

ORGANIC LAW OF GEORGIA ON CITIZENSHIP OF GEORGIA

Chapter I – General Provisions

Article 1 – Scope of regulation

This Law defines the basic principles of citizenship of Georgia, establishes the legal status of citizens of Georgia and the grounds for acquiring and terminating citizenship of Georgia.

Article 2 – Definition of terms

The terms used in this Law have the following meanings:

- a) territory of Georgia – the territory within the national borders of Georgia, as well as sea vessels or aircraft flying the national flag of Georgia;
- b) residence in Georgia – a person's stay in the territory of Georgia within the period determined by this Law;
- c) continuous residence in Georgia – a person's residence in Georgia without spending a combined period of more than 90 days outside Georgia during a year (the period does not include leaving Georgia for up to two years for education and treatment). For the purposes of this Law, a year means a period of 365 consecutive days (in the case of a leap year – 366 days);
- d) changing citizenship – acquisition of citizenship of Georgia by naturalisation, except for granting citizenship of Georgia by way of exception, or termination of citizenship of Georgia;
- e) minor – a person under the age of 18;
- f) unknown parent – a parent whose identity and/or citizenship is unknown;
- g) honorary citizenship of Georgia – a foreign individual's relation with Georgia that does not give rise to the rights and duties established for a citizen of Georgia under the legislation of Georgia;
- h) beneficiary of support – persons defined under Article 12(4-5) of the Civil Code of Georgia;
- i) family member – spouse of a citizen of Georgia or alien, his/her child, parent, adoptive parent, adopted child, sister, brother, grandfather, grandmother, grandchild, a minor under guardianship or custodianship of, and/or fully dependent on a citizen of Georgia or alien, a beneficiary of support or an incapacitated person;
- j) ancestor – a representative of five generations of an ascending line of a person.

Organic Law of Georgia No 3400 of 20 March 2015 – website, 31.3.2015

Organic Law of Georgia No 3260 of 21 July 2018 – website, 6.8.2018

Article 3 – Citizenship of Georgia

1. Citizenship of Georgia means a legal bond between a person and Georgia.
2. There shall be a single citizenship in Georgia.
3. A citizen of Georgia may at the same time be a foreign citizen only in cases provided for in Articles 17 and 21¹ of this Law.
4. No one may be restricted in their right to change citizenship, except as provided for by this Law or international agreements to which Georgia is a party.
5. Deprivation of citizenship of Georgia shall be inadmissible.

Organic Law of Georgia No 3260 of 21 July 2018 – website, 6.8.2018

Article 4 – Legal status of citizens of Georgia

1. Citizens of Georgia shall be equal before the law regardless of race, colour of skin, language, sex, religion, political or other opinions, national, ethnic and social affiliation, origin, property or social status, place of residence or any other characteristics.
2. Citizens of Georgia shall be guaranteed the rights and freedoms determined by the legislation of Georgia and recognised by international law.
3. Citizens of Georgia shall abide by the Constitution and other normative acts of Georgia, protect the country's territorial integrity and be committed to the interests of Georgia.
4. Georgia shall protect the rights, freedoms, and legitimate interests of citizens of Georgia, both within and outside the territory of Georgia.

Article 5 – Retention of citizenship

1. A citizen of Georgia's marriage or dissolution of marriage with an alien or with a stateless person having a status in Georgia shall not result in the change of the citizenship of the spouses.
2. A change in the citizenship of one spouse shall not result in the change of the citizenship of the other spouse.



3. Dissolution of marriage of spouses shall not result in the change of the citizenship of their children.
4. A change in the citizenship of one or both spouses shall not result in the change of the citizenship of their children.
5. Adoption of an underage citizen of Georgia by an alien(s) shall not result in the change of the citizenship of the minor.
6. A citizen of Georgia's residence outside Georgia shall not result in the change of citizenship of Georgia.

Article 6 – Changing citizenship of minors and beneficiaries of support

1. Citizenship of a minor may be changed (except when citizenship of Georgia is lost) on the basis of an application of his/her parents or another legal representative.
2. Citizenship of a 14 years old minor may be changed (except for the cases when citizenship of Georgia is lost) only by his/her consent.
3. Citizenship of a beneficiary of support (including a person under paragraph 2 of this article, if he/she is a beneficiary of support) may be changed (except for the cases when citizenship of Georgia is lost) by his/her supporter's consent, unless otherwise determined under court decision.

