the detainees were able to vote in this prison.

Prison Hospital, Krtsanisi District, Tbilisi: Out of 32 registered detainees, only one had an ID, but he refused to vote. Thus, none of the detainees voted in the prison hospital.





Women's and Minors' Colony #5, Isani District, Tbilisi: Out of 105 registered detainees, only 20 had IDs and thus only 20 participated in the elections.

Prison No. 8, Gldani District, Tbilisi: There were two precincts in this prison, Precinct #108 (468 registered preliminary detainees) and Precinct #109 (542 registered preliminary detainees). Only 45 out of total 1,010 detainees had IDs and so only 45 of them voted.

Prison No. 4, Zugdidi District, Samegrelo Region: Out of 218 registered detainees, none had IDs and thus voting did not take place at this prison.

Prison No. 3, Khelvachauri District, Ajara Region: Out of 322 registered detainees, only 63 had IDs and thus only 63 voted.

Prison No. 2, Kutaisi District, Imereti Region: Out of 274 registered detainees, only 22 had IDs and thus only 22 voted.

Prison No. 2, Rustavi District, Kvemo Kartli Region: There were no preliminary detainees in this prison, thus only prison personnel participated in the elections in this prison.

Prison No. 8, Tskaltubo District, Imereti Region: There were no preliminary detainees in this prison, thus only prison personnel participated in the elections in this prison.

Prison No. 9, Khoni District, Imereti Region: There were no preliminary detainees in this prison, thus only prison personnel participated in the elections in this prison.

