

**Position of the Communications Commission
on the Alerts No. 162/2026; No. 166/2026 & No. 219/2026
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1. Role and Independence of ComCom

The Communications Commission (ComCom) is the independent regulatory authority responsible for overseeing the electronic communications and audiovisual sectors in Georgia.

The independence of ComCom is firmly rooted in both national law and the Constitution. The Constitution of Georgia guarantees the autonomy of the independent regulatory body and explicitly protects its activities from interference by any state authority. In line with these constitutional safeguards, ComCom's independence is further reinforced by the Law on Broadcasting which establishes the Commission as a permanent, independent regulatory authority with legal and functional autonomy, financial independence, and transparent operational procedures.

Pursuant to Articles 9-11 of the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting, ComCom is composed of five members elected for a six-year term, renewable once, through a transparent and merit-based selection process. Vacancies are announced through an open competition. A Competition Commission evaluates applicants and recommends at least three candidates per seat. The Government submits the shortlist to the President of Georgia, who nominates candidates to the Parliament of Georgia. Members are then elected by a majority vote of Parliament. The law prohibits Commissioners and their family members from holding political office, party membership, or any economic/financial interest in entities regulated by ComCom.

It is worth noting that the amendments to the Law on Broadcasting related to the appointment of Commissioners of ComCom entered into force in November 2023 and aimed at harmonizing the law with the EU Audiovisual Media Services Directive (AVMSD). The amendments were elaborated in close consultations with the European Commission. [The European Commission's 2024 Enlargement Report](#) confirmed that the amendments contributed to the increase of ComCom's effective independence. Specifically, pursuant to the report: *"the effective independence and impartiality of ComCom has been improved with the latest legal amendments" and "the Commission's recommendations from the previous year on the independence of the national media regulator were implemented"*.

Taking the above into consideration, we believe that allegations concerning the independence of ComCom should be supported by relevant factual evidence. Such concerns should be assessed on the basis of concrete and verifiable indicators, including consistency of treatment in comparable cases, the reasoning and proportionality of decisions, and the availability of judicial review. The Alerts do not identify any specific case in which ComCom acted upon external instructions or treated comparable broadcasters differently on the basis of their editorial stance.

2. Amendments to the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting

In April 2025, the Parliament of Georgia introduced amendments to the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting. Specifically, for the first time, statutory requirements relating to due accuracy of facts and the right to reply; fairness and impartiality of news and socio-political programs; protection of private life; restrictions on covert methods of obtaining/transmitting information; coverage of armed conflict, accidents, and emergency situations; and protection of minors participating in programs have been introduced. Prior to

these amendments, the above standards were addressed exclusively through broadcasters' self-regulatory mechanisms, whose decisions were not subject to appeal before the Communications Commission or the courts. The new law vested ComCom with the legal mandate to supervise and enforce compliance in these areas.

It is noteworthy that the amendments introduced to the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting in 2025 correspond to the relevant legal framework in force in the United Kingdom. Under the UK model, requirements concerning due accuracy, due impartiality, fairness and the right of reply are established by law and enforced by the independent regulator, Ofcom. The UK framework also distinguishes between factual news reporting and clearly identified personal-view or authored programmes. Similar principles are reflected in Council of Europe standards and in the national broadcasting frameworks of EU Member States and other European countries. Independent oversight of broadcasting content is a well-established European practice aimed at protecting audiences while safeguarding editorial freedom and media pluralism.

To support the effective implementation of the above amendments, on September 1, 2025 ComCom published on its website the [Guidelines on the Requirements Applicable to Broadcasting Content – fairness, impartiality, due accuracy, right of reply, privacy, coverage of emergency situations](#). The document was sent to broadcasters for eventual comments and/or clarifications and aims to assist them in complying with their legal obligations and provides a clear interpretation of the regulatory approach in areas such as fairness, impartiality, due accuracy, right of reply, privacy, and coverage of emergency situations.

