

LAW OF GEORGIA
ON TOBACCO CONTROL

Article 1 – Scope of the Law

This Law shall define and regulate legal relations in the field of tobacco control in order to reduce morbidity and mortality caused by tobacco use among the population of Georgia.

Article 2 – Main principles of tobacco control

The criteria, requirements, conditions and rules effective in the field of tobacco control in Georgia must be based on the following principles:

- a) recognition of tobacco as a harmful product for health;
- b) recognition of the right of protection of non-smokers from harmful effects of tobacco;
- c) informing of the population of Georgia about the harmful effects of tobacco, and transparency of information about tobacco products;
- d) facilitation of quitting consumption and preventing new consumption of tobacco;
- e) (Deleted – 17.5.2017, No 859);
- f) control of production and sales of tobacco products;
- g) reduction in demand for and access to tobacco products;
- h) banning of sales of untaxed and unidentified tobacco products;
- i) recognition of non-smoking as being the norm of everyday life;
- j) participation of the public in the development, implementation and assessment of activities for struggling against tobacco use;
- k) recognition of the right to live in an environment free of tobacco advertisements and the right to be protected from the effects of tobacco;
- l) protection of public safety;
- m) protection of the process of developing and implementing the state policy related to tobacco control in the area of health care from the interference of persons engaged in tobacco industry, and relationship of the state with persons engaged in tobacco industry by observing the principles of publicity and transparency;
- n) control of an ingredient of a tobacco product, a substance emitted from a tobacco product, and tobacco packaging;
- o) irrespective of compliance of the activities of persons engaged in tobacco industry with the standards applicable in Georgia in the field of tobacco control, impossibility of their exemption from criminal or civil liability when



there is an appropriate legal basis for such liability;

p) carrying out of other measures allowed by law for achieving the objective of this Law, and the goals and principles of the World Health Organisation Framework Convention on Tobacco Control.

Law of Georgia No 859 of 17 May 2017 – website 30.5.2017

Article 3 – Definition of terms used in this Law

The terms used in this Law shall have the following meaning:

a) tobacco products – products containing tobacco or its components (except for a nicotine-containing medication), which is intended for smoking, chewing, sucking or inhaling, including:

a.a) a filtered cigarette, and an unfiltered cigarette;

a.b) a mouthpiece cigarette;

a.b¹) a cigar, a cigarillo;

a.c) pipe tobacco, and tobacco intended for hookah;

a.d) wrapper tobacco;

a.e) chewing tobacco, dipping tobacco, and snuff;

a.f) nicotine-containing material/cartridge/capsule of an electronic cigarette, or of another similar device;

a.g) a new tobacco product – a tobacco-containing product not falling within any other category of tobacco products defined by sub-paragraph a) of this article;

a.g¹) a nicotine-containing product without tobacco intended for a human to take nicotine;

a.h) tobacco raw material, and tobacco waste;

a.i) heated tobacco – a tobacco product (except for nicotine-containing material/cartridge/capsule of an electronic cigarette or another similar device), which is intended for consumption only as a result of heating;

a¹) a tobacco accessory and/or a device intended for consumption of tobacco – a mouthpiece, a pipe, a hookah, a device for sucking tobacco, a device for snuff, an electronic cigarette or another similar device, a special lighter for lighting a cigarette, tobacco wrapping paper, a tobacco wrapping machine, a tobacco cutting machine, an ash-tray, a cigarette case of any type or another item mainly intended for consuming and/or storing tobacco, and an illustration of a cigarette, its pack or of the aforementioned item, or another item displaying it;

b) a cigarette – any kind of a roll or a tube-like structure containing tobacco or its components, which is wrapped in paper or another material not containing tobacco and is permitted by law;

b¹) smoking tobacco – any tobacco product, including the tobacco products specified in subparagraphs a.c) and a.d) of this article (except for the tobacco products specified in subparagraphs a.a)-a.b¹) of this article), which is obtained as a result of the process of preparation/production of cut tobacco (carding, dewing and saucing of tobacco raw material, combining of tobacco raw material, cutting of tobacco, thermal processing of cut tobacco, flavouring of cut tobacco, blending of cut tobacco and packing of the finished products);

c) smokeless tobacco – a tobacco product not intended for smoking, in particular, chewing tobacco, dipping



tobacco, or snuff;

d) tobacco smoking – inhaling primary smoke or aerosol as a result of burning or heating of tobacco products;

e) tobacco industry – the production, import, sale, export, re-export and/or transit of tobacco products;

e¹) cigar-bar – a special facility organised under a licence issued in accordance with the Law of Georgia on Licences and Permits, and where smoking of a cigar and a cigarillo provided for by subparagraph (a.b¹) of this article is allowed;

e²) tobacco production – the production of tobacco products defined by subparagraph a) of this article;

f) a health warning – a note of warning about the harm of tobacco smoking, which must include an appropriate pictogram;

g) rotation – alternation of health warnings;

h) an ingredient of tobacco products – tobacco, additive, substance or component contained in tobacco products, including paper, filter, capsule, ink, or glue;

h¹) an additive – a substance or material (except for tobacco leaves) added to tobacco products;

i) the Ministry – the Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia;

j) substance emitted from tobacco products – a substance discharged as a result of the intended use of tobacco products, particularly, a substance contained in the smoke of a cigarette or another type of smoking tobacco, which is discharged as a result of consuming smoking tobacco; and a substance discharged as a result of consuming chewing tobacco, dipping tobacco, or snuff;

k) (Deleted – 17.5.2017, No 859);

l) auxiliary materials and items – the cover, the pack, and other packaging materials that are in contact with tobacco products;

