



PARLIAMENT OF GEORGIA
CHAIRPERSON

Tbilisi, 24 April 2020

Dear Colleague,

We strongly value the strategic partnership between our two friendly nations, founded upon the mutual understanding of each other. Georgia and Ukraine are independent and sovereign states, having great achievements and challenges, also, having common interests and goal to integrate into European and Euro-Atlantic structures.

These special bonds allow me to write this letter to you and your colleagues in the Verkhovna Rada to convey our concern regarding the possible appointment of former President of Georgia Mikheil Saakashvili as Vice Prime Minister of Ukraine.

Mr. Speaker, it is a well-established fact, that Mikheil Saakashvili was convicted in absentia for serious criminal charges by the Georgian courts. He was pleaded guilty by all three instances for the severe violations. Mr. Saakashvili bears political responsibility for systemic failures concerning Human Rights, misuse of power, freedom of media, interference into the property rights and jeopardizing free elections during his administration. Therefore, his possible appointment would undermine mutual trust between our states and its institutions. His possible appointment would shadow political cooperation between our governments and our joint effort. We have much to share in terms of making joint effort and supporting each other to restore territorial integrity, as well as joining European Union and NATO.

I am writing this letter because I believe my fellow citizens should be aware about our concerns. Our Ukrainian colleagues should be aware of these too, before making any decision.

I am confident that our joint efforts will continue to serve the best interests of our peoples in the years ahead.

Please, accept, dear colleague, the assurances of my highest consideration and esteem.

Sincerely,

Archil Talakvadze

H.E. Dmytro Razumkov

Chairman

Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine

Kyiv