The Guidelines specify which principles the Commission will rely upon in the enforcement of these provisions. The document explicitly stipulates that the principle of impartiality does not restrict a broadcaster's ability to cover critical opinions concerning the policies adopted or actions taken by public authorities or institutions. On the contrary, it is of vital importance that a broadcaster is able to investigate and appropriately present such critical viewpoints within news and socio-political programs.

Further, the Guidelines provide detailed information regarding ComCom's approach as to the due accuracy, particularly the requirement under Article 54(2) of the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting to clearly distinguish factual information from opinion in news programs. This requirement, which applies specifically to news programs, promotes accurate public understanding by enabling audiences to differentiate verifiable facts from potentially subjective assessments or opinions.

Lastly, it should be noted in this context that the regulatory framework introduced by the 2025 amendments did not constitute a novel set of obligations for broadcasters. The same standards had already been clearly established under the Broadcasters' Code of Conduct adopted in 2009 and were subject to implementation through broadcasters' self-regulatory mechanisms, which ultimately proved to be ineffective.

Moreover, the amendments introduced to the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting in 2025 are consistent with the relevant regulatory framework in force in the United Kingdom. Comparable requirements concerning due accuracy, impartiality and the clear distinction between factual information and opinion are also widely established across European broadcasting regulatory systems.

The financing of broadcasters in Georgia is subject to robust legislative safeguards, designed to enhance transparency and protect media pluralism without negatively affecting the functioning of the media sector. The amendments to the Law on Broadcasting introduced in April 2025, added Paragraphs 1¹ and 1² to Article 66¹. These provisions explicitly prohibit broadcasters from receiving direct or indirect financing from a “foreign force,” with the exception of commercial advertising, teleshopping, sponsorship, or product placement.

The Law defines a “foreign force” broadly to include organs of foreign state authorities, natural persons who are not Georgian citizens, legal entities not established under Georgian law, and organizational formations such as foundations, associations, corporations, or unions established under foreign or international law.

It is important to note that ComCom is not authorized to request information directly from banks. Rather, ComCom is required to apply to the court and demonstrate the relevance and necessity of the requested information. The information may be obtained by ComCom only in accordance with a court order, provided that the court grants the application.

ComCom is mandated to monitor compliance through both the consideration of complaints regarding potential violations and supervision of broadcasters’ operations, including verification of mandatory periodic financial disclosures submitted electronically to the Commission. Where violations are identified, ComCom initiates administrative proceedings and, if confirmed, may impose sanctions or corrective measures pursuant to Articles 71 and 72 of the Law on Broadcasting. All decisions of the Communications Commission may be appealed to court.

3. Enforcement of the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting by the Communications Commission

Following the amendments to the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting in April 2025, the Law envisaged a transitional period for broadcasters until June 1, 2025, to enable them to align their operations with the new regulatory framework. During the transitional period, ComCom did not impose sanctions on broadcasters found to be in breach of the new regulations. Instead, it merely recorded the identified violations.

Following the expiry of the transitional period, ComCom adopted a gradual and proportionate approach to enforcement. At the initial stage, and for a certain period thereafter, ComCom acted only in response to complaints. It subsequently introduced proactive monitoring to ensure the consistent and effective implementation of the Law on Broadcasting.

Under the applicable sanctioning framework, a first violation always results in a written warning. A financial penalty may be imposed only in the event of a repeated or similar violation within one year. Pursuant to Article 72(2) of the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting, where, after a media service provider or video-sharing platform service provider has been fined, the provider continues an ongoing violation and/or commits a new one-off violation within one year from the imposition of the fine, the Commission is entitled to impose a fine on the violator in an amount not exceeding 1% of its annual revenue, but not less than GEL 5,000, or to initiate public administrative proceedings for the suspension of the license/authorization.

It is important to note that where the law grants ComCom discretion concerning the amount of a fine, the Commission has consistently applied the minimum statutory amount. All ComCom decisions contain legal and factual reasoning and are [publicly available](#).

