



### To the president of Euro Commission Mr. Joze Manuel Durau Barosu!

Your highness, Mr. President I the head of International Media-Union of Journalists “Obiektivi” Irma Inashvili address you. We, the independent journalists of Georgia exceptionally appreciate your efforts in consolidation of peace and democracy in the world and we believe that the time will come when the democracy and justice are victorious in Georgia. And in this victory you, our European friends will be our supporters.

Mr. President, since the “Rose Revolution”, the process of unprecedented breaches of the human rights has started in Georgia. The government has bereaved the private owners their property, closed down the independent TV and radio channels. There is no fair justice that is reflected in the number of cases against Georgia present in the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg. They have destroyed political process, the toll of political and illegal prisoners has reached the unprecedented level. There are 60 political prisoners and about 90 illegal prisoners recognized and registered by the non-governmental organizations.

Your highness, we would like to fill you in on the case of illegal case of imprisonment of a 16-year-old girl whose case will soon be heard in the European Court of Human Rights the incident that took place on November 9, 2006 on the territory of a public school no. 12 was rather resonant in Georgia. A 14-year-old Gvantsa Kuparadze was charged with the intentional attempted murder of her classmate. She was found guilty and sentenced 10 years imprisonment. The trial because of the juvenile age of the accused was closed. As a result the press did not have the opportunity to review the trial. The 14-year-old teenager was found guilty but after looking through the case materials, expert decisions and witness testimonies, there emerged the suspicion on how correct was the court verdict. As there are excessive number of doubtful facts. With the information of the defense attorney the victim had got 30 wounds and it is suspicious the 14-year-old weak girl could manage to inflict those. The second doubtful circumstance is that the crime of such severity is utterly motiveless. In the conclusion part and later in verdict it is stated that Kuparadze had inflicted 30 stabbing wounds on her friend without any cause (!?)

Mr. President, in order to get the full impression on the case, we present you the letter of the little girl written to the president Saakashvili. We are certain that you would be disturbed with this story as a person and as the president of European Commission. We believe that you will take the urgent and necessary measures to assist Gvantsa Kuparadze and to restore justice. Especially when this is the case of a 16-year-old teenager who has all her life ahead.

Respectfully, the head of International Media-Union of Journalists “Obiektivi” Irma Inashvili

03.11.2010. Tbilisi.

Please see the attached letter of Gvantsa Kuparadze to President of Georgia

This is the letter of a sixteen-year-old convict girl sent from the prison who was charged with attempted intentional murder. The incident which occurred on November 9, 2006 at Tbilisi public school No. 12 was rather resonant. Fourteen-year-old Gvantsa Kuparadze was accused of attempted intentional murder of her classmate Tornike Tkemalaze.

14-year-old Gvantsa Kuparadze was tried and was simply found guilty by the court and sentenced to 10 years imprisonment. As the accused was juvenile the trial was closed for the press. The 14-years-old teenager was found guilty by the court but after the examination of the case materials, the expert conclusion and witness testimonies a suspicion was raised in the correctness of the decision of the court because there were far too many suspicious facts in the case.

According to the defendant's lawyer the victim had 30 wounds which are unlikely for a weak girl of 14 could manage. The other suspicious circumstance is that the crime of such severity is absolutely motiveless. The indictment, and later in the verdict indicates that Kuparadze unnecessarily inflicted 30 wounds to his friend (!)



The Letter from Prison

“I decided to write this letter because I cannot tolerate the unfair label sticked to me. They say all the prisoners think they are right ...I have decided to fight until the end in order to undoubtably prove my truth and I think and am certain that eventually I am going to prove my innocence. From the very beginning I would like to say that I was a model student, the A student I had received many award and thanks, and suddenly I have become a “ruthless criminal”. How?

My trouble started on November 9, 2006 when I accidentally witnessed how my classmate Tornike Tkemaladze was wounded in the yard of the Tbilisi Secondary School No. 12. Tkemaladze was asking me to help him to earn money and me if did not get the money my business would be very bad. During this conversation four relatively elder boys jumped down the school yard wall. Two of them were holding him while the other two were stabbing him with knives and shouting that he got what he deserved. The only witness to the fact was I the boys and I received some terrible threats from the boys that if I would speak about the incident, I would find myself in the same situation. Despite the threats I ran and told everything Georgian language teacher Fati Mikadze who lived nearby and asked to call the police. Tkemaladze wounded was taken into the first-aid post of the school where he stated that he had got the injuries from falling down the second floor of the school building. I was standing there and told the teachers that he had not fallen from the second floor but the knife wounds were inflicted by four strangers. The truth turned out to be unacceptable as for Tkemaladze as for the teachers and the board of the school. The fact of strangers' intrusion and wounding a pupil on the territory of the school yard would surely impose the school's responsibility.

After the police learned that Tkemaladze knew personally those persons who had wounded him because of the debt he had no other choice but naming offenders specifically to the police. To tell that he did not know the offenders would have been unreal and not convincing that would have cause Tkemaladze problems – he would have been accused of crime coverage. But he could not name the criminals because of fear. The school administration was also actively involved in the case as they were negotiating with Tkemaladze's parents. It was necessary to find a whipping boy and that happened to be me.

