

Criminal Cases Against Protest Participants
29 November – 17 January

This document was prepared by “Georgia's European Orbit” and the Human Rights Center of the University of Georgia. It provides information on ongoing criminal cases and the related circumstances based on publicly available sources, including media outlets, lawyers, and investigative authorities.

Please note that this document is subject to periodic updates as new information becomes publicly available.

N	Date of Arrest	Name	Judge	Prosecutor	Story	Preventive Measure	Source
1.	December 4	Irakli Miminoshvili (A student)	Irakli Khuskivadze	Vaja Todua, Shmagi Gobejishvili	19 years old Student Irakli Miminoshvili is an active participant in pro-European protests. Before his arrest, his home was searched for approximately one hour. His lawyer was not allowed to attend the process. Law enforcement officers confiscated a computer, a phone, and various small electronic devices from his residence. He has been charged with organizing, leading, or participating in group violence, as well as hooliganism. These charges fall under Articles 225 and 239 of the Criminal Code.	Pretrial detention	https://www.radiotavisupl.eba.ge/a/33226920.html
2.	December 4	Zviad Tsetskhladze (A student)	Irakli Khuskivadze	Vaja Todua, Shmagi Gobejishvili	Police conducted a search at the home of 19 years old student, Zviad Tsetskhladze, the founder of the youth movement "Dapioni." According to <i>Dapioni</i> , the search lasted several hours, and Tsetskhladze's lawyer was only allowed entry after a decision was made to detain him. Law enforcement officers seized gas masks, clothing, and spray bottles from Tsetskhladze's residence. Later, Zviad Tsetskhladze was also arrested. Police have charged him under Article 225 of the Criminal Code, which pertains to organizing, leading, or participating in group violence.	Pretrial detention	https://publika.ge/dafioni-chveni-akhalgazrduli-modzraobis-damfudznebeli-da-lideri-zviad-ceckhladze-daapatimres/

3.	December 4	Tornike Goshadze (A student)	Irakli Khuskivadze	Vaja Todua, Shmagi Gobejishvili	The Prosecutor's Office of Georgia claims that 34-year-old Insaf Aliev, 24-year-old Tornike Goshadze, 20-year-old Giorgi Giorgadze, and 20-year-old Nikoloz Javakhishvili participated in group violence during pro-European protest rallies. The judge imposed pretrial detention on all five defendants as a preventive measure, and the preliminary court hearing has been scheduled for January 16, 2025, at 12:00 PM. Police have charged him under Article 225 of the Criminal Code, which pertains to organizing, leading, or participating in group violence.	Pretrial detention	https://www.facebook.com/share/1GEQcePRx9/ https://www.radiotavisupleba.ge/a/ჯგუფური-ძალადობისთვის-დაკავებულები/33229770.html
4.	December 4	Giorgi Giorgadze (A student)	Irakli Khuskivadze	Vaja Todua, Shmagi Gobejishvili			
5.	December 4	Insaf Aliev	Irakli Khuskivadze	Vaja Todua, Shmagi Gobejishvili			
6.	November 30	Nikoloz Javakhishvili (A student)	Irakli Khuskivadze	Vaja Todua, Shmagi Gobejishvili			
7.	December 4	Aleksandre Elisashvili (A politician)	Tamar Mchedlishvili	Zviad Gubeladze, Ana Metreveli	<p>On December 4, 2024, law enforcement officers detained Aleko Elisashvili, a leader of the political coalition "Strong Georgia," near the Courtyard Marriott Hotel in Tbilisi. The Ministry of Internal Affairs reported that Elisashvili is accused under Article 156, Part 2(a) of the Criminal Code, which pertains to persecution involving violence or the threat thereof.</p> <p>Elisashvili's attorney claims that during the arrest, excessive force was used, resulting in facial injuries, bruises, and possible rib fractures.</p> <p>The charges against Elisashvili is relate to an incident on December 2, 2024, on Kostava Street in Tbilisi, where Elisashvili allegedly assaulted Ali Babaev, chairman of the "National Congress of Azerbaijanis of Georgia," due to political affiliations.</p> <p>Elisashvili, a former member of parliament and Tbilisi City Council, is known for his activism and authorship of several books about Tbilisi. His supporters view the arrest as politically motivated, while authorities maintain it is a legal response to alleged criminal conduct.</p> <p>On December 16 at the request of the Prosecutor's Office, the court modified Aleko Elisashvili's</p>	<p>Pretrial detention has been substituted with bail upon prosecutor's request.</p>	https://www.radiotavisupleba.ge/a/33227683.html https://www.radiotavisupleba.ge/a/33229414.html