Organic Law of Georgia No 3400 of 20 March 2015 – website, 31.3.2015

Organic Law of Georgia No 3260 of 21 July 2018 – website, 6.8.2018

Article 7 – Honorary citizenship of Georgia

An honorary citizenship of Georgia may be granted, by the consent of a grantee, to an alien who has made an exceptional contribution to Georgia and to mankind by his/her scientific and/or public activity, or if he/she has a profession and qualification, which is of interest for Georgia, and if granting Honorary citizenship of Georgia is based on national interests of Georgia.

Article 8 – Oath of citizenship of Georgia

A person who acquired citizenship of Georgia through naturalisation, except for the cases specified in Article 12(2) and (3) of this Law, shall give an oath of allegiance to Georgia in the Georgian language and sign the oath: 'I, (first name, last name), become a citizen of Georgia and swear to serve Georgia faithfully, abide by its Constitution and all other laws, protect the independence and territorial integrity of Georgia; I recognise the Georgian language as an official language of Georgia and also, Abkhaz language in the Autonomous Republic of Abkhazia. I undertake to respect Georgian culture and national traditions.'

Chapter II – Acquiring Citizenship of Georgia

Article 9 – Forms of acquiring citizenship of Georgia

1. Citizenship of Georgia is acquired:
 - a) by birth;
 - b) by naturalisation.
2. Naturalisation occurs by being granted citizenship of Georgia by the President of Georgia.
3. Types of naturalisation are:
 - a) granting citizenship under regular procedure;
 - b) granting citizenship under simplified procedure;
 - c) granting citizenship by way of exception;
 - d) granting citizenship by way of its restoration.

Article 10 – Acquiring citizenship of Georgia by birth

Citizenship of Georgia shall be acquired by birth by:

- a person, at whose birth one of his/her parents is a citizen of Georgia;
- a person born on the territory of Georgia through extracorporeal fertilization (surrogacy), if the country of citizenship of neither of his/her parents recognises this person as its citizen;
- a child born in the territory of Georgia to stateless persons having a status in Georgia;
- a person born on the territory of Georgia, one of whose parents is a stateless person having a status in Georgia and the other parent is unknown.

Article 11 – Citizenship of children of unknown parents

A minor who is living in Georgia and whose both parents are unknown shall be deemed to be a citizen of Georgia unless proved otherwise.

Article 12 – Granting citizenship of Georgia to adults under regular procedure

1. Adults shall be granted citizenship of Georgia under regular procedure if they meet the following requirements:
 - a) they have lawfully resided in Georgia for the last 10 consecutive years up to the day of applying for citizenship of Georgia;



- b) they know the official language of Georgia within the established limits;
- c) they know the history of Georgia and basic principles of law within the established limits;
- d) they have a job and/or real estate in Georgia, or carry on business in the territory of Georgia or hold an interest or shares in a Georgian enterprise.

1¹. An adult stateless person having a status in Georgia shall be granted citizenship of Georgia under regular procedure if he/she has been lawfully residing in Georgia with the status of stateless person having a status in Georgia within the last 5 years till the day of submitting an application for granting citizenship of Georgia, and meets the requirements established by paragraph 1(b-d) of this article and other requirements established by this Law.

2. (Deleted – 20.3.2015, No 3400).

2¹. The requirements of paragraph 1(b-d) of this article shall not apply to granting citizenship of Georgia under regular procedure to a beneficiary of support.

3. The requirements of paragraph 1(b) and (c) of this article shall not apply to granting citizenship of Georgia under regular procedure to a person who has such a consistent physical, psychological, intellectual and/or sensory disorder that makes it impossible to check whether he/she meets the requirements of the said subparagraphs.

4. Paragraph 1(d) of this article shall not apply to granting citizenship of Georgia under regular procedure to persons having a refugee status.

5. The limits of the required knowledge of the official language and the history of Georgia and of basic principles of law referred to in paragraph 1(b) and (c) of this article shall be determined under Article 28 (1) of this Law.

Organic Law of Georgia No 3400 of 20 March 2015 – website, 31.3.2015

Organic Law of Georgia No 3260 of 21 July 2018 – website, 6.8.2018

Organic Law of Georgia No 3627 of 1 November 2023 – website, 21.11.2023

Article 13 – Granting citizenship of Georgia to minors under regular procedure

1. A minor who has not acquired citizenship of Georgia by birth shall be granted citizenship of Georgia under regular procedure if one of his/her parents is a citizen of Georgia.