As of August 10, 2026, ComCom has issued a total of seven warnings and imposed five fines for content-related violations. At the same time, ComCom has rejected five complaints and, in a further five cases in which violations were established, it released the broadcasters from liability (Following the amendments to the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting in April 2025, the Law envisaged a transitional period for broadcasters until June 1, 2025, to enable them to align their operations with the new regulatory framework. During the transitional period, ComCom did not impose sanctions on broadcasters found to be in breach of the new regulations).

The content-related enforcement measures were applied to following broadcasters:

Broadcaster	Measure imposed	Ground
Formula TV	1 warning, 2 fines	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Violation of Article 54(1), 54(4) and 54(5) of the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting - written warning; 2. Violation of Article 54(5) of the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting - GEL 2500 fine; 3. Violation of Article 54(5) of the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting - GEL 5000 fine.
Imedi TV	2 warnings	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Violation of Article 54(5) of the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting - written warning; 2. Violations of Articles 52(6), 54(4), 54(7), 54(8), 59¹(5) - written warning.
POS TV	1 warning, 1 fine	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Violation of Articles 52(1) and 54(5) of the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting - written warning. 2. Violation of Article 54(5) of the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting - GEL 2500 fine.

TV Pirveli	1 warning, 2 fines	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Violation of Articles 52(1) and 54(5) of the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting – written warning; 2. Violation of Articles 52(1) and 54(5) of the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting – GEL 2500 fine. 3. Violation of Articles 52(1) and 54(5) of the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting – GEL 5000 fine.
Media Holding Georgian Times LLC	1 warning	Violation of Articles 54(6), 54(7), 54(8), 54(9) and 59 ¹ (5) of the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting – written warning.
Media Holding (TV channel Rustavi 2)	1 warning	Violation of Article 54(5) of the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting – written warning.

These figures demonstrate that enforcement has not been directed against a particular broadcaster or editorial position. ComCom has applied the same legal standards to broadcasters representing different editorial and political perspectives. The determining considerations have been the content and context of the program, whether the statements were attributable to the broadcaster itself, the nature of the violation and whether the broadcaster had previously committed a similar breach. However, it is important to note that a financial penalty applies solely in case where a broadcaster commits a similar/identical breach within one calendar year; therefore, two violations of different legal provisions will both result in written warnings.

Further, ComCom has issued four warnings in relation to violations of the legal provisions governing foreign funding.

Broadcaster	Measure imposed	Ground
System Gama	1 warning	Violation of Article 66 ¹ of the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting - written warning.
Radio-TV Nori	1 warning	Violation of Article 66 ¹ of the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting - written warning.
Journalists' Union for People's Voice	2 warnings	Violation of Article 66 ¹ of the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting - written warnings.

3.1 Scope of the requirements

The Law of Georgia on Broadcasting does not prohibit criticism of the Government, public institutions, political parties or public officials. Broadcasters remain free to investigate matters of public interest, present critical viewpoints, conduct critical interviews and report allegations and opinions expressed by third parties. This is explicitly stated in the Guidelines published by ComCom as well as in all decisions of the regulatory authority.

The relevant requirements concern the manner in which news and current-affairs content is presented. In particular, broadcasters must distinguish factual information from opinion, observe due accuracy and refrain from presenting the broadcaster's own political position as news. The law expressly allows the expression of editorial or personal opinions in authorial programs.

Accordingly, ComCom does not assess whether criticism is favorable or unfavorable to the Government. It examines whether, in its full context:

- a statement was presented as a verified fact or as an opinion;
- an assessment was properly attributed to its source;
- the journalist's presentation accurately reflected the underlying information;
- the disputed position was expressed by a third party or by the broadcaster itself; and
- news coverage was presented through the broadcaster's own political or personal standpoint.

This distinction is of utmost importance. The requirement of impartiality does not protect public authorities from criticism, it protects audiences from having a broadcaster's position presented as objective news.

