**Irakli Gelovani**

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**Summary**

**Professional background** – Specialized in alternative dispute settlement, regulatory and policy advice, advocacy campaigns, legal analyses, and international public/private law.

Working experience both in the public and private sectors. Certified court mediator at Tbilisi City Court. Former lecturer of International Commercial Arbitration at LL.M in University of Georgia. Accredited member of the Georgian Arbitrators Association. Member of Mediators’ Association of Georgia. DRC Court member.

**Academic background** - LL.M degree in International Dispute Settlement (MIDS) from Geneva Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies/ University of Geneva Law faculty. Master’s degree in European Studies from the University of Latvia. LL. B and one-year LL.M in International Law from Tbilisi State University.

**Work Experience**

***2023-Present***

**USAID Rule of Law Program/East-West Management Institute**

ADR Adviser

Managing alternative dispute settlement components. Supervising grant projects for Georgian Arbitration Association (GAA) and Mediators’ Association of Georgia (MAG).

Supported activities include:

* Advocacy for the implementation ADR related changes in legislation;
* Awareness-raising campaigns to raise the popularity of arbitration and mediation.
* Supporting National Moot Competition in Arbitration.
* International forum on mediation.
* Develop a Continuing Professional Development (CPD) system for GAA.
* Bench bars with judges, lawyers, and mediators.
* Workshops and training in mediation and arbitration for judges and clerks.
* Georgian International Arbitration Center organized the forum Georgian Arbitration Days.
* Development of private mediation.
* New York Convention annual conference.
* Other ADR-related activities.

***2018-2023***

**USAID Economic Governance Program/G4G/Deloitte**

Policy and regulatory adviser

Management and consultancy on economic/commercial policy reforms:

***Tourism*** – managing tourism policy reform activities – supporting parliament in drafting new “Law on Tourism”, managing public-private dialogues of stakeholders on tourism policy formation. Analysis of best international practice of tourism regulation. Implementation in Georgian legislation tourism-related EU directives.

***Arbitration*** – managing Georgian Arbitrators’ Association capacity building program: supporting research on the challenges of commercial arbitration practices in Georgia (with focus on the consumer arbitration); based on results, development of solution map and advocacy campaign for possible policy reforms in the field; support for implementation of training programs in arbitration for professionals.

***E Commerce*** - supporting with legal expertise drafting of the law on e-commerce together with the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable development.

***IP rights*** - supporting activities related to reform of collective management organization under copyright and related rights (with CLDP cooperation) – policy and legal consultations for reform

working group.

***Insolvency*** – managing activities related to the insolvency reform: analyses and drafting support for new insolvency law; formation, and capacity building of the association for the insolvency practitioners.

***Mining*** – managing the project related to mining reform in Georgia. Activities under the project - business perception survey on mining legislative framework, identifying practical and regulatory challenges in the sector. Providing capacity building trainings for Georgian Mining Agency. Cooperation with EBRD for coordination the mining reform of Georgia.

***State Procurement*** – managing study programs in state procurement at universities and business organizations.

***Agricultural land ownership and registration*** – legal analyses of the ongoing policy and advocacy consultations.

***2022-Present***

**Dispute Resolution Centre (DRC)**

Court member

Formal review of the arbitral awards; DRC Rules review; Appointment of arbitrators.

***2018-Present***

**Tbilisi City Court**

Certified court mediator

Mediation of civil law cases.

***2016-2017***

**PricewaterhouseCoopers Georgia**

Senior legal consultant

Creation of dispute settlement mechanism for the publishing companies on the state procurement contract of the educational materials for public schools in Georgia.

Conducting legal health check for Austrian agricultural company for the acquisition of shares in one of the largest agricultural companies in Georgia.

Drafted legal memo and the pledge agreement for Swiss bank securing the trade financing worth 100 million USD.

Legal assistance in VAT tax refund amounted to around 2 million GEL.

Drafted legal memo for Tbilisi Municipality on legal compliance of development project.

Client representative in establishing and liquidating subsidiary entities and representative offices of foreign companies in Georgia.

***2014-2016***

**American Chamber of Commerce in Georgia (AmCham)**

Lawyer

Advocating AmCham interests in Government.

Taking part in different legislative reform working groups under Investors’ Council. Representing private sector interests in Open Government Partnership (OGP) and Anti-Corruption Council.

Participation in meetings of coalition for an Independent and Transparent Judiciary.

Writing summaries of analyses of different legal documents, including draft laws, projects, policies.

Managing the following committees in AmCham: Commercial law and Tax, Trade and Transportation, Energy and Mining, Agribusiness, Tourism.

Advocated members' interests related to the foreign land ownership, immigration law, antidumping draft law, labor law, tax law.

Participating in USAID funded project Government for Growth (G4G), which considers understanding the problems in tax audit and dispute settlement system: help to develop a survey to assess the problems that companies have experienced during tax audits and disputes with the government; conduct some of these interviews with audit firms and senior businesspeople; help facilitate several focus groups and provide analysis of 100 tax cases.

***2012-2014***

**Georgian Legal Consulting Company (GLCC)**

Associate

Legal consultations for clients. Including largest foreign direct investor in Georgia.

***2005-2008***

**International Private Law Department of Ministry of Justice of Georgia**

Legal adviser

Conduct legal expertise on compliance of drafts of loan or other agreements of administrative character with Georgian legislation, that cost exceed one million GEL or/and that envisage dispute settlement through the way of arbitration between the parties or in the court of foreign state.

Conduct legal expertise on compliance of draft agreements with Georgian legislation that should be concluded by enterprises whose controlling stake of shares or shares more than 50% is owned by state and that envisage dispute settlement through the way of arbitration between the parties or in the court of foreign state.

Prepare legal conclusion regarding compliance of international treaties with Georgian legislation, as well as possible legal consequences of its obligatory character, suspension, or termination of international treaties.

**EDUCATION**

***2012-2013***

**Graduate Institute of International Studies/University of Geneva Law Faculty, (Geneva, Switzerland)**

LLM in International Dispute Settlement (MIDS), (International Commercial Arbitration, International Investment Arbitration, International Court of Justice, WTO Dispute Settlement System, International Court for Arbitration in Sports, WTO Law, Investment Law).

*Honors: Hans Wildsorf Foundation full scholarship*

***2008-2010***

**University of Latvia (Riga, Latvia)**

Master’s Degree in European Studies, EU Law, and Institutions.

*Honors: EU scholarship*

***2001-2006***

**Ivane Javakshishvili Tbilisi State University (Tbilisi, Georgia)**

Degree equal to master’s in law (with International Law Specialization)

**Languages**

Georgian (Native), English (Fluent), Russian (Fluent)

**PUBLICATIONS**

**Research article***: “Shareholders' claims in International Investment Arbitration”*

***Latin American Journal of International Trade Law · Jan 1, 2014***

Link: <https://latam.unam.mx/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/06-Irakli1-1.pdf>