





Georgia

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Georgian Legal News Refer to the Law

Amendments to Law 'On facilitating the prevention of money laundering and financing of terrorism'

The amendments were published on 13 April 2021, updating the wording of Articles 41 and 42. These articles regulate the enforcement of sanctions imposed by the UN's Security Council and full or partial removal of a freezing order on assets. More precisely, any change in the list of persons sanctioned by a UN sanction committee will have direct effect on the territory of Georgia once published on the committee's webpage. Such changes include adding a person to or removing them from the sanctions list, or updating the identification information of a person.

Information about the UN's current sanction committees is available on the UN's website: <u>www.un.org/securitycouncil/sanctions/information</u>, while the consolidated list of persons subject to sanctions under resolutions adopted by the UN's Security Council according to Chapter VII of the UN Charter can be found on this webpage: <u>www.un.org/securitycouncil/content/un-scconsolidated-list</u>.

Decision of State Inspector of Georgia concerning breach of video surveillance rules

On 29 April 2021, the State Inspector's Service imposed an administrative sanction on an individual for the breach of video surveillance rules.

The individual in breach had installed CCTV cameras on the façade of his residential building for the purpose of protecting the property and providing security. The cameras covered a jointly used courtyard and entrances to other properties without their owners' consent.

Where the field of view of a CCTV camera covers residential properties of other persons, the Law of Georgia 'On personal data protection' requires that the individual carrying out video surveillance obtain written consent of the person(s) concerned (in this case, the homeowners). The decision of the State Inspector of Georgia goes on to elaborate that one of the important safeguards of the right to privacy is the right of an individual to use his residential property without being subject to surveillance by others – that is to say, without anyone monitoring their movements or activities inside their property or in a jointly used yard. Therefore, an individual must protect his property and security in a way that does not prevent other homeowners from enjoyment of their properties.

Decree of the Government of Georgia establishing Information Technology Agency

On 17 May 2020, the Government of Georgia issued Decree No. 220, under which Information Technology Agency was created as a legal entity under public law (LEPL). It will be overseen by the Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Labour, Health, and Social Affairs of Georgia, which was instructed to approve the agency's statute. The agency will consolidate the IT activities of the ministry and LEPLs within the ministry's structure.

Rules for transfer of agricultural lands to state ownership established

On 18 May 2021, the Government of Georgia issued Decree No. 223, which approved the rules for transfer of agricultural lands to state ownership, their appraisal, and payment of compensations to owners.

According to the rules, where the owner breaches their obligation to dispose of land, the land plot will be transferred to state ownership based on a notification served by the public registry to the National Agency of State Property. The rules also provide for a procedure to determine the compensation: before initiating negotiations on the purchase of a land plot, the Agency must contract an independent auditor/expert to determine the full and fair compensation for the transfer of land to the state.

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