Georgia

National Procedures for Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters

Updated on 10/03/2021

The Central Authority responsible for MLA

Office of the Prosecutor General of Georgia

24 Gorgasali Street, 0134 Tbilisi, Georgia

Telephone: +995 32 240 51 43 / +995 32 240 50 34;

+995 32 240 52 10 / +995 32 240 51 80

E-mail: mla@pog.gov.ge

If different from the Central Authority, the authority to which the request should be sent:

Channels of communication for the request of MLA:

(through diplomatic channels or other):

In case of urgency (Art 15.2) direct transmission (link to contact details of competent authorities) or other

All mutual legal assistance requests must be directed to the central authority (Office of the Prosecutor General).

Requests can also be transmitted through Interpol or diplomatic (not recommended) channels.

Means of communication (eg. by post, fax, e-mail¹):

From 1 January 2021 onwards, Georgia requires electronic submission of mutual legal assistance requests to mla@pog.gov.ge

Paper copies of requests can be transmitted simultaneously to the electronic submission but not required.

We may occasionally accept paper only requests were data sensitivity could be an issue but this should be an exception and limited to serious crimes cases. Transmission via Interpol could be an option in such cases.

Request can be either electronically signed (any e-signature that is allowed under the local law of requesting state is acceptable) or electronic copies of paper documents. In order to ensure the

¹ Please indicate if encryption or electronic signature is required.

authenticity of communications we only accept submissions that
are sent from government e-mails. We could automatically confirm
the receipt of any incoming request if your message will have the
tracking tool "delivery report" turned on.

Language requirements:

Georgian, English.

Double criminality requirement, if applicable:

Double criminality is not generally required to be met. However, we check requests against double criminality (*in abstracto*) where search, seizure, production of stored electronic communication data or interception of communications is sought.

Limitation of use of evidence obtained:

Georgia generally requires rule of specialty in respect of all evidence obtained through mutual legal assistance requests unless the evidence concerned has become publicly available after the mutual legal assistance process.

Other relevant information: (e.g. documentation required for special types of assistance)

Probable cause and substantiation of certain category of requests

For requests of search, seizure, production of stored electronic communication data or interception of communications requesting state must provide sufficient factual and evidentiary background of a case to establish probable cause.

Necessity of the assistance sought must be clearly demonstrated in the request. It must also be shown why it is probable that the data subject or the search/seizure subject possesses the data/items sought. We cannot also comply with overly broad and disproportionate requests.

Links to national legislation, national guides on procedure:

Parties to the Second Additional Protocol:

Channels of communication for direct transmission requests

(Link to database with contact details of competent authorities for the purpose of direct transmission of MLA requests) All requests must be directed to the central authority (as indicated above) except for the following categories (Second Additional Protocol("SAP")):

- 1. Requests for copies of convictions (Art. 4 SAP)
- 2. Exchange of spontaneous information (Art. 4 SAP)
- 3. Cross-border observations (Art. 17 SAP)
- 4. Controlled delivery (Art. 18 SAP)
- 5. Covert investigations (Art. 19 SAP)

All of the above requests must be submitted to:

Central Criminal Police Department Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia

General Gia Gulua St.10

0114 Tbilisi, Georgia

iccc@mia.gov.ge

+995 32 241 11 93

+995 32 241 19 84

Interpol channels are accepted