					preventive measure, substituting pretrial detention with bail.		
8.	December 4	Vepkhia Kasradze (Member of Lelo Party)	Irakli Khuskivadze	Vaja Todua, Shmagi Gobejishvili	The Ministry of Internal Affairs has detained two members of the <i>Lelo</i> party, Vepkhia Kasradze and Vasil Kadzelashvili. They are featured in secretly recorded footage released several days prior to a protest demonstration. According to pro-government media, the footage allegedly shows them discussing "violent plans." The <i>Lelo</i> party dismissed the accusations as nonsense and believes the incident was staged for propagandistic purposes.	Pretrial detention	https://www.radiotavisupleba.ge/a/33226618.html
9.	December 4	Vasil Kadzelashvili (Member of Lelo Party)	Irakli Khuskivadze	Vaja Todua, Shmagi Gobejishvili			
10.	December 6	Luka Jabua (A student)	Tamar Mchedlishvili	Vaja Todua, Giorgi Mukbaniani	Luka Jabua was arrested at his home in Tbilisi. His lawyer, Rusudan Agurashvili, tells "Publika" that he is being accused under Article 225 of the Criminal Code. Jabaia has been transferred to the Dighomi isolation facility. <i>"He was arrested at home this morning. He is accused under the first part of Article 225. As far as I know, because I haven't received the case materials yet, what I know verbally from the investigator... the phone has been confiscated, and a personal search was likely conducted, based on which the phone was seized. I currently do not have information on any additional investigative actions taken,"</i> says the lawyer. Article 225, Part 1, involves organizing or leading group actions accompanied by violence, rioting, damage or destruction of property, use of weapons, resisting or attacking law enforcement with weapons. The crime is punishable by imprisonment for a term of six to nine years.	Pretrial detention	https://publika.ge/siskhlis-samartlis-wesit-20-wlis-luka-jabua-daakaves/