2. A minor shall be granted citizenship of Georgia under regular procedure if he/she is adopted by a citizen of Georgia.

3. A minor born in the territory of Georgia who has a refugee status or is a stateless person having a status in Georgia and has been living in Georgia for five years, shall be granted citizenship of Georgia under regular procedure without the verification of the grounds provided for in Article 16 of this Law.

Article 14 – Granting citizenship of Georgia under simplified procedure

1. A person who is married to a citizen of Georgia and who has continuously lawfully resided in Georgia for the last 5 years up to the day of applying for citizenship of Georgia, shall acquire citizenship of Georgia under simplified procedure if he/she meets the requirements of Article 12 (1)(b) and (c) of this Law.

2. Requirements of Article 12 of this Law shall not apply to granting of citizenship of Georgia under simplified procedure to a person having the status of a repatriate. A person having the status of a repatriate shall be granted citizenship of Georgia under simplified procedure according to the Regulation approved by a normative act of the Citizenship Commission (the ‘Commission’) – ordinance of the Commission.

Organic Law of Georgia No 3260 of 21 July 2018 – website, 6.8.2018

Article 15 – Granting citizenship of Georgia to a foreign citizen

A foreign citizen may apply to an authorised body for granting citizenship of Georgia. The Decree of the President of Georgia on granting citizenship of Georgia to a foreign citizen, except for the Decree of the President of Georgia on granting citizenship of Georgia by way of exception, shall take effect upon receiving by the competent Georgian authorities of a document certifying such person’s renunciation of the citizenship of another country.

Organic Law of Georgia No 3260 of 21 July 2018 – website, 6.8.2018

Article 16 – Grounds for refusal to grant citizenship of Georgia by naturalisation

1. A person shall not acquire citizenship of Georgia by naturalisation if:

a) he/she has committed an international crime against peace and humanity;

b) he/she has been involved in a grave crime against a human being, state or public security and order under the legislation of Georgia;

c) it is inadvisable to grant him/her citizenship of Georgia due to the state and/or public security interests of Georgia;

d) he/she is wanted by the law enforcement bodies of Georgia or another country, or by the International Criminal Police Organisation (INTERPOL), and/or if the extradition or expulsion procedure is in progress against him/her.

2. The state and/or public security interest of Georgia provided for in paragraph 1(c) of this article comprises the cases, where:

a) a person’s stay in the territory of Georgia poses a threat to Georgia’s relations with other states and/or international organisations;

b) according to available information, there is a high probability that the person is connected with:



- b.a) the armed forces of a state/organisation posing a threat to Georgia's defence or security;
- b.b) intelligence services of a foreign country;
- b.c) terrorist and/or extremist organisations;
- b.d) organisations engaged in illegal circulation of narcotics, arms, weapons of mass destruction or their components, as well as with those involved in human trafficking and/or other criminal (including transnational criminal) organisations.

3. Information about the circumstances specified in paragraph 1(c) of this article shall be communicated to the authority reviewing the case, without harming state secrets, or state and public security interests of Georgia.

4. If there are grounds specified in paragraph 1(c) of this article to refuse to grant citizenship of Georgia by naturalisation, the final decision on whether to grant citizenship of Georgia shall be made by the President of Georgia. In that case, the decision made by the President of Georgia to grant citizenship of Georgia shall be substantiated.

Organic Law of Georgia No 3260 of 21 July 2018 – website, 6.8.2018

Article 17 – Granting citizenship of Georgia by way of exception

- 1. The President of Georgia may grant citizenship of Georgia by way of exception to a citizen of another country who has made a contribution of exceptional merit to Georgia. The President of Georgia may also grant citizenship of Georgia by way of exception to an alien based on state interests.
- 2. When evaluating the state interests provided for in paragraph 1 of this article, *inter alia*, the following circumstances shall be taken into account:
 - a) a foreign citizen considers Georgia to be his/her homeland, and he/she or his/her ancestor is:
 - a.a) a person residing in an occupied territory of Georgia or is internally displaced from the territory;
 - a.b) a person emigrated in different times for political opinions or for hard social and economic conditions;
 - b) a foreign citizen is making such an investment in Georgia or he/she has made such an investment in Georgia that contributes or has contributed substantially to the development of the state economy;
 - c) a foreign citizen is successful in sport, science and/or art, and he/she is willing to carry on his/her activity on behalf of Georgia.
- 3. A person under paragraph 2(a) of this article shall, within the limits determined for granting citizenship of Georgia by way of exception, have knowledge of:
 - a) the State language of Georgia;
 - b) history of Georgia and the basics of law.
- 4. The requirements of paragraph 3(a) and (b) of this article shall not apply to granting citizenship of Georgia by way of exception to a person who has such a physical, psychological, intellectual and/or sensory disorder that makes it impossible to check whether he/she meets the requirement of the above subparagraphs.
- 5. To verify the fact of making the investment under paragraph 2(b) of this article, a body reviewing the case shall request information from a competent body.