m) sale – delivery of finished tobacco products to another person for sale or another way of sale to gain commercial benefit;

n) manipulation – the weighing, measuring, branding, sealing, packaging, stacking, or relocating;

o) falsification – the non-compliance of the ingredients, or the features, or the assortment or origin of tobacco products with the established requirements or with the data indicated on the enclosed documents and labels;

p) (Deleted – 17.5.2017, No 859);

q) an industrial facility – an enterprise, a factory workshop or their sections, and other industrial units and areas, and machinery used in the tobacco production process;

r) (Deleted – 17.5.2017, No 859);

s) the finished product – the product obtained as a result of combining the resources and activities (industrial processing);

t) a tobacco producer – a natural person or a legal person producing tobacco (including a producer of smoking tobacco defined by subparagraph t¹) of this article and of cigarettes) and is held liable for compliance with the requirements of this Law at each stage of the activities he/she/it carries out, and a representative or an importer of



the product operating in the territory of Georgia when a foreign producer has no representative;

t¹) a smoking tobacco and cigarette producer – a natural person or a legal person holding an appropriate licence, who carries out activities defined by Article 4(3²) of this Law in the territory of Georgia and is held liable for compliance with the requirements of this Law at each stage of the activities he/she/it carries out;

u) a building or structure – any construction (except for a vehicle), which has flooring, any kind of roofing or ceiling, and on at least 1/2 of the space (except for roofing, ceiling and flooring), it has movable or immovable walls of any kind and/or material, including an open or closed window and a door;

v) public transport – any vehicle, including a bus, tram, trolley bus, route vehicle, train, aircraft, the underground, cable transport, ship or another navigational means, which is used to transport people for a fare and/or to gain commercial profit;

w) an electronic cigarette – a product which may be used for consuming nicotine-containing aerosol through a device intended for a human mouth, or any component of this product, including the cartridge and the tank, or a device without a cartridge or a tank. An electronic cigarette may be of single-use or multi-use (to be filled with a container and a tank, or to be charged by a single-use cartridge);

x) brand expansion – a link of a tobacco product brand, trade sign, emblem, trademark, logo or any other distinctive mark (including different colour combinations) with another product or service during which a tobacco product and another product or service are associated with each other.

Law of Georgia No 859 of 17 May 2017 – website 30.5.2017

Law of Georgia No 3121 of 5 July 2018 – website 11.7.2018

Law of Georgia No 5128 of 16 October 2019 – website 23.10.2019

Law of Georgia No 1349 of 30 December 2021 – website 31.12.2021

Law of Georgia No 4362 of 27 June 2024 – website 11.7.2024

Law of Georgia No 4380 of 19 July 2024 – website 29.7.2024

Law of Georgia No 596 of 28 May 2025 – website 29.5.2025

Article 4 – Tobacco control measures and subordinate normative acts regulating the tobacco control field

1. The Government of Georgia shall carry out a long-term state strategy and an annual state programme for tobacco control.

2. A normative act of the Government of Georgia shall define the following:

a) maximum permissible norms of and procedures for measuring and regulating the substances (nicotine, tar, and choking gas) emitted from filtered and unfiltered cigarettes (except for heated tobacco) intended for sales in Georgia, considering the international requirements applicable in the field of tobacco control;

a¹) the volume of nicotine-containing material/cartridge/capsule/container of an electronic cigarette or another similar device intended for sale in Georgia, the maximum permissible norms of nicotine content in them, considering the international requirements applicable in the field of tobacco control;

b) the procedure for putting health warnings (including a pictogram and a textual inscription) on tobacco products (on a pack/carton, and a package);



c) the procedure for standardising tobacco products intended for sale in Georgia, and their packaging;

d) the licensing procedure and conditions for tobacco production.

3. Measurement of the substances (nicotine, tar, and choking gas) emitted from filtered and unfiltered cigarettes (except for heated tobacco) must be provided by the manufacturer and/or importer of the aforementioned tobacco product at their own expense. The manufacturer and/or importer of the aforementioned tobacco product must confirm that the measurement has been carried out in compliance with the standards and must, not later than 3 months before the filtered and unfiltered cigarettes are placed on the Georgian market, submit to the Ministry the documents confirming that the measurement of substances emitted from the filtered and unfiltered cigarettes has been carried out in compliance with the standards. The list of the documents shall be defined by an order of the Minister of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia. The manufacturer and/or importer of tobacco shall ensure compliance of the aforementioned product with the data indicated in the documents. The manufacturer and/or importer of filtered and unfiltered cigarettes shall again submit the aforementioned updated documents if the amount or another parameter of the substances emitted from the filtered and unfiltered cigarettes is changed. If such change occurs, the updated documents shall be submitted not later than 3 months before the filtered and unfiltered cigarettes are placed on the Georgian market. Furthermore, the manufacturer and/or importer of tobacco products must, not later than 3 months before the tobacco products (except for new tobacco products and heated tobacco) are placed on the Georgian market, submit to the Ministry information about the ingredients of tobacco products (in particular, the list of ingredients, quantity and weight). The manufacturer and/or importer of tobacco products shall again submit the aforementioned updated information if the amount or another parameter of the ingredients is changed. If such change occurs, the updated information shall be submitted not later than 3 months before the tobacco products are placed on the Georgian market.

3¹. A manufacturer and/or an importer of heated tobacco or a new tobacco product shall notify the Ministry of any of the products he/she intends to place on the Georgian market. The notification must be provided to the Ministry in the form defined by the Ministry, 3 months prior to placing the product in question on the Georgian market. The notification must be accompanied by the detailed description and the instruction manual of the product, and information about the ingredients of, and substances emitted from the aforementioned tobacco product.

