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# Georgian Legal News

Refer to the Law

## The Parliament European Integration Committee supports the ratification of agreements signed with the European Union

On November 22, 2022, the Parliament European Integration Committee supported agreements on Georgia's enrollment in the EU Tax Program and its participation in the EU Customs Program presented for ratification.

Georgia's enrolment in the EU Tax Program will give it the opportunity to develop information technology, create new information system components, and support the development, operation and quality control of existing systems. Georgia's involvement in the EU Tax Program will also contribute to cooperation between the representatives of the Georgian tax authorities and the EU.

Georgia's participation in the EU Customs Program will contribute to customs-related cooperation between the EU and Georgia, the creation of new systems, the strengthening of ties between the EU and Georgian customs authorities, the simplification of trade procedures and also improvements to the investment environment.

### **Draft Law on Public Procurement**

Parliament is currently working on a draft public procurement law, and has sent it for discussion to various parliament committees.

The draft law aims to fulfill the obligations defined by the association agreement and harmonize public procurement legislation to EU directives.

The draft law significantly changes the norms and approaches in the field of public procurement and introduces new institutions provided by EU directives. It incorporates public procurement procedures such as open procedures, limited procedures, competitive dialogue, innovative partnership, competition, negotiated procedures with prior publication, negotiated procedures without prior publication, as well as public procurement procedures in social and other specific spheres.

Under the new regulations, if the estimated acquisition value of goods and/or services is less than 100,000 GEL, then an application to the Procurement Committee will no longer be mandatory.

The draft law also includes public procurement regulations in the defense and security fields, as agreed with the NATO Committee.

The draft law further prescribes that public procurement specialists should be subject to mandatory certification.

## Amendments to the Air Code of Georgia

Parliamentary committees are currently discussing amendments to the Air Code of Georgia.

The amendments aim to eliminate the gaps highlighted by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) during a universal audit in the LEPL Civil Aviation Agency and harmonize the Air Code of Georgia with the Chicago Convention of 1944 on International Civil Aviation.

The amendments determine the terms for airports to acquire international status and regulate the designation of territory suitable for building aerodromes and helicopter pads.

The amendments also envisage the introduction of an additional condition for issuing aerodrome construction permits; whereby in addition to statutory rules, flight safety is taken into account when issuing aerodrome and heliport construction permits.

# **Contacts**

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