Organic Law of Georgia No 3260 of 21 July 2018 – website, 6.8.2018

Organic Law of Georgia No 3627 of 1 November 2023 – website, 21.11.2023

Article 18 – Granting citizenship of Georgia by way of restoration

- 1. Citizenship of Georgia shall be granted by way of its restoration to persons whose citizenship has been terminated:
 - a) unlawfully;
 - b) by renunciation of citizenship of Georgia;
 - c) as a result of the choice of his/her parent(s).
- 2. Persons shall be granted citizenship of Georgia by way of its restoration if they meet the following requirements:
 - a) know the official language of Georgia within the established limits;
 - b) there are no grounds specified in Article 16 of this Law.
- 3. The citizenship of Georgia shall be regarded as unlawfully terminated if a person loses citizenship of Georgia without the existence of the grounds provided for in Article 21(1) of this Law.
- 4. If a person is granted citizenship of Georgia by way of its restoration because his/her citizenship of Georgia has been unlawfully terminated, the requirements of the second paragraph of this article shall not apply to that person.
- 5. A person may be granted citizenship of Georgia by way of its restoration when he/she reaches the age of majority if his/her citizenship of Georgia has been terminated as a result of the choice of his/her parent(s).
- 6. The requirement of paragraph 2(a) of this article shall not apply to granting citizenship of Georgia by way of restoration to a person who has such a consistent physical, psychological, intellectual and/or sensory disorder that makes it impossible to check whether he/she meets the requirement of the said subparagraph.
- 7. (Deleted – 21.07.2018, No 3260).

Organic Law of Georgia No 3400 of 20 March 2015 – website, 31.3.2015

Organic Law of Georgia No 3260 of 21 July 2018 – website, 6.8.2018

Organic Law of Georgia No 3627 of 1 November 2023 – website, 21.11.2023



Article 19 – Types of termination of citizenship of Georgia

Citizenship of Georgia of a citizen of Georgia may be terminated by:

- a) renunciation of citizenship of Georgia;
- b) the loss of citizenship of Georgia;
- c) in the case provided for in Article 11 of this Law.

Article 20 – Renouncing citizenship of Georgia

1. A citizen of Georgia may renounce citizenship of Georgia.

2. A citizen of Georgia may not renounce citizenship of Georgia if:

- a) he/she has not fulfilled military or any other duties owed to Georgia;
- b) he/she is accused of a crime provided for by the Criminal Code of Georgia or there is a final court decision with respect to him/her, which is yet to be executed.

3. A decree of the President of Georgia on a person's renunciation of citizenship of Georgia shall take effect:

a) upon receipt by competent Georgian authorities of the documents confirming that the person has been granted foreign citizenship;

b) on the 15th day of signing the decree, if the person has received a document issued by a competent authority of a foreign country confirming that the person will definitely be granted the citizenship of that country if he/she renounces citizenship of Georgia.

Article 21 – Loss of citizenship of Georgia

1. A citizen of Georgia shall lose citizenship of Georgia if he/she:

a) joins military, police or security services of a foreign country without permission of competent Georgian authorities;

b) acquires citizenship of Georgia by presenting false documents;

c) acquires foreign citizenship, except as provided for in Article 21¹ of this Law.

2. Paragraph 1(a) of this article shall not apply to a citizen of Georgia who has been granted citizenship of Georgia by way of exception, or who has retained citizenship of Georgia when acquiring foreign citizenship, and who will join military service or police service of the country of his/her citizenship.

3. Paragraph 1(c) of this article shall not apply to citizens of Georgia who have acquired citizenship of Georgia by way of exception.

4. A citizen of Georgia may retain citizenship of Georgia despite the grounds specified in paragraph 1(a) or (c) of this article, if those grounds are eliminated before they are identified.

5. The competent authorities provided for in paragraph 1(a) of this article shall be specified by a resolution of the Government of Georgia.