11.	December 5	Saba Skhvitaridze (A political activist)	Lela Maridashvili	Roin Khintibidze	<p>Saba skhvitaridze was arrested on December 5. During the trial, Saba Skhvitaridze claimed that he had been abducted and tortured. According to him, police officers neither explained the reason for his detention nor provided any clarification before handing him over to an unidentified operational group in the Gori area. <i>"I was taken to a facility in Dighomi, handed over to four masked individuals, and beaten. They searched me, and then other masked individuals carried out acts of violence against me using various objects. They even broke a piece of wood over me,"</i> Skhvitaridze recounted.</p> <p>At the hearing, the prosecutor argued that Saba Skhvitaridze physically assaulted a police officer and caused injuries, alleging that Saba struck the officer in the head with an object, which required the officer to be hospitalized.</p> <p>According to defense attorney Irakli Chomakhashvili, the prosecution presented only a 29-second video as evidence. He asserted that the confrontation was initiated by masked individuals, who provoked the incident. <i>"They [the masked individuals] had no identification or insignia, nor did they clarify that they were police officers. When asked who they were, they could not provide an answer. These unidentified masked police officers verbally abused the defendant,"</i> Chomakhashvili stated.</p> <p>The following days, Irakli Chomakhashvili, among those detained in connection with the protests, only his client has been transferred to Rustavi, to the #6 penitentiary facility, which is a strict-regime facility. The lawyer, citing Sakhitaridze, claims that there are unsanitary conditions in the cell. He also stated that he</p>	Pretrial detention	<p>https://www.radiotavisupleba.ge/a/33229589.html https://publika.ge/advokati-saba-skhvitaridze-ambobs-rom-masze-policiiis-shenobashi-fizikurad-idzalades/</p>
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				<p>received a promise from the Ombudsman to visit the detainee and inspect the cell.</p> <p>In addition, Chomakhashvili is demanding an explanation from the Minister of Justice regarding the reasons for transferring Sakhitaridze to Rustavi prison.</p> <p><i>"Today I visited Saba in the #6 penitentiary facility in Rustavi, which is a strict-regime facility. I want to note that, among those detained in connection with these protests, only Saba is being held here, and it is unclear to us why. I am asking the Minister of Justice to make a statement about why this happened. I have also informed the Ombudsman and immediately requested a visit with Saba, including a visit to this specific cell, because it has unsanitary conditions and does not meet international standards. According to him, of course, the Ombudsman promised that they would visit Saba and inspect this specific cell. For me, this is exactly what is unclear, and it is the first time that a defendant has been placed not in Gldani's #8 facility, but in Rustavi, and both Saba and I associate this with revenge. Therefore, I am addressing all relevant bodies for immediate action, because, in our opinion, this is a basis for revenge, and at the very least, to dispel these thoughts and substantiate why they are acting like this, they should immediately make a statement. As for the Special Investigative Service, I repeat, start the investigation into Saba without delay. Take the cameras from the Dighomi department to see how masked individuals entered this department, before they are erased. We call on you to preserve this footage, if it hasn't already been deleted,"</i> said Irakli Chomakhashvili to TV First.</p>		
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					According to the Prosecutor's Office, S.S. has been charged under part two of Article 353 ¹ of the Criminal Code (assault on a police officer related to official duties), which carries a sentence of imprisonment from 7 to 11 years.		
12.	December 5	Onise Tskhadadze (A comedian)	Tamar Mchedlishvili		On December 5, comedian Onise Tskhadadze was detained. According to his brother, Onise Tskhadadze was arrested at his home in Terjola by the special forces. The investigation accuses him of participating in group violence, a crime under Article 225, Part 2, of the Criminal Code. On December 7, Tbilisi City Court Judge Tamar Mchedlishvili imposed a two-month pretrial detention as a preventive measure.	Pretrial detention	https://mtavari.tv/news/171660-iumoristi-onise-tskhadadze-daakaves https://www.radiotavisupl.eba.ge/a/33230527.html
13.	December 5	Andro Chichinadze (An Actor)	Tamar Mchedlishvili	Vaja Todua, Giorgi Mukbaniani	On December 5, officers from the Ministry of Internal Affairs detained actor Andro Chichinadze at his residence. Chichinadze has been an active participant in pro-European protests, advocating for a European future alongside his friends. He believes that comprehensive strikes across all sectors are essential to safeguard this future and to impede the current government's actions, which he deems illegitimate. Chichinadze asserts that such strikes are a pivotal method to express dissent and to convey to the government that their policies will not be tolerated. On December 4, Chichinadze announced his participation in the strike by posting "I am on strike" on social media. On December 5, 2024, the Tbilisi City Court, presided over by Judge Tamar Mchedlishvili, imposed a two-month pretrial detention on Andro Chichinadze. The investigation accuses him of participating in group violence, a violation under Article 225, Part 2, of the Criminal Code.	Pretrial detention	https://www.radiotavisupl.eba.ge/a/33230527.html https://go.on.ge/3qbo
14.	December 5	Ruslan Sivakov	Tamar Mchedlishvili	Vaja Todua, Giorgi Mukbaniani	The investigation accuses the individuals of participating in group violence, a crime under Article 225, Part 2, of the Criminal Code.	Pretrial detention	https://www.radiotavisupl.eba.ge/a/33230527.html

