

Joint Statement of Business Associations on Georgia's EU Candidacy Status

We, the undersigned,
reaffirm the business sector's unequivocal support for Georgia's European integration;
acknowledge that the AA/DCFTA and visa-free travel are key instruments that should be fully utilized in the process of the EU-Georgia rapprochement;
firmly believe that Georgia joining the European family is of vital significance, as it will bring long term stability, prosperity and development to the country. Granting the EU candidacy status would be an important step forward in this regard, including in the economic dimension;
will spare no effort to facilitate deepening of the EU-Georgia economic cooperation and trade and increasing public understanding of the benefits of the EU integration process and membership;
urge all sides to unite their efforts towards achieving tangible progress in the EU integration process;
add the voice of businesses in Georgia to the call to grant the EU candidacy status to Georgia.



Dr. h.c. Sascha Ternes
Chairman of the Board of German Business Association – Deutsche Wirtschaftsvereinigung (DWV)



Mr. Levan Silagava
President of Georgian Producers' Federation



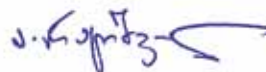
Mr. Alexander Bolkvadze
Premier Vice-president
Chambre de Commerce et d'Industrie Francaise en Georgie



Mr. Elguja Meladze
President of Georgian Employers' Association



Mr. Iva Chkonia
President of Georgian Distributors Business Association



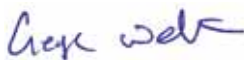
Mr. Alexander Ratisvili
President of Taxpayers Union



Ms. Khatia Bukhrashvili
Secretary General of International Chamber of Commerce in Georgia



Ambassador Zviad Chumburidze
Secretary General of EU-Georgia Business Council



Mr. George Welton
Executive Director of American Chamber of Commerce in Georgia