

**OSCE Review Conference, Warsaw, 07.10.10**  
**Working Session: Tolerance and Non-Discrimination-I**  
**Intervention by the Public Movement “Multinational Georgia”**

We want to attract distinguished attention of the OSCE structures and participating states to the issue of growth of the number of hate accidents and proliferation of the hate speech in Georgia. As a result of our monitoring during the last year 8 violent hate crimes have been identified including one ended up in lethal injury. This number might seem very small however for Georgia it is extremely high, because previously no hate accidents of violent nature have been registered. Number of the incident on the basis of religious intolerance also increased. During the last year monitoring period we identified 5 cases, some of which ended up in massive clashes initiated by members of the extremist Orthodox groups.

There are also evidence of emergence of the extremist youth groups using ideology and symbolic of the Neo Nazi movement. Subways and walls of city of Tbilisi for the first time in the modern history of Georgia bear symbols of hate (swastika and rune “Zig” (SS) which are widely used by Neo-Nazi groups all over Europe). Georgian Internet is full of the intolerant phraseology, xenophobic statements and even direct summons to violence (e.g. statements of Georgian young people united under group “Yes, I am racist” on Facebook, who state that “Georgia is for Georgians”, “violence is only way to put minorities at their place”, “Georgia should recall to the policies of Adolf Hitler”, using well-known Neo-Nazi slogans such as “white power”).

Mass media is overwhelmed with the hate speech.

In order to effectively address mentioned above manifestations of hate it is necessary to:

1. enhance legal framework for the combating of the hate speech and particular to bring amendments into the Criminal Code of Georgia (Article 142-1).
2. bring domestic legal frameworks to the international standards including OSCE standards and OSCE/ODIHR guidelines
3. provide effective implementation of the law and create framework for the efficient monitoring of the implementation based on the joint actions and commitments of the Ministry of Interior and civil society

Today we are at the stage when proliferation of hate can be prevented in Georgia that is why we call upon OSCE structures and especially OSCE/ODIHR to provide policy and expert support to the reforms of the legislation in the given sphere in spirit of the decisions taken at the Maastricht Meeting.

Detailed information about the cases of the hate speech can be found in the attached report “We do not have time for silence”.