15.	December 5	Jano Archaya	Tamar Mchedlishvili	Vaja Todua, Giorgi Mukbaniani	This offense is punishable by imprisonment for a term ranging from 4 to 6 years.		
16.	December 5	Guram Mirtskhulava	Tamar Mchedlishvili	Vaja Todua, Giorgi Mukbaniani	On December 7, Tbilisi City Court Judge Tamar Mchedlishvili imposed a two-month pretrial detention as a preventive measure.		
17.	December 10	Valeri Tetrashvili	Tamar Mchedlishvili		The Ministry of Internal Affairs has arrested a participant of the protest under the Criminal Code. The arrested, Valeri Tetrashvili, born in 1997, is charged with participation in group violence. Valeri Tetrashvili faces up to six years imprisonment. According to the Ministry, Valeri Tetrashvili took part in group violence during the protest, disobeyed law enforcement officers, and threw various objects at them. The investigation is being conducted under Article 225, Part 2, of the Criminal Code.	Pretrial detention	https://publika.ge/shss-m-siskhlis-samartlis-kodeqsit-saprotesto-aqciebshi-monawile-kidev-erti-adamiani-daakava/
18.	December 8	Giorgi Akhobadze (A doctor)	Nino Maridashvili		Giorgi Akhobadze was arrested (on drug-related charges and is being prosecuted under Article 260, Part 6, of the Criminal Code) on the night of December 7–8 while returning home from a protest rally held on Rustaveli Avenue. Following the arrest, Akhobadze's lawyer stated that the accused claimed drugs had been "planted" on him. In court, Akhobadze described the arrest, stating that several individuals restrained him, and he felt them reaching into his pocket. While he tried to resist, the number of people made it physically impossible. "A [police officer's] hand went into my pocket, and they planted this substance or item. From that moment until the search was completed, I verbally protested and argued, of course within the bounds of decency—no offensive words—just arguing with those arresting me, saying how such a thing could happen," Akhobadze said.	Pretrial detention	https://publika.ge/aqciis-shemdeg-dakavebul-eqims-giorgi-akhobadzes-aghkvetic-ghonisdziebis-sakhit-patimroba-sheefarda/

					Lawyers argue that there is no video evidence in the case. "They stopped a passing car, asked him to step out for identification purposes, and suddenly many officers in black uniforms with 'police' labels arrived and began searching him. There was no warrant. As for evidence in the case, the only testimony comes from police officers who claim he had drugs on him, which were allegedly discovered during the search. However, we know under the new standards that video recording is mandatory during searches, and such a video does not exist in the case. According to the officers' statements, they claim that recording was impossible due to their large number of individuals around," said the lawyer.		
19.	December 9	Mamuka Jorbenadze (A dean)	Levan Kolbaia		On December 9, the Dean of the Faculty of Visual, Performing, and Film-Television Arts, Mamuka Jorbenadze, and four students—Guram Mikheladze, Davit Gvianidze, Giorgi Davitadze, and Andro Kakabadze—were arrested under the criminal code for group violence. According to the Ministry of Internal Affairs in early December, a group of protesters entered the Batumi Art University to hang a banner near the rector's office. The lecturer, Tea Tsaguria, did not allow them to do so, which resulted in verbal abuse from Mamuka Jorbenadze, the dean of the university. According to the MIA, Mamuka Jorbenadze and his students later physically attacked Tea Tsaguria's husband, Irakli Devadze, and his friend, I.N., inside the university building.	Pretrial detention	https://publika.ge/beat-gazdeliani-ganyofilebashi-meubnebodnen-shenze-vicit-striptizs-rom-cekvav-chakhdilio/
20.	December 9	Guram Mikeladze (A student)	Levan Kolbaia				
21.	December 9	Davit Gvianidze (A student)	Levan Kolbaia				
22.	December 9	Giorgi Davitadze (A student)	Levan Kolbaia				
23.	December 9	Andro Kakabadze (A student)	Levan Kolbaia				
24.	December 12	M.G. (Minor)	Eka Barbakadze		Under Article 187(2)(a) of the Criminal Code, the defendant is charged with damaging or destroying another person's property by means of fire, explosion, or another method considered to be of widespread danger. If found guilty, the defendant may face a significant term of imprisonment.	Pretrial Detention has been repaced by parental monitoring	