3². Production of smoking tobacco (carding, dewing and saucing of tobacco raw material, combining of tobacco raw material, cutting of tobacco, thermal processing of cut tobacco, flavouring of cut tobacco, blending of cut tobacco and packing of the finished products) and production of cigarettes (placing of cut tobacco into a cigarette, production and packing of filtered cigarettes and unfiltered cigarettes) shall need a tobacco production licence. A tobacco production licence shall not be needed for the import of tobacco products in the territory of Georgia or for the production of other type of tobacco products in the territory of Georgia, and for growing, primary processing and cutting of tobacco in the territory of Georgia.

3³. An appropriate licence shall be granted to a tobacco production licence applicant if it meets the conditions defined by a normative act of the Government of Georgia, including if an enterprise has been provided with an adequate laboratory equipped in accordance with the conditions defined by the normative act of the Government of Georgia, for exercising quality control and monitoring of the tobacco products.

3⁴. A tobacco production licence holder shall carry out each of the activities provided for by paragraph 3² of this article and ensure the full process of tobacco production. The failure to carry out any of the activities shall be considered a violation of the appropriate licence conditions, which will entail the imposition of the liability defined by the legislation of Georgia on it.

3⁵. Performance of any of the activities provided for by paragraph 3² of this article (except for growing, primary processing and cutting of tobacco by a natural person in the territory of Georgia) without a tobacco production licence shall entail the imposition of the liability defined by the legislation of Georgia.

4. The procedures established by this Law for prohibiting/restricting the production, import and sales of tobacco



must be considered in the licence/permission/authorisation conditions for persons carrying out activities, as defined under the appropriate licence/permission/authorisation.

5. In the field of tobacco control, checking for compliance with the requirements set by this Law shall not be control of entrepreneurial activities and therefore, the Law of Georgia on Entrepreneurial Activities shall not apply to it.

6. In the field of health care, a public institution, a state servant and a public servant, in the course of preparing, adopting and enforcing a decision related to tobacco control, must communicate with persons engaged in the tobacco industry only when it is necessary to give them an opportunity of the efficient regulation related to tobacco production and tobacco products. If the communication with persons engaged in the tobacco industry is necessary, the aforementioned persons must communicate with them on behalf of the state in a transparent way, through public discussions, public notification about such communication and through familiarising the public with the documents elaborated. Issues related to the aforementioned communication shall be defined by a normative act of the Government of Georgia.

Law of Georgia No 859 of 17 May 2017 – website 30.5.2017

Law of Georgia No 3121 of 5 July 2018 – website 11.7.2018

Law of Georgia No 3956 of 13 December 2018 – website 25.12.2018

Law of Georgia No 5128 of 16 October 2019 – website 23.10.2019

Law of Georgia No 4380 of 19 July 2024 – website 29.7.2024

Article 5 – Sale and/or placement of a tobacco product, tobacco accessory and/or a device intended for tobacco consumption

1. It shall be prohibited to engage persons under the age of 18 in the tobacco industry.
2. It shall be prohibited to sell and/or place tobacco products, tobacco accessories and/or devices intended for tobacco consumption:
 - a) in educational (general educational, higher educational, and vocational), foster-care, and foster-care and educational institutions, and their adjacent territories within a radius of 50 metres (from the nearest point of an institution concerned);
 - b) in a public institution; in any type of medical, sports and cultural institutions and in the territories they own;
 - c) in a retail facility if a tobacco product, a tobacco accessory and/or a device intended for tobacco consumption is not placed separately from food and/or other products. A tobacco product, a tobacco accessory and/or a device intended for tobacco consumption shall be considered to be placed separately from food and/or other products if they are separated from food and/or other products by a non-transparent shelf/device/partition, or they are placed in the retail facility at another location independently of the separate trading departments and/or sections that are allocated for selling food and/or other products. A part of a retail facility where a certain sort/sorts of food and/or other products are sold shall be considered a trading department/section;
 - d) by pieces, or by a single pack/packing if it contains fewer or more than 20 cigarettes;
 - e) without packing (except for a tobacco accessory and/or a device intended for tobacco consumption);
 - f) to persons under the age of 18;
 - g) through electronic or mechanical vending machines;



h) if a tobacco product intended for sale in Georgia is produced in violation of the legislation of Georgia;

i) for free or below cost price, including as part of the daily ration of military servants;

(the normative content of the words 'or below cost price' in Article 5(2)(i), which, when there is a lawful economic interest, prohibits one economic agent operating in the tobacco market from selling tobacco products to another economic agent operating in the same market at a price below cost price, has been declared invalid) – Decision N 1/2/876 of 20 May 2022 of the Constitutional Court of Georgia – website, 24.5.2022

j) on the Internet or by mail (retail trade) (except for a tobacco accessory and/or a device intended for tobacco consumption, which does not display the trademark and/or the trade name of products (goods) of persons engaged in the tobacco industry);

k) in early learning and preschool educational institutions and their adjacent territories within a radius of 50 metres;

l) on a shop window, leaded panel, counter, shelf or otherwise so that it is visible from the outside a respective facility (except for a special lighter for lighting a cigarette, an ash-tray and a cigarette case that do not display the trademark and/or the trade name of products (goods) of persons engaged in the tobacco industry, and except for the sales and placements in the customs free zone at the airport);

j) on a shop window, leaded panel, counter, shelf or otherwise, so that it is visible from the inside a respective facility (except for a special lighter for lighting a cigarette, an ash-tray and a cigarette case that do not display the trademark and/or the trade name of products (goods) of persons engaged in the tobacco industry, and except for the sales and placements in the customs free zone at the airport);

k) sales of a tobacco product or a tobacco accessory from a respective facility by directly passing it to persons sitting in a vehicle.