Organic Law of Georgia No 3260 of 21 July 2018 – website, 6.8.2018

Article 21¹ – Retention of citizenship of Georgia in case of acquiring foreign citizenship

1. A citizen of Georgia shall retain citizenship of Georgia if he/she obtains consent from the state of Georgia to retention of citizenship of Georgia before he/she acquires citizenship of another country.

2. The consent to retention of citizenship of Georgia shall be granted in the case provided for by paragraph 1 of this article if the connection of a citizen of Georgia with Georgia will be deemed reliable.

3. A minor, who, along with citizenship of Georgia, has acquired foreign citizenship by birth, shall retain citizenship of Georgia from his/her birth until reaching 18 years of age. If an application for retaining citizenship of the minor is not submitted within this period, his/her citizenship of Georgia shall be terminated. citizenship of Georgia of a minor may be retained on the basis of an application of parents or a legal representative. If the application is submitted by either of the parents, citizenship of Georgia of a minor may be retained with the consent of the other parent.

4. In case of acquiring foreign citizenship, a citizen of Georgia shall not retain citizenship of Georgia if his/her retention of citizenship of Georgia is against the interests of state security of Georgia and/or protection of public security.

Organic Law of Georgia No 3260 of 21 July 2018 – website, 6.8.2018

Organic Law of Georgia No 3627 of 1 November 2023 – website, 21.11.2023

Chapter IV – Procedure for Considering and Deciding on Issues Regarding Citizenship of Georgia

Article 22 – Submitting applications on issues regarding citizenship of Georgia

1. Interested persons shall submit, directly or through an authorised representative, applications on issues regarding citizenship of Georgia to the Legal Entity under Public Law (LEPL) – Public Service Development Agency under the Ministry for Justice of Georgia ('the Agency') or to Georgian diplomatic missions or consular offices abroad.

2. Minors shall submit applications on issues regarding citizenship of Georgia through their legal representatives.

2¹. Beneficiaries of support may submit applications on issues regarding citizenship of Georgia only through their



supporters, unless otherwise determined under court decision.

3. In the case provided for in Article 17 of this Law, a person shall submit an application for granting citizenship of Georgia to the Agency or a diplomatic mission or consular office of Georgia abroad.

Organic Law of Georgia No 3400 of 20 March 2015 – website, 31.3.2015

Organic Law of Georgia No 3260 of 21 July 2018 – website, 6.8.2018

Article 23 – Notification for the loss of citizenship of Georgia

Upon identifying the grounds for the loss of citizenship of Georgia, state authorities shall submit a request to the Agency on the loss of citizenship.

Article 24 – Consideration of issues regarding citizenship of Georgia

1. An application with regard to acquiring citizenship of Georgia by naturalisation and retaining citizenship of Georgia shall be considered by the Agency with the assistance of the Commission.

2. The Commission shall consist of 6 members appointed by the chairperson of the Commission. Two members of the Commission (including the chairperson of the Commission) shall be appointed from among the Agency employees, 2 members – from among employees of the State Security Service, and 2 members – from among employees of the Administration of the President of Georgia, upon recommendation of these agencies. If the votes are split in half, the chairperson shall have the casting vote.

3. If a member of the Commission is discharged from the organisation he/she represents in the Commission, this fact shall automatically result in termination of the status of member of the Commission.

4. The rules of procedure of the Commission shall be defined by the Regulations approved by the Commission.

5. The Commission shall have the secretariat, which provides organisational and technical support of the Commission's operation. An appropriate office of the Agency shall act as the secretariat.

6. The Commission shall ensure ascertaining the presence of conditions for retaining citizenship of Georgia and for granting citizenship of Georgia to a foreign citizen by way of exception (except for the conditions defined by the requirements provided for in Article 17(3) of this Law). The Agency shall prepare an appropriate opinion on the basis of the Commission's decision.

6¹. The level of knowledge of the state language of Georgia, history and the basics of Law of Georgia by an applicant for granting citizenship of Georgia shall be checked before an application for granting citizenship of Georgia is submitted to the Agency or to the diplomatic mission or consular office of Georgia abroad. The checking of the level of knowledge of the state language of Georgia, history and the basics of Law of Georgia by the said person shall be ensured by the Agency.

6². If a person has such a consistent physical, psychological, intellectual and/or sensory disorder that makes it impossible to check his/her level of knowledge of the state language of Georgia, history and the basics of Law of Georgia, the decision to exempt that person from the said checking shall be made by the Commission.