3.2 Practical cases of content-related violations reviewed by ComCom

Complaint of the political party "Georgian Dream-Democratic Georgia" against Mtavari TV

In May 2025, the political party "Georgian Dream-Democratic Georgia" submitted a complaint to ComCom against Mtavari TV concerning expressions used in material published through the broadcaster's social media, specifically the terms "the oligarch's Ministry of Culture", "political prisoners".

The complainant requested the review of the complaint in order to establish the violation of the legal requirements (Articles 54, 59¹(5) and 76⁴) by the broadcaster and to impose the relevant liability on Mtavari TV LLC.

In line with the principle of impartiality, the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting restricts broadcasters from expressing their own views in news and certain current affairs programs or from reporting on current events in a biased manner reflecting their own opinions. Specifically, pursuant to Article 54(5) of the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting, broadcasters are prohibited from covering political or other forms of conflict in news and current affairs programs, as well as issues relating to ongoing public policy, on the basis of their personal views or opinions. Broadcasters are further prohibited from expressing, in news and current affairs programs, support for or opposition to any political party, public or religious association, or any other interest group. The Law provides for an exception to this principle by permitting broadcasters to express their views in authorial programs.

Although, in July 2025, the Commission established a violation of Article 54(5) of the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting, it released the broadcaster from administrative liability, taking into account the early stage of implementation of the new framework and the need to provide broadcasters with a reasonable opportunity to adapt their practices.

The Decision is available on ComCom's website:

<https://comcom.ge/ge/legal-acts/solutions/2025--25-16-354.page>

Administrative liability of POS TV

In March 2026, the regular proactive media monitoring conducted by ComCom identified the violation of Articles 52(1) and 54(5) of the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting by the broadcaster POS TV.

The Law of Georgia on Broadcasting restricts a broadcaster's ability to express its own opinion in news and certain public affairs programs or to cover current events in a biased manner based on its own views. Specifically, Article 54(5) of the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting provides that a broadcaster shall not cover information relating to political or other types of controversy, or current public policy issues, in news and public affairs programs on the basis of the broadcaster's personal attitude or opinion. Furthermore, a broadcaster is prohibited from expressing, in news and public affairs programs, a position in support of or against any political party, public or religious association, or any other interest group.

In each individual case, the Commission assesses whether a broadcaster has expressed a position by analyzing the specific circumstances of the case. In this regard, it is important to determine whether the position has been expressed by a representative of the broadcaster and whether the position expressed supports or opposes any political party, public or religious association, or any other interest group.

In the present case, the journalist characterized the activities of an opposition party as an "anti-state campaign" and presented a subsequent interview in a manner that suggested that the interviewee had confirmed that characterization. The interviewee had not, however, made such a statement.

The monitoring also identified expressions such as "the radical opposition," "the hostile campaign of the opposition" and similar assessments presented by journalists as part of news reporting rather than attributed to a source.

Accordingly, ComCom concluded that the information was not presented with due factual accuracy, and the broadcaster's conduct constitutes a violation of Article 52(1) of the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting.

As POS TV had not been sanctioned for an identical/similar violation within the last calendar year, ComCom issued a written warning to the broadcaster in April 2026.

The Decision is available on ComCom's website:

<https://www.comcom.ge/ge/legal-acts/solutions/2026--26-18-160.page>

Administrative liability of Imedi TV

In March 2026, the regular proactive media monitoring conducted by ComCom identified violation of Article 54(5) of the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting in news programs broadcast by Imedi TV.

In the present case, the presenters/journalists of the news used expressions such as “the bankrupt opposition,” “political amnesia” and “opposition channels engaged in propaganda,” presenting these characterizations as part of the broadcaster’s news narrative.

ComCom concluded that the statements represented the broadcaster’s own political assessments rather than factual information or opinions properly attributed to third parties and the broadcaster's conduct constitutes a violation of Article 54(5) of the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting.