2¹. A tobacco product provided for by Article 3(a.c) of this Law (except for liquid tobacco products) or tobacco products provided for by Article 3(a.d) or (a.h) of the same Law may only be supplied when they are packed in primary packages of 50 or 100 grams of net-weight, except when tobacco products are supplied for manufacturing purposes as defined by an order of the Minister of Finance of Georgia.

3. It shall be prohibited to give away or draw tobacco products, tobacco accessories and/or devices intended for tobacco consumption in the lottery, gambling and prize-winning games; to otherwise draw them and/or to participate in such events using a tobacco product or any part of it, a tobacco accessory and/or a device intended for tobacco consumption, or by giving them away; and to popularise tobacco products in any other way, including the following:

a) awarding or offering of a gift; awarding of a tobacco product, a tobacco accessory and/or a device intended for tobacco consumption, or offering to try a tobacco product for the purpose of selling it;

b) the strengthening of the initiative, or a loyalty scheme, in particular handing out of coupons when selling tobacco products;

c) direct personal communication, network marketing, which does or may popularise a tobacco product, a tobacco manufacturer or wholesaler;

d) promotional material intended for an individual, including information material (direct message, in particular), telemarketing, consumer research, which does or may popularise a tobacco product, a tobacco manufacturer or wholesaler;

e) payment of money to a retailer, giving of an award to him/her, or otherwise making of a contribution to the retailer's activity with the aim to motivate him/her to sell more tobacco products;



f) payment of money by a tobacco manufacturer, importer or wholesaler, or by persons directly or indirectly related to them, or otherwise making of a contribution by them to an event, to the activities of a natural person or an organisation, which results in popularising tobacco products, the tobacco manufacturer, importer or wholesaler, or their representatives;

g) sale or giving away of such toys, sweets or another product that is not a tobacco product but is an illustration, simulation or imitation of the tobacco product;

h) expansion of the brand, and placement of such markings, pictures, special lighting, digital materials or texts on an inner or outer part of tobacco products retail equipment/objects in a retail facility, and such design of the machines/objects that draws or may draw consumers' attention or cause association with the product, tobacco products or tobacco producers placed in there.

4. A health warning approved by the legislation of Georgia and a contact telephone number for consultation for those who wish to quit consuming tobacco, and information that sale of a tobacco product, tobacco accessory and/or device intended for tobacco consumption to a person under the age of 18 is prohibited must be displayed at points of sale of tobacco products, on at least A4 format paper.

5. If a seller of tobacco products, tobacco accessories and/or devices intended for tobacco consumption cannot ascertain that a buyer of a tobacco product, tobacco accessory and/or device intended for tobacco consumption is a person who has attained the age of 18, he/she shall ask this person for a document certifying his/her age of majority, and only after he/she makes sure that this person has attained the age of 18, he/she shall sell to him/her a tobacco product, tobacco accessory and/or device intended for tobacco consumption.

Law of Georgia No 859 of 17 May 2017 – website 30.5.2017

Law of Georgia No 3956 of 13 December 2018 – website 25.12.2018

Law of Georgia No 5128 of 16 October 2019 – website 23.10.2019

Law of Georgia No 1349 of 30 December 2021 – website 31.12.2021

Decision N 1/2/876 of 20 May 2022 of the Constitutional Court of Georgia – website, 24.5.2022

Article 5¹ – Sale and/or placement of a tobacco product in a standardised packaging

1. Sale and/or placement of a tobacco product (except for a tobacco product provided for in Article 3(a.f) and a.i) of this Law) without a standardised packaging shall be prohibited.

2. The procedure for standardising a tobacco product and its packaging shall be defined by this Law and an appropriate legal act of the Government of Georgia.

Law of Georgia No 859 of 17 May 2017 – website 30.5.2017

Law of Georgia No 1278 of 26 July 2017 – website 28.7.2017

Law of Georgia No 2127 of 29 November 2022 – website 13.12.2022

Law of Georgia No 3924 of 13 December 2023 – website 28.12.2023

Law of Georgia No 4361 of 27 June 2024 – website 11.7.2024



Article 6 – Packaging and design of a tobacco product

1. The name of a tobacco product intended for sale in Georgia, and none of the elements of a package and/or label of a tobacco product must not contain false and misleading information, or information giving erroneous ideas about the features, harmful effects or emitted harmful substances of the tobacco product; no such word, acronym, sign, image, graph or numeral may be used in the state language of Georgia or in any foreign language that will, directly or indirectly, give an erroneous idea that this tobacco product is allegedly less harmful compared to another product, including they, in particular the following words, may not be used in a brand name or a trademark: “Light”, “Mild”, “Less Strong”, “Ultra-light”, “with Low Content”, “Extra”, “Ultra”, “Menthol”, etc.

2. A health warning approved by the legislation of Georgia must be displayed on each pack/carton and package of a tobacco product (except for a tobacco product provided for in Article 3(a.b¹), (a.e), (a.f), (a.g), (a.g¹) and (a.i) of this Law). The aforementioned health warning must include the major health warning, the additional health warning (with a respective pictogram approved by the legislation of Georgia, and with a respective textual inscription in the case of a tobacco product provided for in Article 3(a.e) of this Law) and a contact telephone number.

2¹. A package of a tobacco product provided for in Article 3(a.f) of this Law must include an appropriate information leaflet about this product.