6³. The result of checking the level of knowledge of the state language of Georgia, history and the basics of Law of Georgia, which enables a person concerned to submit an application for granting citizenship of Georgia to the Agency or the diplomatic mission or consular office of Georgia abroad, shall be valid within 1 year.

6⁴. The procedure for submitting an application for granting citizenship of Georgia to the Agency or the diplomatic mission or consular office of Georgia abroad for checking the level of knowledge of the state language of Georgia, history and the basics of Law of Georgia by an applicant for granting citizenship of Georgia, the rule for checking his/her level of knowledge and the amount of a fee for the respective service shall be defined by an order of the Minister of Justice of Georgia. The said fee must not exceed the highest rate of a fee, fixed by the legislation of Georgia, payable in Georgia and effective on 7 June 2023, for the expedited service set in relation to the issue of granting citizenship of Georgia under regular procedure and for preparation of a relevant opinion.

7. An application and a recommendation with regard to acquiring citizenship of Georgia by birth, establishing citizenship of Georgia and terminating citizenship of Georgia shall be reviewed and an appropriate report shall be prepared by the Agency.

8. In case of acquiring foreign citizenship, the decision on granting consent to the retention of citizenship of Georgia of a person shall be made by the President of Georgia under the procedure established by this Law.

9. Opinions of the Agency with regard to granting or refusing to grant citizenship of Georgia under regular procedure, granting or refusing to grant citizenship of Georgia under simplified procedure, granting or refusing to grant citizenship of Georgia by way of exception, granting or refusing to grant citizenship of Georgia by way of restoration, granting or refusing to grant citizenship of Georgia under special procedure, retaining citizenship of Georgia and terminating citizenship of Georgia shall be forwarded to the President of Georgia for final decision.

10. If the Agency becomes aware of the existence of grounds for the loss of citizenship of Georgia without receiving a notification for the loss of citizenship of Georgia, it shall consider the issue of the loss of citizenship of Georgia and submit appropriate materials to the President of Georgia.

Organic Law of Georgia No 3260 of 21 July 2018 – website, 6.8.2018



Article 25 – Making decisions on issues regarding citizenship of Georgia

1. The final decision on granting, retaining, refusing to grant or terminating citizenship of Georgia shall be made by the President of Georgia.
2. In the case of a positive decision on an application for granting, retaining or terminating citizenship of Georgia or on the notification on the loss of citizenship of Georgia, the President of Georgia shall issue a decree, and in the case of a negative decision on such application and request, the President of Georgia shall issue an ordinance.

Organic Law of Georgia No 3260 of 21 July 2018 – website, 6.8.2018

Article 26 – Time frame for considering and deciding on issues regarding citizenship of Georgia

1. The time frame for considering and deciding on applications and notification on issues regarding citizenship of Georgia shall not exceed three months.
2. In the case of a negative decision on an application for granting citizenship of Georgia by naturalisation, the applicant may apply to the Agency or to the Georgian diplomatic mission or consular office abroad on the same grounds 6 months after the negative decision is made.

Organic Law of Georgia No 3260 of 21 July 2018 – website, 6.8.2018

Organic Law of Georgia No 3627 of 1 November 2023 – website, 21.11.2023

Article 27 – Service fee

1. When filing an application on issues regarding citizenship of Georgia, the applicant shall pay a service fee in the amount and under the procedure prescribed by the Government of Georgia, except as provided for by the legislation of Georgia.
2. In the case of the restoration of citizenship of Georgia, the service fee shall be refunded to a person if his/her citizenship of Georgia has been terminated unlawfully.

Article 28 – Procedure for considering applications and notification on the issues regarding citizenship of Georgia

1. The procedure for considering an application for granting or terminating citizenship of Georgia and procedure for considering notification on the loss of citizenship of Georgia, as well as the procedure for granting Honorary Citizenship of Georgia, shall be determined by a regulation approved by an ordinance of the Commission.
2. Communication with the applicant may be carried out electronically under the legislation of Georgia.
3. An administrative legal act of the Agency shall become effective upon its publication under the procedure established by the legislation of Georgia.
4. Publishing of an administrative legal act of the Agency on the official webpage of the Agency shall also be considered as publication of the administrative legal act.
5. If an administrative legal act of the Agency is issued through automatic control means, the time limits with regard to this decision shall commence upon its publication.

