

Statement on Rule of Law Programming in Georgia

The East-West Management Institute (EWMI) currently implements the United States Agency for International Development's Rule of Law Program in Georgia and has implemented rule of law projects in Georgia on behalf of USAID since 2010.

At all times, this work has been politically neutral and had only one goal: to further strengthen the rule of law in Georgia. A particular focus of EWMI's work in Georgia has been to improve the skills of judges and lawyers, increase the courts' responsiveness to the needs of court users, and reduce case backlogs in Georgian courts. By supporting improvements in legal education, EWMI has helped a new generation of legal professionals possess practical skills and understand how law can be a vehicle for safeguarding human rights. EWMI has also helped to expand the breadth and quality of legal aid in Georgia and worked to protect the rights of the disadvantaged, particularly women, children, and other marginalized communities.

Great efforts have been taken to be sure EWMI's project activities do not favor any political party or individuals associated with any political party. Regardless of which political party is in power, EWMI and its partners have always worked with relevant Georgian authorities to ensure transparency when implementing its activities. EWMI will continue to ensure that its program activities do not involve partisan implementation throughout its engagement in Georgia and looks forward to continuing its support for further strengthening of the rule of law in Georgia.

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