2². Each package of tobacco products under Article 3(a.b¹), (a.e), (a.g), (a.g¹) and (a.i) of this Law must include the health warning approved by the legislation of Georgia. In addition, the obligation and procedure for placing a respective pictogram may be defined by an ordinance of the Government of Georgia.

3. The Government of Georgia shall approve 3 samples of a major health warning, 9 samples of an additional health warning and 9 samples of a respective pictogram, 1 sample of a textual inscription, the forms of appropriate information leaflets, 2 samples of a health warning and 2 samples of a respective pictogram for tobacco products provided for by Article 3(a.b¹), (a.e), (a.g), (a.g¹) and (a.i) of this Law, a contact telephone number, a computer font and size of a health warning, and the appropriate attributes of the image quality.

4. A sample of the pictogram must be proportionate to and include the text of the additional health warning, and the text of the health warning in the case of tobacco products provided for by Article 3(a.b¹), (a.e), (a.g), (a.g¹) and (a.i) of this Law and must occupy the part of the health warning, as approved by the Government of Georgia.

5. The rotation of health warnings shall occur as follows:

a) during a year, a manufacturer and/or importer of tobacco products must apply all major health warnings, and all the health warnings in the case of tobacco products provided for by Article 3(a.b¹), (a.e), (a.g), (a.g¹) and (a.i) of this Law, so that they are equally used on packs/cartons and packages of each type of a tobacco product to be sold;

b) during a year, a manufacturer and/or an importer of tobacco products must choose 3 additional health warnings with respective pictograms, so that they are equally used on packs/cartons and packages of each type of a tobacco product to be sold.

5¹. A manufacturer of tobacco products shall, when distributing the tobacco products for sale in Georgia, and/or an importer of tobacco products shall, when importing the tobacco products to Georgia, submit information to an appropriate authorised agency about what type of a health warning (a major health warning, or an additional health warning) and which sample of the health warning he/she has applied on a rotation basis, and what was the quantity and which lot of the tobacco products he/she put the aforementioned health warnings on.

6. A health warning must be placed on each package of a tobacco product in the state language of Georgia (and also in Abkhazian in the Autonomous Republic of Abkhazia) in accordance with paragraph 2 of this Article, and it must be:

a) written clearly and distinctly;



b) printed on a tobacco product packaging (except for the external transparent packaging), (in the case of cigars, cigarillos, chewing tobacco, dipping tobacco and liquid tobacco products, and in the case where more than 50 kg tobacco raw material is involved, the health warning may be put on as a sticker instead of printing it), must not be covered, distorted or changed, and when opening the packaging, it must not get damaged or must not come off from it;

c) printed in a computer font, in bold black letters on a white background or white letters on a black background; the white background must be framed in black, and the black background must be framed in white, which does not cross and does not touch the letters; the frame line must be 1 mm thick;

d) placed on large front and back sides of a tobacco product packaging, parallel to the upper and lower edges, and must not occupy less than 65% of the total area of a side, which includes the limiting lines, and for a tobacco product provided for by Article 3(a.e) of this Law, it must not occupy less than 30% of the total area of a side, which includes the limiting lines.

e) placed: the additional health warning – on the front side of a pack; the major health warning – on the back side of a pack, and in the case of tobacco products provided for by Article 3(a.b¹), (a.e), (a.g), (a.g¹) and (a.i) of this Law – on the front and back sides of a pack.

6¹. A health warning in the English language, which fully complies with the requirements of the EU directive applicable for the tobacco product concerned and does not violate the intellectual property and other rights, may be put on the packaging of a tobacco product intended for sale and/or placement at a duty-free shop within the border control zone.

7. (Deleted – 17.5.2018, No 859).

8. The health warning may not be covered by another printed information or image.

9. This Law and the appropriate legal act of the Government of Georgia shall define the procedure for standardising a tobacco product (except for a tobacco product provided for by Article 3(a.f) and a.i) of this Law) and its packaging, which aims at:

a) reducing the attraction of the tobacco product;

b) increasing the effectiveness and visibility of the health warning;

c) by the packaging of a tobacco product, reducing the chance of misleading a consumer with regard to the tobacco product or its consumption.

10. It shall be prohibited to use the brand, logo, trademark or another denoting element on a packaging (pack, carton, container, etc.) and on each piece of a tobacco product (except for a tobacco product provided for by Article 3(a.f) and a.i) of this Law). Any inscription (except for the brand name and the variation name of the tobacco product) on a packaging (pack, carton, container, etc.) of a tobacco product (except for a tobacco product provided for by Article 3(a.f) and a.i) of this Law) must be made in a universal and unified font, in the state language of Georgia and the manufacturing country must be specified. On a packaging of a tobacco product (except for a tobacco product provided for by Article 3(a.f) and a.i) of this Law), the brand name or the variation name of this product must be made in a universal and unified font, in the state language of Georgia, and if desired, it may also be made in the English language and its size must not exceed the inscription made in the state language of Georgia. Further, placement of any kind of inscription on a filtered cigarette, unfiltered cigarette, mouthpiece cigarette, cigar and cigarillo shall be prohibited.