As Imedi TV had not been sanctioned for an identical/similar violation within the last calendar year, ComCom issued a written warning to the broadcaster in April 2026.

The Decision is available on ComCom’s website:

<https://www.comcom.ge/ge/legal-acts/solutions/2026--26-18-1621.page>

Administrative liability of TV Pirveli

In March 2026, the regular media monitoring conducted by ComCom identified the violation of Articles 52(1) and 54(5) of the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting by the broadcaster TV Pirveli.

In the present case, the presenters/journalists, used expressions such as "the oligarch's party"; "the repressive policy"; "Ivanishvili's repressive policy"; "the violent regime and policies of Georgian Dream"; "the remaining prisoners of conscience, because the Ministry of Culture controlled by Georgian Dream"; "the regime"; "Ivanishvili's Prime Minister"; "the Georgian Dream police" etc.

ComCom concluded that the statements represented the broadcaster’s own political assessments rather than factual information or opinions properly attributed to third parties and the broadcaster's conduct constitutes a violation of Articles 52(1) and 54(5) of the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting.

As TV Pirveli had not been sanctioned for an identical/similar violation within the last calendar year, ComCom decided to issue a warning to the broadcaster in April 2026.

The Decision is available on ComCom’s website:

<https://www.comcom.ge/ge/legal-acts/solutions/2026--26-18-166.page>

Administrative liability of Formula TV

In March 2026, the regular media monitoring conducted by ComCom identified the violation of Article 54(1), 54(4) and 54(5) of the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting by the broadcaster Formula TV.

In the present case, the disputed statements were made by representatives of the broadcaster, namely the presenters/journalists of the news program. Accordingly, there is no doubt, from this perspective, that those statements are attributable to the broadcaster. Furthermore, the Law provides that a broadcaster shall not cover news on the basis of its own personal attitude or opinion.

In the present case, the presenters/journalists, used expressions such as "the persecution of the opposition continues"; "the regime"; "the Georgian Dream Prosecutor's Office"; "the oligarch's team"; "the Georgian

Dream Parliament"; "the regime continues its repression within the country"; "under the regime"; "the Georgian Dream Government"; "Ivanishvili's Prime Minister"; "Bidzina Ivanishvili's government"; "the Speaker of the Georgian Dream Parliament"; "the Georgian Dream Mayor"; "Ivanishvili's MP"; "the oligarch's party"; "Ivanishvili's Minister of Foreign Affairs"; "the Georgian Dream Ministry of Internal Affairs"; "the Georgian Dream Prosecutor's Office"; "the oligarch's Speaker of Parliament"; "the oligarch's ministry" etc.

ComCom concluded that the statements represented the broadcaster's own political assessments rather than factual information or opinions properly attributed to third parties and the broadcaster's conduct constitutes a violation of Articles 54(1), 54(4) and 54(5) of the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting.

As Formula TV had not been sanctioned for an identical/similar violation within the last calendar year, ComCom decided to issue a warning to the broadcaster in April 2026.

The Decision is available on ComCom's website:

<https://www.comcom.ge/ge/legal-acts/solutions/2026--26-18-167.page>

Administrative liability of Formula TV

In April 2026, the regular media monitoring conducted by ComCom identified the violation of Article 54(5) of the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting by the broadcaster Formula TV.

In the present case, the presenters/journalists of the news program used expressions such as "the Dream's State Security Service"; "the head of the Georgian Dream Government"; "Ivanishvili's regime"; "the regime's Prosecutor's Office"; "the regime has already sentenced him to one and a half years of unlawful imprisonment"; "the Dream's Ministry of Internal Affairs"; "the Dream's investigative authority"; "the Dream's Minister of Foreign Affairs" etc.

ComCom concluded that the statements represented the broadcaster's own political assessments rather than factual information or opinions properly attributed to third parties and the broadcaster's conduct constitutes a violation of Article 54(5) of the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting.

