



April 3, 2009

Joint Statement of NGOs on April 9 Demonstration

Opposition parties and members of civil society are planning a demonstration on April 9, 2009. The peaceful conduct of this demonstration is of vital importance for Georgia's democratic development and stability.

We, the undersigned NGOs, encourage:

The Government of Georgia to protect the peoples' right to peacefully demonstrate. The government should take into account the issues raised by the demonstrators.

The Organizers of the demonstration to ensure that their calls and actions are within the framework of the law. Organizers should take responsibility for their actions and should actively work to promote a peaceful demonstration.

The Media to take all necessary steps to ensure accurate, objective and timely coverage of the events surrounding April 9.

Protesters to take responsibility for ensuring their own actions are peaceful and do not provoke violence.

We hope the demonstration will be conducted within the legal framework and the mistakes committed on November 7, 2007, will not be repeated.

Georgian Young Lawyers' Association - GYLA
International Society for Fair Elections and Democracy – ISFED
Transparency International Georgia - TI
New Generation New Initiative - nGnI