11. The Government of Georgia shall, by a normative act, make a decision on permitting (using), or prohibiting the following attributes and/or elements of a tobacco product (except for a tobacco product provided for by Article 3(a.f) and a.i) of this Law), or on defining any requirements in relation to them:

a) the colour, size and form of a tobacco product or its packaging;



- b) the material and texture of a tobacco product packaging;
- c) the type of opening of a tobacco product packaging;
- d) the outer envelope and content of a tobacco product;
- e) certain words or signs (including a certain sign of a brand, logo or trademark) to be placed on a tobacco product and its packaging;
- f) the words or signs that are permitted for placement on a tobacco product or its packaging;
- g) the differential characteristics of a tobacco product and its packaging, including the characteristics intended to change the appearance or content of the tobacco product and its packaging, in order to produce a sound or emit a fragrance after the tobacco product is sold;
- h) the object or material placed into or used in the packaging of a tobacco product, which is not an integral or necessary component of this packaging;
- i) the object attached to a tobacco product or its packaging, except for the mandatory excise stamp and the health warning defined by this article;
- j) the weight indicator of a tobacco product, which may be placed in the packaging of the tobacco product;
- k) such an attribute or element of a tobacco product as to cause this product to taste characteristically.

12. The brand name or the variation name may be displayed on the packaging of a tobacco product (except for a tobacco product provided for by Article 3(a.f) and a.i) of this Law) only in accordance with a normative act of the Government of Georgia. The said normative act of the Government of Georgia may define:

- a) the maximum length of the brand name or the variation name;
- b) the ban on using words and colours in the brand name or the variation name that may mislead a consumer with regard to the characteristics, health effects, and risk of, or the substances emitted from a tobacco product, or regarding that this tobacco product is allegedly less harmful or better compared to another product because it is natural or organic, or is good for healthy lifestyle;
- c) the usage of such words or phrases that aim at motivating a consumer financially;
- d) the requirements in relation to the rule of displaying words or signs, including the method and circumstances by which and in which these words or signs are displayed, the sort, size and type of the respective font, and the location and orientation of words on the packaging of a tobacco product.

13. The normative acts adopted in accordance with paragraphs 9-12 of this article must not affect the intellectual property right of a person to register, own and dispose of the trademark and the copyright.

Law of Georgia No 859 of 17 May 2017 – website 30.5.2017

Law of Georgia No 1278 of 26 July 2017 – website 28.7.2017

Law of Georgia No 3956 of 13 December 2018 – website 25.12.2018

Law of Georgia No 5128 of 16 October 2019 – website 23.10.2019

Law of Georgia No 2127 of 29 November 2022 – website 13.12.2022

Law of Georgia No 3923 of 13 December 2023 – website 28.12.2023



Law of Georgia No 3924 of 13 December 2023 – website 28.12.2023

Law of Georgia No 4361 of 27 June 2024 – website 11.7.2024

Law of Georgia No 4362 of 27 June 2024 – website 11.7.2024

Article 7 – Protection of consumers from falsified products

1. In order to protect consumers from falsified products, the Government of Georgia shall compile a list of markings (about a tobacco manufacturer) to be placed on a package.
2. The production, storage, transportation and sale of falsified tobacco shall be prohibited.
3. (Deleted – 17.5.2017, No 859).

Law of Georgia No 859 of 17 May 2017 – website 30.5.2017

Article 8 – (Deleted)

Law of Georgia No 859 of 17 May 2017 – website 30.5.2017

Article 9 – Tobacco export and import

1. The export and import of tobacco shall be carried out in accordance with the legislation of Georgia.
2. The standards established by this Law (except for Article 10 of this Law) shall not apply to the amount of tobacco products determined by the Customs Code of Georgia, when tobacco products are brought in by a person by an air transport during one calendar day, and in other cases, when tobacco products are brought in during 30 calendar days.

Law of Georgia No 859 of 17 May 2017 – website 30.5.2017

Law of Georgia No 4910 of 28 June 2019 – website 4.7.2019

Article 10 – Restricting the use of tobacco

1. Smoking of tobacco shall be prohibited:
 - a) in a structure or building of any designation, except for structure or buildings provided for in paragraph 1¹ of this article;
 - b) in public vehicles (except for an open space of ships or other navigational means);
 - b¹) in motor vehicles (cars) when minors are inside;
 - c) in educational (general educational, higher educational, vocational), foster-care, and educational foster-care institutions, libraries, youth camps, children’s entertainment centres, and in structures or buildings of other institutions designated for persons under the age of 18, and in the territories they own (except as provided for by



paragraph 1⁵ of this article), and at public meetings intended for persons under the age of 18;

d) in structures or buildings of medical and pharmaceutical institutions, and in the territories of these institutions, except for the institutions provided for in paragraph 1² of this article, and except as provided for by paragraph 1⁵ of the same article;

e) in structures or buildings of petrol, gas, and gas distribution stations, and in structures or buildings of the institutions and in the territories they own, where flammable substances are stored;

f) at a stadium that has the administration.

1¹. Smoking shall be allowed in the following structures or buildings:

a) in the place of residence of a natural person (if the natural person/family of the natural person actually lives at this place and, at the same time, this place of residence is not the actual place for conducting entrepreneurial activity);

b) within a laboratory facility for studying tobacco smoke;

c) at a penitentiary facility of the state sub-agency institution within the system of the Ministry of Justice of Georgia – the Special Penitentiary Service (‘the Penitentiary facility’);

d) in a cigar-bar (only for smoking a cigar and cigarillo provided for in Article 3(a.b¹) of this Law) organised under a licence issued in accordance with the Law of Georgia on Licences and Permits;

e) in a casino;

e¹) in a slot machine facility, for a permit for organisation of which the rate of a permit fee is set in the amount of at least GEL 200 000, and in which at least 20 slot machines are located;

f) within the transit area of the airport, under the procedure established by paragraph 1³ of this article;

g) in a pre-trial detention facility;

h) at a temporary placement centre of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia;

i) in a structure or building, which has been designated to be permanently used by a professional theatre, only by an actor/actress and/or by a performer during the performance and/or theatrical show, in order to realise the creative idea of the stage manager. In addition, before commencement of the performance and/or theatrical show, the audience must be informed about harmful effects of tobacco products.