As the broadcaster had already been warned by ComCom in April 2026 for a similar violation and the broadcaster committed another breach within one year thereafter, ComCom imposed a minimum fine on the broadcaster in the amount of GEL 2500 in May 2026.

The Decision is available on ComCom's website:

<https://www.comcom.ge/ge/legal-acts/solutions/2026--26-18-229.page>

Administrative liability of TV Pirveli

In June 2026, the regular media monitoring conducted by ComCom identified the violation of Articles 52(1) and 54(5) of the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting by the broadcaster TV Pirveli.

In the present case, the presenters/journalists of the news program used statements such as "prisoners of conscience", "individuals convicted on the basis of false testimony given by police officers", "Dream's investigation", "oligarch", "prisoners of conscience and political prisoners", "prisoners of conscience", "non-existent offence", etc.

ComCom concluded that the statements represented the broadcaster's own political assessments rather than factual information or opinions properly attributed to third parties and the broadcaster's conduct constitutes a violation of Articles 52(1) and 54(5) of the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting.

As the broadcaster had already been issued a warning by ComCom in April 2026 for a similar violation and the broadcaster committed another breach within one year thereafter, ComCom imposed a minimum fine on the broadcaster in the amount of GEL 2500 in June 2026.

The Decision is available on ComCom's website:

<https://www.comcom.ge/ge/news/gncc-news/comcom-ma-kanondargvevistvis-tv-pirveli-2500-larit-daadjarima.page>

Administrative liability of Formula TV

In July 2026, the regular media monitoring conducted by ComCom identified the violation of Article 54(5) of the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting by the broadcaster Formula TV.

In the present case, the disputed statements were made by representatives of the broadcaster, namely the presenters/journalists of the news program. Accordingly, there is no doubt, from this perspective, that those statements are attributable to the broadcaster. Furthermore, the Law provides that a broadcaster shall not cover news on the basis of its own personal attitude or opinion. In the present case, the presenters/journalists of the broadcaster.

The disputed statements included allegations that the government "is obstructing the country's path towards European Union membership" and terms such as "regime", "Ivanishvili's Government", "The Georgian Dream Prime Minister", "the repression and authoritarianism of the Georgian Dream regime", "the Georgian Dream President," "the Georgian Dream Prosecutor's Office," "the Georgian Dream Prime Minister," "the Georgian Dream Ministry of Foreign Affairs," "repressive laws," and "the Georgian Dream regime's repression."

ComCom concluded that the statements represented the broadcaster's own political assessments rather than factual information or opinions properly attributed to third parties and the broadcaster's conduct constitutes a violation of Article 54(5) of the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting.

In April 2026, LLC "Formula" was issued a written warning for violating Article 52(1) and Article 54(1), (4), and (5) of the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting. Furthermore, In May 2026, LLC "Formula" was fined GEL 2,500 for violating the same provisions of the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting.

The broadcaster committed a new similar/analogous violation within one year from the imposition of the fine; therefore, the appropriate sanction for the present violation is a fine. Specifically, pursuant to Article 72(2) of the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting, where, after a media service provider or video-sharing platform service provider has been fined, the provider continues an ongoing violation and/or commits a new one-off violation within one year from the imposition of the fine, the Commission is entitled to impose a fine on the violator in an amount not exceeding 1% of its annual revenue, but not less than GEL 5,000, or to initiate public administrative proceedings for the suspension of the license/authorization.

Since the Commission has discretionary authority to determine the amount of the fine to be imposed on the offender, in the present case, ComCom considered it appropriate to impose on LLC "Formula" the minimum amount of the fine, namely GEL 5,000 in July 2026.

The Decision is available on ComCom's website:

<https://www.comcom.ge/ge/legal-acts/solutions/2026--26-18-332.page>

Administrative liability of Imedi TV

In May 2026, the Communications Commission received a complaint from the Future Academy of Georgia against Imedi TV concerning information disseminated through the broadcaster's television programming, website, the Internet, and social media platforms.

