

Regarding Alerts No. 2/2025 and No. 3/2025 published on the Platform to Promote the Protection of Journalism and Safety of Journalists

Information from the Special Investigation Service:

The Special Investigation Service investigates the facts of exceeding official powers using violence, committed by individual employees of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia, under Article 333 (3b) of the Criminal Code of Georgia.

The basis for initiating the investigation was the reports received by the Special Investigation Service on January 12, 2025, regarding the detention of individuals during public protests in Batumi.

Within the frameworks of the criminal case, full and detailed information was received from **Mzia Amaglobeli** regarding the measures taken by police officers following her arrest on January 12, 2025. Within the frameworks of the same case, full and detailed information was received from **Guram Murvanidze** as well, regarding the actions taken by police officers towards him.

As a result of the ongoing investigation, individuals involved in the case, including law enforcement officials, have been interviewed, and important witnesses are still being questioned. Various investigative and procedural actions have been taken, including seizures and inspections, and medical and complex forensic-biological examinations are already appointed. Based on the judge's ruling, video camera recordings important to the case have been retrieved, and their detailed examination is underway. The investigation continues in an active manner.

The criminal case (including the above-mentioned episodes) is currently under investigation, and all required procedural and investigative actions will be conducted to guarantee an impartial, thorough, and comprehensive investigation.

As for the incident that occurred on December 16, 2024, involving Editor-in-Chief of „Batumelebi“– **Eter Turadze** and police officers, the Special Investigation Service has not received any report regarding this fact.

Commentary on facts stated in Alert N3/2025 posted on the Council of Europe's safety of journalists platform

Prosecution Service of Georgia

Office of the Prosecutor General of Georgia:

Within the framework of investigation carried out by the Ministry of Internal Affairs, Mzia Amaglobeli was prosecuted for attacking a police officer, crime provided for by Article 353¹ §1 of Criminal Code of Georgia. By the ruling of the court, detention was applied against the accused as a measure of restraint. The case is being heard on merits in Batumi City Court.

Moreover, the Special Investigation Service is investigating criminal case on facts of alleged exceeding official powers by employees of the Ministry of Internal Affairs using violence against Mzia Amaglobeli, the crime provided for by Article 333 §3 “b” of Criminal Code of Georgia.