25.	December 6	Revaz Kiknadze (A translator)	Tamar Mchedlishvili		On December 6, representatives of the Central Criminal Police Department arrested Revaz Kiknadze, accusing him of organizing, leading, or participating in group violence. On December 6, Kiknadze published a letter from the detention facility, stating that the police were pressuring him to provide false testimony. According to Kiknadze, they demanded that he name individuals who were allegedly “funding” the activities. As a form of protest, Revaz Kiknadze declared a hunger strike. By court decision, he was sentenced to two months of pretrial detention.	Pretrial detention	https://publika.ge/dakavebul-rezo-kiknadzes-aghkvetis-ghonisdziebis-sakhit-patimroba-sheefarda/ https://rustavi2.ge/ka/news/300604
26.	December 8	Nika Katsia (An actor)	Tamar Mchedlishvili		Journalist Nika Katsia, a participant in pro-European protests, was arrested on December 8. According to his lawyer, Nino Lominadze, law enforcement officers waited for Katsia near his home, forced him into a car, and took him to another location, where he was searched on the street. As Katsia told his lawyer, the police filmed the search, but nothing was seized. During the court hearing on December 9, Katsia stated that he was treated mockingly during the arrest: <i>“They insulted me with vulgar language. At first, I thought I was being attacked by a gang. Then I realized I had been taken to a building known as ‘CrimPol.’ I began to stutter from nervousness, and they mocked me for that too. I had never stuttered before... They called me things like, ‘You’re a damn bastard, you’re a screwed-up guy,’”</i> Katsia said, adding that there were three cars and around 10 people present during his arrest. The judge sentenced Katsia to two months of pretrial detention. He has been charged under Article 260, Part 6, Subparagraph (a) of the Criminal Code, which pertains to the purchase and possession of a particularly large quantity of narcotic substances.	Pretrial detention	https://www.radiotavisupleba.ge/a/33232754.html

27.		Irakli Kerashvili	Tamar Mchedlishvili		On December 6, 29-year-old physician Dr. Irakli Kherashvili was apprehended on the street. He faces charges under Article 225 of the Criminal Code, which addresses the organization, leadership, or participation in group violence. If convicted, he would be subject to a prison term ranging from four to six years.	Pretrial detention	https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=971847624990602&id=100064961191061&set=a.480245224150847
28.	November 26	Anatoly Gigauri	Lela Maridashvili	Tamar Iakobidze	<p>On November 24, at a late hour, police officers arrested 44-year-old Mr. Anatoli Gigauri near the “Vefkhistyaosani” (Tiger and the Young Man) monument in Tbilisi, while he was returning home from a protest by car. Mr. Gigauri had taken part in a demonstration challenging the election results.</p> <p>The prosecution accuses Mr. Gigauri of assaulting a police officer, an offense punishable by four to seven years’ imprisonment. Television station Imedi aired footage the night of the arrest, purportedly showing Mr. Gigauri striking an officer in the face on Rustaveli Avenue, during a convoy of pickup trucks associated with the protest.</p> <p>Mr. Gigauri disputes this account and contends that it was in fact the officer who first punched him in the face while he was moving from Republic Square toward Rustaveli Avenue. He states that, when he tried to stop the officer to inquire about the reason for the use of force, the officer responded with an insult and struck him again. The Imedi broadcast includes an audio clip in which Mr. Gigauri can be heard asking, “Why did you hit me?”</p>	Pretrial detention	
29.	November 26	Mate Devidze (A student)	Davit Mgeleshvili	Ani Khubejshvili	Mr. Mate Devidze was arrested on allegations of assaulting a police officer amid demonstrations calling for new elections. The Tbilisi City Court, upon a motion by Prosecutor Ani Khubejshvili, imposed pre-trial detention. At the preliminary hearing, this	Pretrial detention	https://www.radiotavisupleba.ge/a/33277833.html