According to the complaint, reports were broadcast on Imedi TV television channel and published on the broadcaster's YouTube channel regarding training sessions allegedly conducted by Igor Blažević, a representative of a Czech organization, for several Georgian organizations, including the Future Academy of Georgia.

The complainant submitted that the reports portrayed the information in such a manner as to create the impression that representatives of the Future Academy of Georgia were involved in anti-state and criminal activities, were acting under foreign influence, and were seeking to incite unrest within the country.

Furthermore, the complainant asserted that no representative of the Future Academy of Georgia had ever participated in any training conducted under the leadership of Igor Blažević. The complainant also maintained that, prior to the dissemination of the disputed information, representatives of Imedi TV had made no attempt to contact the organization for the purpose of verifying the information or obtaining its comment.

ComCom thoroughly examined the dispute and the positions of the parties, as well as the compliance of the above programs and published information with the requirements set out in the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting. As a result ComCom concluded that the broadcaster violated Articles 52(6) (the obligation of broadcasters to identify the source of information), 54(4) (the obligation of broadcasters to ensure balance), 54(7) (the obligation of broadcasters to ensure due fairness and respect of each participant of a program), 54(8) (the obligation of broadcasters to allow a person, against whom allegations have been made, for a timely and due response), 59¹(5) (liability of broadcasters for publishing information via an

internet domain and/or internet hosting intended for internet mass medium (including through social networks).

As Imedi TV had not been sanctioned for an identical/similar violation within the last calendar year, ComCom decided to issue a warning to the broadcaster in July 2026.

The Decision is available on ComCom's website:

<https://www.comcom.ge/ge/legal-acts/solutions/2026--26-16-330.page>

Administrative liability of LLC Media-Holding Georgian Times and LLC Radio Georgian Times

In May 2026, LEPL Ilia State University submitted a complaint to ComCom against LLC Media-Holding Georgian Times and LLC Radio Georgian Times concerning the so-called "cards" and short video clips published on digital, video-sharing and internet platforms.

According to the complaint, the broadcasters' journalist blamed Ilia University to be "politically engaged" and "politically motivated". The complainant also argued that the journalist accused the university of teaching the usage of fire arms.

According to the complainant, the above-mentioned statements, expressed during the program in the form of comments, remarks, questions, and responses, portrayed the complainant as an ideologically driven and politically biased educational institution. The complainant maintained that this constituted false information and was detrimental to the professional reputation of Ilia State University.

After careful examination of all evidence, ComCom established the violation of Article 52(2) of the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting as the broadcasters failed to exercise reasonable efforts to verify the allegations made against it, which were presented in the author's program and on the broadcasters' social media platforms as factual statements, and consequently failed to ensure that such information was disseminated with due accuracy, the violation of Article 54(9) of the same law as the presenter of the program did not request substantiation of the allegations, did not ask critical or clarifying questions, and did not refer to any counterarguments or evidence contradicting the allegations. The position of the person/entity targeted by the allegations, or any indication of the existence of such a position, was not presented. The subject of the allegations was not provided with a timely and adequate opportunity to respond, either during the program or following its conclusion, and the violation of Article 54(6) of the same law as the presenter did not provide the audience with an alternative viewpoint.

As the broadcasters had not been sanctioned for an identical/similar violation within the last calendar year, ComCom decided to issue a warning to the broadcaster in July 2026.

The Decision is available on ComCom's website:

<https://www.comcom.ge/ge/legal-acts/solutions/2026--26-18-349.page>

Administrative liability of POS TV

In June 2026, the regular proactive media monitoring conducted by ComCom identified the violation of Articles 52(1), 52(2) and 54(5) of the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting by POS TV.

In the present case, the presenters/journalists of the news program used statements such as “party crisis in the United National Movement”, “escalating confrontation between the current candidates of chairmanship of the United National Movement”, etc.

