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**EU COMMISSIONER: GEORGIA RAPIDLY BACKSLIDING ON DEMOCRACY, EU READY TO ACT**

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Georgia Today (19 June 2025)

Ekaterina Zaharieva, EU Commissioner for Startups, Research, and Innovation, expressed deep concern over the state of democracy and media freedom in Georgia during her address to the European Parliament, where the case of journalist Mzia Amaglobeli was a key topic.

The EU remains ready to take measures to hold human rights violators in Georgia accountable, Zaharieva stated, highlighting a growing pattern of harassment, intimidation, and politically motivated persecution against journalists, civil activists, and opposition figures.

These tactics are clearly designed to silence dissenting voices and restrict democratic space, she said, adding that young protesters are being handed disproportionate sentences, and independent media outlets are being dragged into court for speaking the truth.

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