

# GEORGIA'S MARITIME IS MOVING CLOSER TO EUROPE

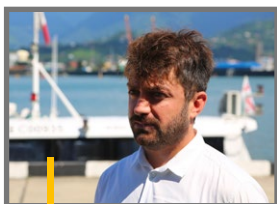


#EU4Georgia

The EU has been supporting the development of the Georgian maritime sector through various projects and programs, addressing areas such as the reinforcement of navigational safety and security, protection of the marine environment, as well as introduction of the modern standards of education and training for international accreditation.

These reforms are creating jobs, helping protect the environment and helping support the establishment of a sustainable maritime transportation system that will help Georgia become a key transit hub for the region.

## THE SEA IS THE FUTURE OF GEORGIA: EDUCATION AND JOB CREATION



“Our education system, our certification and training centre have been radically changed and improved to match the European and international standards. Our diplomas and certificates of competency are recognised not only by European countries, but also by the countries with the leading maritime industries in the world. Today we have greater choices and opportunities to export ourselves and work in companies that are quite reputable and offer high remuneration”

**Jaba Mutidze, Captain**

- Thanks to EU support, various structural, legislative and educational reforms have taken place in the Georgian maritime sector.
- As a result of the EU-supported reforms in education and certification currently, 54 countries around the world recognize Georgian seafarer certificates, including up to 20 EU member states.
- As a result 40% more Georgian seafarers are now employed on the vessels sailing under the EU member countries' flags (or owned by EU ship owners), as there were in 2015, ensuring the high level of security, social security guarantees, modern standards of the navy for them.
- Georgian seafarers' contribution to the State budget has increased to approximately half a billion GEL annually.

## GEORGIA'S MARITIME IS MOVING CLOSER TO EUROPE: INSTITUTIONAL AND LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK



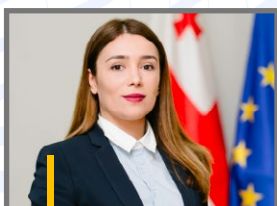
“The reforms implemented in this direction prove that we are developing. With the support of the EU, in 2021 the country will have Maritime Transport Strategy. This will allow Georgia to have a strategy for the short, medium and long term, which will enable it to become a leading maritime country”

**Tamar Ioseliani**

Director of the Georgian Maritime Transport Agency

- With the support from the EU for the first time in the history of Georgia the country will have a maritime transport strategy in 2021, which will identify and implement strategic development goals and growth targets across the maritime industry.
- The maritime has been successfully implementing EU directives and following the Association Agreement agenda: out of 22 directives and regulations 16 are already in place, contributing to the safety, security, environmental protection, training and improvement of the working conditions in the sector.
- The maritime industry in the country is rapidly expanding: in 2019, there was a record increase of 43% in container cargo turnover in Georgian ports.
- A safe, secure and efficient international shipping industry is an essential component for future sustainable economic growth of the country with the vast majority of goods being imported by sea.

## CLEAN SEA FOR BETTER ENVIRONMENT



“Georgia is a leading country in the Eastern Partnership, where the international surveys of European standards were conducted with the participation of both Georgian and foreign specialists. As a part of the EU project, the country has received state-of-the-art laboratory equipment, which will allow us to continue Black Sea coastline surveys. It is important for us to keep the government and the public well informed about the results of these surveys so that further measures can be undertaken to improve the environment of the Black Sea coast”

**Nino Tandilashvili**

Deputy Minister of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia

The EU has been actively supporting Georgia in protection of its marine environment by:

- Support in elaboration of the National Maritime Environment Strategy and Action Programme.
- Provision of modern equipment and trainings for Georgian experts.
- Conduction of surveys and analyses of beach, riverine and marine environment in the Georgian section of the Black Sea.

#MaritimeGeorgia