

## Peace Agreement Access Tool PA-X <https://pax.peaceagreements.org/>

<b>Country/ entity</b>	Georgia Abkhazia
<b>Region</b>	Europe and Eurasia Europe and Eurasia
<b>Agreement name</b>	Istanbul Statement of the Georgian and Abkhaz sides on confidence-building measures
<b>Date</b>	9 Jun 1999
<b>Agreement status</b>	Multiparty signed/agreed
<b>Interim arrangement</b>	Yes
<b>Agreement/ conflict level</b>	Intrastate/intrastate conflict ( Georgian Separatist Conflicts (1989 - ) )
<b>Stage</b>	Pre-negotiation/process
<b>Conflict nature</b>	Government/territory
<b>Peace process</b>	Abkhazia peace process
<b>Parties</b>	The delegation of the Georgian side was led by Mr. Vazha Lordkipanidze (Signed, and the delegation of the Abkhaz side was led by Mr. Sergei Bagapsh (signed)
<b>Third parties</b>	UNSRSG Special Representative of the Secretary-General Mr. Liviu Bota (signed); Russian Federation (facilitator), Group of Friends participated;
<b>Description</b>	Agreed to address issue of exchange of hostages and prisoners, to support joint investigations of incidents threatening stability, and to ensure implementation of 24 Sept 1998 Protocol. Provided for the revival of activities of working groups within framework of Coordinating Council, and the development of mechanisms for exchange of information, especially between mass media and law-enforcement organs.

---

**Agreement document** [GR\\_990316\\_Istanbul Statement of the Georgian and Abkhaz Sides on Confidence-Building Measures.pdf](#)  | [Download PDF](#)

---

### Groups

Children/  
youth No specific mention.

Disabled persons	No specific mention.
Elderly/age	No specific mention.
Migrant workers	No specific mention.
Racial/ethnic/national group	No specific mention.
Religious groups	No specific mention.
Indigenous people	No specific mention.
Other groups	No specific mention.
Refugees/displaced persons	Groups→Refugees/displaced persons→Substantive Page 2, The sides agreed as follows: ... To revive the activities of the working groups within the framework of the Coordinating Council. ... b) To convene within one week Working Group II for the consideration and agreement of urgent measures regarding the issue of the return of refugees and displaced persons, and the establishment of conditions for their safety. The Working Group will also hear information from the parties regarding the situation in the Gali region.
Social class	No specific mention.

---

## Gender

Women, girls and gender	No specific mention.
-------------------------	----------------------

Men and boys No specific mention.

LGBTI No specific mention.

Family No specific mention.

---

## **State definition**

Nature of state (general) No specific mention.

State configuration No specific mention.

Self determination No specific mention.

Referendum No specific mention.

State symbols No specific mention.

Independence/ secession No specific mention.

Accession/ unification No specific mention.

Border delimitation No specific mention.

Cross-border provision No specific mention.

---

## Governance

Political institutions (new or reformed)	No specific mention.
Elections	No specific mention.
Electoral commission	No specific mention.
Political parties reform	No specific mention.
Civil society	Page 1, The delegations comprised prominent individuals from the sides, including representatives of the intelligentsia, directors of major industrial and agricultural enterprises, elders, military who have participated in the armed conflict, and others.
Traditional/religious leaders	Page 1, The delegations comprised prominent individuals from the sides, including representatives of the intelligentsia, directors of major industrial and agricultural enterprises, elders, military who have participated in the armed conflict, and others.
Public administration	No specific mention.
Constitution	No specific mention.

---

## Power sharing

Political power sharing	No specific mention.
Territorial power sharing	No specific mention.

Economic power sharing No specific mention.

Military power sharing No specific mention.

---

## Human rights and equality

Human rights/RoL general No specific mention.

Bill of rights/similar No specific mention.

Treaty incorporation No specific mention.

Civil and political rights No specific mention.

Socio-economic rights 3.c. working group to develop proposals or range of socio-economic issues (to be financed with support of UNDP)

---

## Rights related issues

Citizenship No specific mention.

Democracy No specific mention.

Detention procedures No specific mention.

Media and communication      Rights related issues→Media and communication→Media roles  
Page 3, To develop and establish mechanisms for the regular exchange of information, including, inter alia:

- a) To exchange information between representatives of the mass media of the sides, including the exchange of television groups to create reports, including interviews with high-level individuals. These materials will be broadcast by the respective local television stations.
- b) The Abkhaz side will be able to receive three hundreds copies of each issue of Svobodnaia Gruzii and the Georgian side will receive an equal number of copies of Respublica Abkhazia, on the basis of funding and logistical support from the United Nations.
- c) Transmission from each side to the other of their respective press service reports will be facilitated by the United Nations.
- d) To hold a meeting of Georgian and Abkhaz journalists in Tbilisi in July 1999, and in Pitsunda in August 1999, to exchange information.
- e) To request the BBC to sponsor training courses for Georgian and Abkhaz journalists in London.