1². Smoking of tobacco shall be allowed at facilities intended for inpatient psychiatric and palliative treatment following the procedure established by a special order of the head of the facility concerned, for some patients that are beneficiaries of support or some seriously ill patients, at a specially designated spot which must be completely separated (with walls) from other parts/territories of the facility, and must have ventilation or a window to the open space. Such patients shall also be allowed to smoke tobacco, under the special order of the head of the aforementioned facility, in a patient’s room if he/she is separated from other patients.

1³. Smoking of tobacco shall be allowed within the transit area of the airport only in a special smoking room, which must have a separate ventilation system and from which the tobacco smoke must not penetrate other spaces, and where no food and beverage must be taken in and consumed. The procedure for allocating special smoking rooms within the transit area of the airport, and special requirements for the special smoking rooms shall be defined by a normative act of the Government of Georgia.

1⁴. The procedure and conditions for consuming tobacco at the Penitentiary facility shall be defined by an order



of the Minister of Justice of Georgia.

1⁵. Smoking of tobacco in the territories of higher, educational, vocational educational, medical and pharmaceutical institutions shall be allowed at a room (rooms) specially identified by the head of the institution concerned. The number of such rooms within the territory of the aforementioned institution must not exceed 3, and the area of each room must not be more than 20 m².

2. (Deleted – 17.5.2017, No 859).

3. (Deleted – 17.5.2017, No 859).

4. (Deleted – 17.5.2017, No 859).

5. (Deleted – 17.5.2017, No 859).

6. (Deleted – 17.5.2017, No 859).

7. Demonstration of tobacco smoking or other forms of its consumption shall be prohibited through mass media, other print or electronic media, and through a public show and theatrical performance, except when a smoker is caught on camera by chance during the live telecasting in the open space, except as provided for by paragraph 1¹ (i) of this article, and except for launching on the TV or radio of a clip provided for by Article 8²(2) of the Law of Georgia on Advertisement and approved by the normative act of the Minister of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia on the harmfulness of tobacco smoking.

8. An institution (a legal entity, another organisational entity, an association of persons without forming a legal entity, a business entity, a public institution, including a state body and a municipality body) shall:

a) ensure the prohibition/restriction of tobacco smoking, as determined by this Law, in a structure or building defined by paragraph 1 of this article, and/or in the territory where it carries out its activities;

b) not allow the presence of tobacco smoke, aerosol, ashes, or cigarette stubs left after consuming tobacco, and the placement of a hookah and an ash-tray in a structure or building defined by paragraph 1 of this article, and/or in the territory where it carries out its activities;

c) elaborate and approve the rules related to the prohibition/restriction of tobacco smoking in a structure or building defined by paragraph 1 of this article, and/or in the territory where it carries out its activities;

d) display, at all entrances of a structure or building defined by paragraph 1 of this article, and/or in the territory where it carries out its activities, and in other visible places, the rules related to the prohibition/restriction of tobacco smoking, the appropriate text, and a sign about the prohibition/restriction of tobacco smoking; and the contact telephone number and other information of a natural person/agency, who/which can be contacted if the rules related to the prohibition/restriction of tobacco consumption are violated;

e) not allow the smoking of tobacco, and if a fact of tobacco smoking is detected, it shall, within the scope of powers vested by law, immediately prevent it in a structure or building defined by paragraph 1 of this article, and/or in the territory where it carries out its activities.

9. The driver or the owner/possessor of a public vehicle shall follow the rules of tobacco smoking prohibition/restriction in the public vehicle concerned, and shall prevent the facts of failure to follow these rules.

Law of Georgia No 859 of 17 May 2017 – website 30.5.2017

Law of Georgia No 3121 of 5 July 2018 – website 11.7.2018

Law of Georgia No 3956 of 13 December 2018 – website 25.12.2018



Law of Georgia No 7015 of 15 July 2020 – website 28.7.2020

Law of Georgia No 1349 of 30 December 2021 – website 31.12.2021

Law of Georgia No 596 of 28 May 2025 – website 29.5.2025

Article 10¹ – Permit for organisation of a cigar-bar and the permit conditions

1. Issuance and cancellation of a permit for organisation of a cigar-bar, making of amendments to it, its registration in the departmental permit registry, and other permit-related measures shall be carried out by the legal entity under public law within the governance of the Ministry of Finance of Georgia – the Revenue Service ('the Revenue Service'), in accordance with the Law of Georgia on Licences and Permits.

2. A permit for organisation of a cigar-bar shall be issued for a 4-year term.

3. Transfer of a permit provided for by this article for organisation of a cigar-bar to another person shall be prohibited.

4. Offering of any product to a consumer in a cigar-bar with the aim of presenting, selling or trying it shall be prohibited, except for a cigar and a cigarillo provided for by Article 3(a.b¹) of this Law, and for drinks.

5. Minors shall not be allowed to enter a cigar-bar.

6. The owner of a cigar-bar shall display at a visible place the contact information of an appropriate fire and rescue division.

7. An applicant for a permit for organisation of a cigar-bar, must attach to the application to be submitted to the Revenue Service, apart from the documents provided for by Article 25 of the Law of Georgia on Licences and Permits, the following documents and information:

a) the document certifying the ownership of the institution (business entity) in question;

b) documents certifying that the cigar-bar will be located in a separate building or in a separate part of the building, will be connected to other parts of the building with the dead wall, will have a separate entrance, ventilation system and cigar smoke will not penetrate other parts of the building or other structures or buildings;

c) the document issued by an appropriate authorised body about the proper operation of the ventilation system;

d) the document certifying that the facility has an electronic humidifier;

e) information that the personnel (employees) of the facility concerned have been trained with regard to the rules of selling and consuming tobacco products.