The disputed statements were made by representatives of the broadcaster, namely the presenters/journalists of the news program. Accordingly, there is no doubt, from this perspective, that those statements are attributable to the broadcaster. Furthermore, the Law provides that a broadcaster shall not cover news on the basis of its own personal attitude or opinion. In the present case, the presenters/journalists of the broadcaster.

ComCom concluded that the disputed statements included the journalist’s assessments of declarations made by representatives of the opposition party “United National Movement” and the statements represented the broadcaster’s own political assessments rather than factual information or opinions properly attributed to third parties and the broadcaster’s conduct constitutes a violation of Articles 52(1), 52(2) and 54(5) of the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting.

As the broadcaster had already been warned by ComCom in April 2026 for a similar violation and the broadcaster committed another breach within one year thereafter, ComCom imposed a minimum fine on the broadcaster in the amount of GEL 2500 in August 2026.

The Decision is available on ComCom’s website:

<https://www.comcom.ge/ge/legal-acts/solutions/2026--26-18-360.page>

Administrative liability of TV Pirveli

In June 2026, the regular proactive media monitoring conducted by ComCom identified the violation of Articles 52(1), 52(2) and 54(5) of the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting by TV Pirveli.

Pursuant to paragraph 1 of Article 52, “a broadcaster shall be obliged to disseminate news and fact-based information with due accuracy and impartiality.” Furthermore, pursuant to paragraph 2 of the same Article, “a broadcaster shall be obliged to take all reasonable measures to prevent the dissemination of false or misleading information.” The Law also provides that a broadcaster shall not cover news on the basis of its own personal attitude or opinion (Article 54(5)).

In the present case, the presenter/journalist of the news program declared that “according to police officers, all persons who come to the City Assembly today and express their position will be subject to arrest.” However, in the interview incorporated into the program, the high-level police official does not make any such or similar statement. Instead, he clearly emphasized that only people who have committed an administrative offence were arrested.

Further, the presenters/journalists of the broadcaster used statements such as “big hunt on the main avenue”, “hunting on the activists”, “Georgian Dream is initiating the establishment of a so-called ‘morality police’ etc. These statements were made directly by the programme’s presenters and journalists and were therefore attributable to the broadcaster.

ComCom concluded that TV Pirveli had presented as fact a claim that was not supported by the source cited in the report and had incorporated the journalists' own assessments and opinions into its news coverage. The broadcaster failed to cover the news with due accuracy and impartiality, and its conduct constitutes a violation of Articles 52(1), 52(2) and 54(5) of the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting.

As the broadcaster had already been fined by ComCom in June 2026 in a separate case for a similar violation and the broadcaster committed another breach within one year thereafter, ComCom imposed a minimum applicable fine in the amount of GEL 5000 in August 2026.

The Decision is available on ComCom's website:

<https://comcom.ge/ge/legal-acts/solutions/2026--26-18-379.page>

Administrative liability of Media Holding (TV channel Rustavi 2)

In August 2026, the regular proactive media monitoring conducted by ComCom identified the violation of Article 54(5) of the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting by Media Holding (TV Channel Rustavi 2).

In the present case, the presenters/journalists of the news program used statements such as "deep state's new plan", "the new wave of the hybrid war", "the Leader fueled by revenge" etc.

The disputed statements were made by representatives of the broadcaster, namely the presenters/journalists of the news program. Accordingly, there is no doubt, from this perspective, that those statements are attributable to the broadcaster. Furthermore, the Law provides that a broadcaster shall not cover news on the basis of its own personal attitude or opinion. In the present case, the presenters/journalists of the broadcaster.

ComCom concluded that the disputed statements represented the broadcaster's own political assessments rather than factual information or opinions properly attributed to third parties and the broadcaster's conduct constitutes a violation of Article 54(5) of the Law of Georgia on Broadcasting.

As Rustavi 2 had not been sanctioned for an identical/similar violation within the last calendar year, ComCom decided to issue a warning to the broadcaster in September 2026.

The Decision is available on ComCom's website:

<https://comcom.ge/ge/legal-acts/solutions/2026--26-18-414.page>