

NEWSLETTER

QUARTER 3
SEPTEMBER 2024



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EMPLOYEES AND MEMBERS OF INVESTORS COUNCIL RECEIVED A TRAINING ON UNCONSCIOUS GENDER BIAS

Anna Iluridze, a gender expert for Investors Council Secretariat, conducted a training session aimed at promoting gender equality in the workplace



MEETING ON COMMERCIAL ARBITRATION CHALLENGES IN GEORGIA

On July 9, 2024, a working meeting was held to address the challenges facing commercial arbitration in Georgia.



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CONTRAILER (RO-LA) SERVICES IN GEORGIA AND AZERBAIJAN

With the support of the European Union (EU) and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) has launched a Feasibility Study for Introduction of Contrailor (Ro-La) Services in Georgia and Azerbaijan.

This study will be carried out by the Railistics GmbH in partnership with the Civitta International OU, both selected through the EBRD's tendering process.

MEETING ON COMMERCIAL ARBITRATION CHALLENGES IN GEORGIA



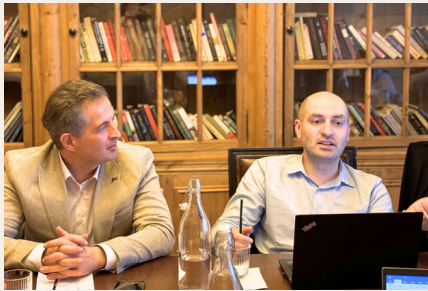
On July 9, 2024, a working meeting was held to address the challenges facing commercial arbitration in Georgia. The gathering included members of the Investors Council (IC) of Georgia, representatives from the Georgian Association of Arbitrators (GAA) and practicing experts in commercial arbitration.

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This meeting followed an initial session where the GAA presented its recommendations and proposed legislative changes. The focus of today's discussion was to review feedback from IC members on the draft proposals. Key topics included summoning parties to arbitration, the arbitrability of corporate and labor disputes, and the legal form of arbitration institutions and their possible conversion.



Organized collaboratively by the IC Secretariat and the GAA, the session aimed to incorporate the feedback into the legislative framework governing commercial arbitration in Georgia, ensuring it meets the needs of both local and international investors.



Further discussions and consultations are anticipated as stakeholders work together to further develop the legislative changes, aiming for a robust and responsive commercial arbitration system.



EMPLOYEES AND MEMBERS OF INVESTORS COUNCIL RECEIVED A TRAINING ON UNCONSCIOUS GENDER BIAS

Anna Iluridze, a gender expert for Investors Council Secretariat, conducted a training session for the employees and members of Investors Council, aimed at promoting gender equality in the workplace by hosting a workshop on Unconscious Gender Bias.

The training included strategies for understanding and implementing inclusive and equitable decision-making processes, ensuring the emergence of gender stereotypes during management decision-making processes, and incorporating strategies for fostering inclusive and fair decision-making practices within organizations.



The interactive nature of the session allowed participants to engage in open discussions and gain practical insights into mitigating unconscious bias.



THE TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PERMIT DIGITALIZATION HAS BEEN LAUNCHED

THE TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PERMIT DIGITALIZATION HAS BEEN LAUNCHED

With the support of the Investors Council, the EBRD has launched a technical assessment for digitalizing environmental permits for the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia. This assessment will be carried out by the Policy and Management Consulting Group (PMCG), selected through the EBRD's tendering process.



The digitalization of environmental permits in Georgia is part of the Investors Council's Green Economy Transition Agenda.

The assessment will evaluate the current situation and identify the needs for digitalizing environmental permitting procedures within a Single-Window framework. Initial findings will be available to stakeholders by the end of 2024.

Fully utilizing the benefits of the Single Window approach and digitalizing the permit issuance process will not only simplify existing procedures but significantly reduce the time required to receive permits.



FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR INTRODUCTION OF CONTRAILER (RO-LA) SERVICES IN GEORGIA AND AZERBAIJAN HAS BEEN LAUNCHED



With the support of the European Union (EU) and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) has launched a Feasibility Study for Introduction of Contrailer (Ro-La) Services in Georgia and Azerbaijan. This study will be carried out by the Railistics GmbH in partnership with the Civitta International OU, both selected through the EBRD's tendering process.

The assessment aims to identify key elements for the effective implementation of Contrailer Services. This includes determining the necessary facilities for introducing the service, identifying locations with high potential for integrating the services, and estimating the investment required for developing Contrailer (Ro-La) Services both in Georgia and Azerbaijan. Initial findings will be available to stakeholders by the end of Q1 of 2025.

In September 2023, the Investors Council Secretariat initiated a comprehensive study of entrepreneurial legislation to assess its gender impact and pinpoint potential barriers faced by women entrepreneurs.

The ISET Policy Institute conducted the study, with backing from the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and the UK Government's Good Governance Fund (GGF). This in-depth analysis examines how existing laws affect women in business, aiming to identify and dismantle obstacles hindering their participation while maximizing their economic potential.



GENDER IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF THE LAW OF GEORGIA ON ENTREPRENEURS HAS BEEN PUBLISHED

To foster a thriving entrepreneurial ecosystem and put the report's recommendations into practice, the Investors Council is committed to collaborating with stakeholders across various sectors.

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THE RESEARCH ON THE INTERNATIONALIZATION OF THE GEORGIAN HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM HAS BEEN COMPLETED



In response to the growing influx of international students in Georgia, the Investor's Council Georgia (ICS), in collaboration with UNDP and with the support of the Swedish Government, conducted a study on the internationalization of the country's higher education system.

The study was carried out by a team of local and international experts, who delivered a comprehensive sectoral analysis and proposed policy recommendations based on international best practices to refine the regulatory and procedural frameworks, ensuring the provision of high-quality international education.

You can find the recommendations for improving the higher education system in Georgia, with further details provided in **Annex 1 and Annex 2, covering policy and legal analysis on the link below:**

[Recommendations for Improving the Higher Education System in Georgia](#)

GENDER EQUALITY WORKING GROUP MEETING

The Investors Council's Gender Equality Working Group, led by the IC's Gender Expert, held a meeting on September 25th, 2024. The session centered on key initiatives aimed at fostering a more equitable business environment in Georgia.

Members actively engaged in discussions surrounding the Gender Impact Assessment (GIA) conducted on the Law of Entrepreneurs, brainstorming recommendations to enhance its inclusivity. The group also explored the promising potential of Gender Lens Investing and strategized collaborative activities to promote this approach. Additionally, the Working Group discussed its Terms of Reference (ToR), drawing inspiration from successful models and ensuring meaningful participation for impactful outcomes.