8. A holder of the permit for organisation of a cigar-bar shall, one year later after obtaining the permit and each following year, submit information to the issuer of the permit for organisation of a cigar-bar that at least 15% of its annual turn-over according to the respective year is the sum earned from selling cigars.

Law of Georgia No 859 of 17 May 2017 – website 30.5.2017

Law of Georgia No 3956 of 13 December 2018 – website 25.12.2018

Law of Georgia No 596 of 28 May 2025 – website 29.5.2025



Article 10² – Liability for failure to comply with the conditions of a permit for organisation of a cigar-bar

1. The liability for failure to comply with the conditions of a permit for organisation of a cigar-bar shall be determined by the legislation of Georgia, including this Law.
2. The failure of a holder of a permit for organisation of a cigar-bar to comply with the conditions of the permit for organisation of a cigar-bar, as provided for by this Law, shall carry a fine for him/her in the amount of GEL 500.
3. Irrespective of the fine imposed as provided for by paragraph 2 of this article, the repeated failure of the holder of the permit for organisation of a cigar-bar to comply with the permit conditions shall carry a fine for him/her in accordance with Article 34 of the Law of Georgia on Licences and Permits.
4. If, irrespective of payment of fines provided for by paragraphs 2 and 3 of this article, the holder of the permit for organisation of a cigar-bar still fails to comply with the permit conditions, the permit issuer shall make the decision to cancel the permit. Issues related to the cancellation of the permit shall be regulated in accordance with the Law of Georgia on Licences and Permits.
5. A duly authorised person of the Revenue Service shall have the right to draw up a report of the offence provided for by this article and to consider the case.
6. The form of the offence report provided for by this article, the procedure for filling and submitting it shall be defined by an order of the Minister of Finance of Georgia, and the proceeding shall be conducted in accordance with the legislation of Georgia.

Law of Georgia No 859 of 17 May 2017 – website 30.5.2017

Law of Georgia No 3956 of 13 December 2018 – website 25.12.2018

Article 11 – Liability for violating this Law

Natural and legal persons shall be liable for violating of this Law in accordance with the procedure established by the legislation of Georgia.

Article 12 – State control of enforcement of this Law

1. The state control of the enforcement of this Law shall be carried out in accordance with the legislation of Georgia.
2. In order to comply with this Law, for the administration of issues related to tobacco control, the authorised agencies can, when necessary, elaborate and issue appropriate legal acts.

Law of Georgia No 859 of 17 May 2017 – website 30.5.2017

Article 12¹ – Transitional provisions

1. Until 1 January 2020, smoking of tobacco shall be allowed at a stadium provided for by Article 10(1)(f) of this Law.



2. Until 1 January 2020, smoking of tobacco shall be allowed in a maximum of 20% of hotel rooms. The tobacco smoking policy in smoking and non-smoking rooms of a hotel may not be changed. Smoking rooms of a hotel must be designated under a special order of the hotel administration, which must be displayed at a visible place in the hotel.
3. Until 1 January 2019, it shall be possible to put an inscription on a tobacco product, under the procedure established by the Government of Georgia, about the substances emitted from the tobacco product.
4. Until 31 December 2022, a health warning in the English language, which fully complies with the requirements of the EU directive applicable for the tobacco product concerned and does not violate the intellectual property and other rights, may be put on the packaging of this tobacco product.
5. Until 1 January 2025, a health warning may be put on each package of new tobacco products under Article 3(a.g) of this Law, and of heated tobacco under sub-paragraph a.i) of the same article without the respective pictogram. In addition, for heated tobacco under Article 3(a.i) of this Law, the health warning may be allowed not to occupy less than 30% of the total area of a side, which includes the limiting lines.
6. Tobacco products that comply with the legislation of Georgia effective before 1 October 2024 may be placed on the Georgian market before 1 March 2025 and sold until 1 April 2025.
7. Tobacco production defined by Article 4(3²) of this Law shall not be considered an activity carried out without a tobacco production licence before 1 January 2026.

Law of Georgia No 859 of 17 May 2017 – website 30.5.2017

Law of Georgia No 3956 of 13 December 2018 – website 25.12.2018

Law of Georgia No 5128 of 16 October 2019 – website 23.10.2019

Law of Georgia No 1349 of 30 December 2021 – website 31.12.2021

Law of Georgia No 3923 of 13 December 2023 – website 28.12.2023

Law of Georgia No 4362 of 27 June 2024 – website 11.7.2024

Law of Georgia No 4380 of 19 July 2024 – website 29.7.2024

Law of Georgia No 363 of 18 March 2025 – website 19.3.2025

Article 13 – Final Provisions

1. The following laws shall be declared invalid upon entry of this Law into force:

- a) the Law of Georgia No 19 of 6 June 2003 on Tobacco Control in Georgia (the Legislative Herald of Georgia, 1.7.2003, Art. 121);
- b) the Law of Georgia No 31(38) of 25 June 1999 on Food and Tobacco (the Legislative Herald of Georgia, 1999, Art. 165);
- c) the Law of Georgia No 29 of 26 August 2003 on Trade of Tobacco Products (the Legislative Herald of Georgia, 18.9.2003, Art. 209).

2. Subordinate normative acts issued on the basis of the legislative acts specified in paragraph 1(a) and (b) of this article shall remain in force until they come in compliance with this Law.



3. This Law shall enter into force upon its publication.

President of Georgia

M. Saakashvili

Tbilisi

15 December 2010

No 4059-რს