					<p>measure of restraint was again reviewed. While the Prosecutor’s Office maintained its request for continued detention, the defense filed a motion for release on bail.</p> <p>The charge against Mr. Devidze falls under Article 353(1) of the Criminal Code, which addresses violent resistance to or assault on law enforcement officials. This offense is punishable by a term of imprisonment ranging from four to seven years. At the time of the alleged offense, Mr. Devidze was 20 years old, making him potentially eligible for measures available under the Juvenile Justice Code, such as diversion, given his status as a near-minor. He turned 21 while in custody and, during the court proceeding, expressed regret over being held in pre-trial detention, stating, “I miss my guitar; imprisonment is the most severe option in my case, and I do not deserve it.”</p> <p>The prosecution argues that Mr. Devidze’s continued detention is necessary based on the seriousness of the charge and the potential risks posed by his release, including the risk of flight or interference with witnesses. In contrast, defense counsel asserts that less restrictive measures—such as bail—would be sufficient to ensure Mr. Devidze’s compliance with court requirements, while highlighting his lack of prior criminal history and the applicability of the Juvenile Justice Code at the time of the offense.</p>		
30.	December 4	Teimuraz Zasokhashvili	Nana Shamatava		<p>On December 5, 38-year-old Mr. Temur Zasokhashvili was initially detained on administrative grounds. Following the expiration of the 48-hour limit for administrative detention, the same criminal charge brought against Mr. Davit Lomidze—throwing a so-</p>	Pretrial detention	https://www.interpressnews.ge/ka/article/823397-akciaze-dakavebul-davit-lomizesa-datemur-zasoxashvils-romeltac-shss-s-tanamshromlebze-

				<p>called Molotov cocktail at law enforcement—was then filed against Mr. Zasokhashvili. The prosecution asserts that, on December 1 during the protest on Rustaveli Avenue, Mr. Zasokhashvili caused damage to a water cannon vehicle belonging to the Ministry of Internal Affairs.</p> <p>Attorney Dimitri Vardiashvili—who was at first prepared to represent Mr. Zasokhashvili—recounts encountering a severely beaten individual upon entering the detention facility. According to Mr. Vardiashvili, he later learned this individual was Mr. Tengiz Khazosashvili. Mr. Vardiashvili describes visible injuries—including bruising and swelling to the face, difficulty opening one eye, and an overall inability to stand without assistance. When Mr. Vardiashvili identified himself as an attorney, officers immediately removed Mr. Khazosashvili, preventing any further communication.</p> <p>The prosecution relies on a social media video purportedly showing Mr. Zasokhashvili throwing a Molotov cocktail. However, as noted by the defense counsel, Mr. Irakli Absandze, the video is filmed from approximately 20–30 meters away, in poor lighting with the Parliament’s exterior lights turned off, and with fireworks partially obstructing the view. Therefore, the defense argues that identifying the individual in the footage as Mr. Zasokhashvili is infeasible.</p> <p>A GDD officer claims to have recognized Mr. Zasokhashvili through photographs rather than an in-person lineup. This officer is listed as a victim in the case, alleging he saw Mr. Zasokhashvili throw a Molotov cocktail in the officer’s direction. However,</p>		<p>tavidasxmasa-da-ec-molotovis-kokteilebis-srolas-edavebian-agkvetis-gonisziebis-saxit-patimroba-sheepardat/</p> <p>https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=971847624990602&id=100064961191061&set=a.480245224150847</p>
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					<p>the case file does not describe any injuries or medical findings relating to that officer.</p> <p>Mr. Zasokhashvili, who resides in Tbilisi with his father and works in the technical staff of a local hotel, denies all charges. He acknowledges attending protest rallies to express his political views, but insists he did not engage in any violent conduct.</p>		
31.	December 4	Davit Lomidze	Nana Shamatava		<p>On December 1, 2024, Mr. Davit Lomidze, age 53, was initially detained at a protest for an administrative offense. Forty-eight hours after being taken to the police station—once the legally prescribed maximum period for administrative detention had fully expired—additional charges were brought against him, escalating the matter to criminal proceedings. Mr. Davit Lomidze faces charges of allegedly throwing a so-called “Molotov cocktail” at officers of the Ministry of Internal Affairs on December 1, 2024, during a protest on Rustaveli Avenue. The Prosecutor’s Office asserts that the act caused damage to a water cannon vehicle owned by the Ministry.</p> <p>On December 4, 2024, Judge Nana Shamatava ordered pre-trial detention for Mr. Lomidze. He denies the allegations and has exercised his right to remain silent. If convicted, he faces a prison sentence ranging from four to seven years.</p>	Pretrial detention	