Organic Law of Georgia No 3260 of 21 July 2018 – website, 6.8.2018

Article 29 – Appealing decisions made on the issues regarding citizenship of Georgia

1. A decision of the President of Georgia regarding citizenship of Georgia, except for the decision on terminating citizenship of Georgia, may not be subject to appeal in court. Where a person appeals in court a decision made by the President of Georgia on terminating citizenship of Georgia, the President of Georgia shall act as a defendant.
2. The opinion/decision of the Agency regarding citizenship of Georgia, which independently gives rise to legal implications, shall be an administrative legal act.

Organic Law of Georgia No 3260 of 21 July 2018 – website, 6.8.2018

Chapter V – Transitional and Final Provisions

Article 30 – (Deleted)

Organic Law of Georgia No 5141 of 27 May 2016 – website, 4.6.2016

Organic Law of Georgia No 2481 of 6 July 2018 – website, 21.6.2018

Organic Law of Georgia No 490 of 25 May 2021 – website, 27.5.2021

Article 30¹ – Establishment of Citizenship of Georgia for persons residing in the Autonomous Republic of Abkhazia and in the territory of Tskhinvali Region (former Autonomous Region of South Ossetia)

1. The following persons shall be deemed citizens of Georgia, except for persons who have acquired or will acquire citizenship of Georgia under this Law:
 - a) a person born in Georgia before 21 December 1991, who resided in the Autonomous Republic of Abkhazia or in the territory of Tskhinvali Region (former Autonomous Region of South Ossetia) before 21 December 1991, has not acquired



foreign citizenship and no circumstance under Article 16 of this Law applies to him/her;

b) a child of a person who was born in Georgia before 21 December 1991 and resided in the Autonomous Republic of Abkhazia or in the territory of Tskhinvali Region (former Autonomous Region of South Ossetia) before 21 December 1991, who has not acquired foreign citizenship and no circumstance under Article 16 of this Law applies to him/her.

2. An interested person shall, under paragraph 1 of this article, apply to the Agency or a diplomatic mission or consular office of Georgia abroad for the establishment of citizenship of Georgia.

3. The Agency shall review the application, involving appropriate competent bodies, and verify the accuracy and reliability of the information therein. The Agency shall, within one month after receiving the application, make the decision on establishing citizenship of Georgia or refusing to establish citizenship of Georgia under this article.

4. The procedure for reviewing the application under paragraph 3 of this article and making the decision shall be defined under the procedure established by the Government of Georgia.

Organic Law of Georgia No 2481 of 6 July 2018 – website, 21.6.2018

Article 30² – Establishment of citizenship of Georgia

1. The following individuals , except for persons who have acquired citizenship of Georgia in accordance with this Law, or who will acquire citizenship of Georgia in accordance with this Law shall be deemed citizens of Georgia:

a) a person born before 31 March 1975, who has resided in Georgia for a combined period of at least five years, stayed in the territory of Georgia by 31 March 1993 and has not acquired foreign citizenship;

b) a person born after 31 March 1975, who resided in Georgia by 31 March 1993 and has not acquired foreign citizenship;

c) a person born in the territory of Georgia, who left the territory of Georgia after 21 December 1991, thus failing to meet the requirements of subparagraphs (a) and (b) of this article, and who has not acquired foreign citizenship.

2. A certificate verifying the fact of a person's residence and/or stay on a particular day in the territory of a municipality, which may be a document verifying the presence of one of the circumstances provided for by an appropriate subparagraph of paragraph 1 of this article for deeming a person citizen of Georgia, shall be issued by the commission formed with the executive body of a respective municipality (within Tbilisi municipality – with the mayor of Tbilisi municipality) establishing the fact of living (presence) of the person in the territory of the municipality no later than 7 business days from the submission of an appropriate application. The procedure for the formation and operation of the commission shall be established according to the standard statute approved by an order of the Minister of Justice of Georgia.

3. Powers under paragraph 2 of this article shall be the powers delegated by the State to a municipality. Sectorial surveillance over the exercise of the powers shall be carried out by the Ministry of Justice of Georgia under the procedure established by the Organic Law of Georgia – the Local Self-government Code.

4. A commission formed with the Gamgebeli of Akhalgori, Eredvi, Kurta, Tighva or Azhara municipality establishing the fact of a person's residence (stay) in the territory of a municipality shall have the powers to establish the fact of the person's residence (stay) in the territory of Akhalgori, Eredvi, Kurta, Tighva or Azhara municipality, respectively.

5. The procedure for the establishment of citizenship of Georgia for persons residing in the Autonomous Republic of Abkhazia and in the territory of Tskhinvali Region (former Autonomous Region of South Ossetia) shall be defined by Article 30¹ of this Law.