The law-enforcement organs of the two sides will exchange available information on any preparations for illegal acts and will consult on measures to be taken jointly to prevent them. Direct communication links should be utilized for this purpose.

Mobility/ access      No specific mention.

Protection measures      No specific mention.

Other      No specific mention.

## Rights institutions

NHRI      No specific mention.

Regional or international human rights institutions      No specific mention.

## **Justice sector reform**

Criminal justice and emergency law      No specific mention.

State of emergency provisions      No specific mention.

Judiciary and courts      No specific mention.

Prisons and detention      No specific mention.

Traditional Laws      No specific mention.

---

## **Socio-economic reconstruction**

Development or socio-economic reconstruction      No specific mention.

National economic plan      No specific mention.

Natural resources      No specific mention.

International funds Page 2, The sides agreed as follows:  
... To revive the activities of the working groups within the framework of the Coordinating Council.

... c) To convene within one week Working Group III. It will address the question of interaction with the Standing Working Group of the Joint Bilateral Coordination Commission for Practical Questions.

This Standing Working Group will promote the establishment of economic ties between economic entities and draw up specific proposals and submit them for discussion by the Coordination Commission. It will also address projects which serve the interests of the Georgian and Abkhaz sides, including those designed to ensure uninterrupted functioning of the Inguri dam and power plant, and also the restoration of films with assistance of UNDP and other international and national organizations.

Financing of this Working Group will be implemented with support from UNDP. To insure implementation of the commitment of the sides, provided for by the Protocol of 24 September 1998, on questions of stabilization of the situation along the line of separation of forces.

Page 3, To develop and establish mechanisms for the regular exchange of information, including, inter alia:

... The United Nations will provide logistical support as necessary, in the implementation of these measures. The Special Representative of the Secretary-General will report to the Secretary-General of the UN, who will then inform the Security Council on the outcome of this Meeting.

Business Page 1, The delegations comprised prominent individuals from the sides, including representatives of the intelligentsia, directors of major industrial and agricultural enterprises, elders, military who have participated in the armed conflict, and others.

Taxation No specific mention.

Banks No specific mention.

---

## Land, property and environment

Land reform/  
rights No specific mention.



Pastoralist/  
nomadism  
rights No specific mention.

Cultural  
heritage No specific mention.

Environment No specific mention.

Water or  
riparian  
rights or  
access No specific mention.

---

## **Security sector**

Security  
Guarantees No specific mention.

Ceasefire No specific mention.

Police Page 3, To develop and establish mechanisms for the regular exchange of information, including, inter alia:  
... The law-enforcement organs of the two sides will exchange available information on any preparations for illegal acts and will consult on measures to be taken jointly to prevent them. Direct communication links should be utilized for this purpose.

Armed  
forces Page 1, The delegations comprised prominent individuals from the sides, including representatives of the intelligentsia, directors of major industrial and agricultural enterprises, elders, military who have participated in the armed conflict, and others.

DDR No specific mention.

Intelligence  
services No specific mention.

Parastatal/  
rebel and  
opposition  
group  
forces

No specific mention.

Withdrawal  
of foreign  
forces

No specific mention.

Corruption

No specific mention.

Crime/  
organised  
crime

No specific mention.

Drugs

No specific mention.

Terrorism

No specific mention.

---

## **Transitional justice**

Transitional  
justice  
general

No specific mention.

Amnesty/  
pardon

No specific mention.

Courts

No specific mention.

Mechanism

No specific mention.

Prisoner  
release

Page 1, The sides agreed as follows:  
Within one week to hold a special meeting of plenipotentiary representatives  
to address the issue of the exchange of hostages and prisoners.

Vetting	No specific mention.
Victims	No specific mention.
Missing persons	Page 3, To develop and establish mechanisms for the regular exchange of information, including, inter alia: ... Representatives of the respective Commissions for Missing-in-Action cases of the two sides will meet within one month, to review the situation. They will meet regularly within the framework of the Coordinating Council.
Reparations	No specific mention.
Reconciliation	No specific mention.

---

## Implementation

UN signatory	UNSRSG Special Representative of the Secretary-General Mr. Liviu Bota (signed)
Other international signatory	OSCE and Russia participated in the meeting.
Referendum for agreement	No specific mention.
International mission/force/similar	Page 1, The sides agreed as follows: To support and cooperate with the Chief Military Observer of UNOMIG in conducting joint investigation of incidents which may represent a threat stability in the conflict zone.
Enforcement mechanism	Page 2, The sides agreed as follows: ... To revive the activities of the working groups within the framework of the Coordinating Council. a) To convene within one week Working Group I. It will consider measures to implement the agreements achieved by the sides regarding ensuring security along the entire line of the separation of forces.

Related cases No specific mention.

Source INCORE: <http://www.incore.ulst.ac.uk/services/cds/agreements/pdf/geo5.pdf>

---