32.	December 7	Saba Jikia (A student)	David Mgeliashvili	Roin Khintibidze	<p>On December 5, 2024, 18-year-old student Mr. Saba Jikia was taken into custody on charges of assaulting a police officer. The Prosecutor’s Office contends that on November 30, 2024, during a protest on Rustaveli Avenue, Mr. Jikia kicked a police officer and thereby committed an offense punishable by up to seven years’ imprisonment. Mr. Jikia denies all charges.</p> <p>On December 7, 2024, Judge Davit Mgeliashvili ordered two months of pre-trial detention. The Prosecutor’s Office alleges that Mr. Jikia was armed with a knife and intentionally attempted to harm the officer. As evidence, the prosecution has produced a video purportedly showing Mr. Jikia delivering a kick to a law enforcement officer on the steps in front of Parliament, while holding what appears to be a metallic or shiny object.</p> <p>Mr. Jikia exercised his right to speak at the December 7 hearing and issued a statement of regret, apologizing to his family: “What I did was truly wrong; I regret it. I have two younger sisters.” His family has declined to speak to the media at this stage.</p>	Pretrial detention	https://www.radiotavisupleba.ge/a/33230255.html
33.	December 5	Anzor (Anri) Kvaratskhelia	Davit Mgeliashvili		<p>On December 5, law enforcement officers arrested Mr. Anzor Kvaratskhelia, age 25, at his residence. The Prosecutor’s Office alleges that Mr. Kvaratskhelia assaulted a GDD (presumably a state security or law enforcement) officer and threw a Molotov cocktail in the course of that assault. Should the prosecution substantiate these allegations, Mr. Kvaratskhelia faces a prison term ranging from four to seven years.</p> <p>Prior to effectuating the arrest, officers conducted a search of Mr. Kvaratskhelia’s home. According to Mr.</p>	Pretrial detention	https://www.radiotavisupleba.ge/a/33230255.html