It is also interesting that since November 14, 2006 Tornike has immediately been transferred to elsewhere to study, in another district. Who were they hiding him from? Since I was in prison from November 14?

The acting director of the school Manana Gorgaslidze did everything in order to prove my story false. Firstly, I was questioned in detail about the place where Tornike had been wounded. Instead of calling the police, the head of study Tkemaladze removed all the blood drops to cover the traces. and instead of the patrol they called at home the police officer who was a graduate of the same school to solve the case. They kept me silent until a doctor of an emergency accused them in lying that the child had been stabbed. He demanded the clothes that were kept hidden in the house of a teacher who lived nearby. It was the teacher and her husband who brought the Tkemaladze's clothes to the hospital.

In my and my parents' presence they were lying to the police as if Tkemaladze had been wounded in the Kikvidze Garden despite the fact that I had already testified against it. To my surprise the police did not have any questions. They looked around the crime scene probably at night and found nothing as it had been cleaned by the school staff in advance. Even the Tkemaladze's hat that had been dropped in the school yard was not there. The director of studies had given it to Tkemaladze's sister who took it home. On the other hand the head of the school first on

November 10 2006 and later on November 14 spread the utterly shameless version in the media that as if being a girl of “not traditional orientation” I stabbed my classmate to get rid of competition (?!). She also lied about the fact that my father wanted to kill the victim and that he had already migrated his culprit daughter out of the city. I could not comprehend anything from the story neither what was meant under the term “not traditional orientation”. On November 14 2006 at 9 pm my parents took me to the police station. They believed in the existence of justice and law in Georgia. Unfortunately I have not left the police station no. 9 since.

As the head's version was not credible for the society the police has amended that “mistake” and made up even more absurdity: as I stated in my testimony Tkemaladze had been looking for money to borrow. They said that presumably I presented Tkemaladze with money and then stabbed him without any motive. Despite the fact that I described everything in detail the appearance of the offenders to police on November 9, they did not even show me the pictures for discernment. (They did not want to cooperate with the only witness for some reason). As for me, I will never forget those individuals. I still see their faces before my eyes. The only thing that could save them is nip tuck, changing the eye color and false right arm (one of them has a tattoo on the whole right palm).

In this case there are two controversial testimonies: one Tkemaladze's stating that I, his 14-year-old classmate inflicted 30 wounds on him and the second mine stating that he was stabbed by two persons unknown to me but well known to Tkemaladze. There are no more witnesses on the incident in the case. The verdict is based on obviously false testimony of the victim that resulted in 10 year imprisonment for me. My testimony is sustained by the forensic and court medical expert conclusions, with the testimonies of the witnesses M. Patsuki and N. Ninua and other evidence present in the case materials. The examinations concluded that Tkemaladze got 30 wounds from two sharp objects of different size (2 cm and 4 cm), (this is really written in the expert's decision – Auth.), possibly with knives. It also says that I could not physically manage to inflict such injuries as he had to react adequately on the first hit. He neither lost his consciousness the fact that he had endured that many stabs from me is not credible for a sane thinking man. He stood and watched me as I was stabbing him 30 times? At least I should have got the blood drops on my clothes. The truth is that the boys did not give him a chance to move! The witnesses M. Patsuki and N. Ninua confirm my words that at the time of the incident there were 4 adults whose shouts and swearing could be easily heard.

I was astonished by the city court's judge Dali Metreveli. She told my parents at the trial: you are the parents of an only child and how can you be so calm. If we are accusing you unfairly, if I were you I would kill the accuser. (This speaks for the inner belief of the judge. If you are law abiding and do not kill anyone, then you are guilty). Probably I am being punished because I told the truth and did not obey the demands of the school board. The acting director of the school Manana Gorgaslidze kept her place intact. As she was transferred to the school from Ministry of Education with the protection as she failed her exams.

The investigator and the supervising procurator of my case are fired from their positions (I do not know the reason), I am in prison for 10 years while the real culprits are picking on the justice from the distance. Tkemaladze used to spread rumors in the neighborhood after the trial that I had not wounded him but send those boys to hold him as I could not handle him alone. After leaving the prison I am not planning revenge but I will drop light on the case by recognition of the criminals. I will fight till the end to prove my innocence. Eventually I will to prove a judge Dali Metreveli my innocence and maybe then she will regret sentencing the 14-year-old guiltless girl to 10 years of imprisonment.

Yes, the criminals must be punished and not the juveniles of model behavior A students like myself whose guilt is not proven by anything. The attempted murder, and from a girl? What should I do? I cannot get used to this shameful label. I am ready even today to be tested on polygraph as I have already stated on numerous occasions. The prisoners think that the president is acquainted with each of their cases, that is hard to believe. I am sure he has not even heard of me. Even my trial was closed. I am a juvenile. My case is currently in the European Court. I am certain I will be justified and it will soon cause an alarm. I wish the president to know about the fact that the innocent 16-year-old has been in prison for 2 years now serving undeserved sentence.

Gvantsa Kuparadze