Organic Law of Georgia No 490 of 25 May 2021 – website, 27.5.2021

Article 31 – (Deleted)

Organic Law of Georgia No 490 of 25 May 2021 – website, 27.5.2021

Article 31¹ – Special procedure for granting citizenship of Georgia to a person born in the territory of Georgia

A persons born in the territory of Georgia, whose citizenship of Georgia cannot be established, shall have the right, under Article 30² of this Law, to acquire citizenship of Georgia if he/she meets the requirements of Article 12(1)(b) and (c) of this Law and there are no grounds provided for by Article 16 of this Law.

Organic Law of Georgia No 490 of 25 May 2021 – website, 27.5.2021

Article 32 – Invalid normative acts

Upon the entry into force of this Law, the Organic Law of Georgia on citizenship of Georgia of 25 March 1993 (The Gazette of the Parliament of Georgia, No 5, March 1993, Art. 66) shall be declared invalid.

Article 32¹ – Legal regulation during transition period in relation to persons declared as legally incompetent by court before 1 April 2015

1. Citizenship of a person declared as legally incompetent by court before 1 April 2015 may be changed (except for the cases when citizenship of Georgia is lost) based on the application of his/her legal representative until the individual examination of the legally incompetent person is conducted.

2. A person declared as legally incompetent by court before 1 April 2015 shall submit an application on the issue



regarding citizenship of Georgia through his/her legal representative until the individual examination of the legally incompetent person is conducted.

Organic Law of Georgia No 3400 of 20 March 2015 – website, 31.3.2015

Article 32² – Temporary right to apply for restoration of citizenship of Georgia

1. A former citizen of Georgia, who has lost citizenship of Georgia due to acquiring foreign citizenship, shall have the right, before 1 January 2027, to apply to the Agency for granting him/her citizenship of Georgia by way of its restoration, under the conditions defined by this article.

2. Citizenship of Georgia by way of restoration shall be granted to a person under paragraph 1 of this article if he/she meets the following requirements:

a) he/she has knowledge of the state language of Georgia within the set limits;

b) there are no grounds provided for by Article 16 of this Law.

3. The requirement of paragraph 2(a) of this article shall not apply to granting citizenship of Georgia by way of restoration to a person who has such a consistent physical, psychological intellectual and/or sensory disorder that makes it impossible to check whether he/she meets the requirement of the said subparagraph.

4. Article 15 of this Law shall not apply to a former citizen of Georgia, who has lost citizenship of Georgia due to the acquisition of foreign citizenship, when granting citizenship of Georgia to him/her by way of restoration on the basis of this article.

5. In case of granting citizenship of Georgia to a person provided for by paragraph 1 of this article by way of restoration, citizenship of Georgia shall also be granted to his/her minor child. A person who has reached 14 years of age shall be granted citizenship of Georgia on the basis of this article with his/her consent.

6. A citizen of Georgia, in relation to whom the decision with regard to the loss of citizenship of Georgia due to the acquisition of foreign citizenship was not made before 15 August 2018, shall have the right, before 1 January 2027, to apply to the Agency for retaining citizenship of Georgia.

Organic Law of Georgia No 3260 of 21 July 2018 – website, 6.8.2018

Organic Law of Georgia No 5045 of 1 October 2019 – website, 4.10.2019

Organic Law of Georgia No 490 of 25 May 2021 – website, 27.5.2021

Organic Law of Georgia No 2443 of 16 December 2022 – website, 21.12.2022

Organic Law of Georgia No 3627 of 1 November 2023 – website, 21.11.2023

Organic Law of Georgia No 155 of 13 December 2024 – website, 29.12.2024

Article 33 – Measures to be taken for this Law to enter into force

The President of Georgia shall ensure that subordinate acts are brought into compliance with this Law within two months after this Law takes effect.

Article 34 – Entry into force

1. This Law shall enter into force on the 30th day after publication.

2. (Deleted – 25.5.2021, No 490).

3. Articles 30² and 31¹ of this Law shall be effective until 1 January 2027.

Organic Law of Georgia No 3260 of 21 July 2018 – website, 6.8.2018

Organic Law of Georgia No 490 of 25 May 2021 – website, 27.5.2021

Organic Law of Georgia No 2443 of 16 December 2022 – website, 21.12.2022

Organic Law of Georgia No 155 of 13 December 2024 – website, 29.12.2024

President of Georgia

Kutaisi,

30 April 2014

No 2319-II ს

Giorgi Margvelashvili