				<p>Kvaratskhelia’s wife, Ms. Nutsa Eremiani—who recounted the incident to Radio Liberty—the officers attempted to gain entry into the residence through deceptive means and subsequently perpetrated physical violence against her, “Anri,” and Anri’s sister. Ms. Eremiani reports that four officers entered the home, one of whom—described as the largest in build—grabbed her by the throat. He then questioned her knowledge of legal principles by demanding to know, “If you’re studying law, shouldn’t you know whom to defend and whom not to defend?”</p> <p>Shortly after Mr. Kvaratskhelia’s detention, Ms. Eremiani began experiencing severe pain. Medical evaluation revealed that she was pregnant but, as a result of stress, she subsequently miscarried. These events underscore the need for a thorough examination of the circumstances surrounding both the arrest and the conduct of the arresting officers.</p>		
34.	December 1	Giorgi Mindadze (A student)	Teona Epitashvili	<p>On December 1, Mr. Giorgi Mindadze, a 21-year-old medical university student, was visiting his cousin in Mtskheta Municipality, accompanied by his mother, Ms. Nino Tsulaia. During that visit, police officers detained Mr. Mindadze, and Ms. Tsulaia maintains that law enforcement had been following them throughout their journey, ultimately apprehending her son when an opportunity arose.</p> <p>Mr. Mindadze now stands accused of discharging pyrotechnics at law enforcement personnel. The City Court has imposed a pre-trial detention order. According to the Prosecutor’s Office, the evidence includes a photograph dated November 29, showing Mr. Mindadze holding a pyrotechnic device, and the</p>	Pretrial detention	https://www.radiotavisupleba.ge/a/რას-ედავებთან-პოლიციაზე-თავდასხმაში-ბრალდებულებს/33276633.html

					<p>statement of a single police officer who alleges he was struck by the object.</p> <p>The officer contends that amid the commotion, he witnessed Mr. Mindadze ignite and throw a firework, supposedly causing him injury. However, as noted in the interrogation record, there is no evidence demonstrating whether the firework actually struck the officer or where it landed. Furthermore, at the time of Mr. Mindadze’s detention, law enforcement did not disclose his whereabouts to Ms. Tsulaia, compelling her to search multiple police stations in an effort to locate her son.</p>		
35.	December 9	Daniel Mumladze	Arsen Kalatozishvili	Tamar Iakobidze	<p>On December 4, Mr. Daniel Mumladze, 23, was arrested and charged under Article 187(2)(g) of the Criminal Code, which addresses group-based damage or destruction of another person’s property resulting in substantial harm. If convicted, he faces a prison sentence ranging from three to six years.</p>	Pretrial detention	https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=971847624990602&id=100064961191061&set=a.480245224150847
36.	December 11	Guram Khutashvili	Arsen Kalatozishvili	Tamar Iakobidze	<p>On December 4, Mr. Guram Khutashvili, 29, was arrested and charged under Article 187(2)(g) of the Criminal Code, which addresses group-based damage or destruction of another person’s property resulting in substantial harm. If convicted, he faces a prison sentence of three to six years.</p> <p>According to information provided by their defense teams, Mr. Guram Khutashvili and Mr. Daniel Mumladze were employed at the “Zodiac” restaurant on Gia Chanturia Street, located approximately 280 meters from the Parliament building. Late in the evening on December 4, both reportedly left their workplace and encountered two masked demonstrators carrying a ladder. The masked</p>	Pretrial detention	https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=971847624990602&id=100064961191061&set=a.480245224150847

				<p>individuals allegedly asked for assistance, and Mr. Khutashvili and Mr. Mumladze agreed to help.</p> <p>The prosecution asserts that both defendants—assisted by two still-unidentified individuals—used the ladder to access and damage video cameras in the area. Defense counsel, Mr. Gela Nikolaishvili (representing Mr. Khutashvili), states that his client admits to participating in the damage alongside Mr. Mumladze and the two masked individuals. This admission is consistent with video footage released by the Prosecutor’s Office on social media, which forms the primary evidence against the defendants.</p> <p>The charges brought against Mr. Khutashvili and Mr. Mumladze arise under the Criminal Code provisions dealing with the group-based destruction of property, an offense carrying a penalty of three to six years’ imprisonment. Mr. Mumladze was arrested on December 9, and Mr. Khutashvili was arrested on December 11. Although the alleged crime was group-based, their pre-trial detention hearings were held separately before Judge Arsen Kalatozishvili, who ordered remand in custody for both defendants. Their cases are expected to merge for substantive (merits) hearings.</p> <p>Mr. Khutashvili’s family is classified as socially vulnerable, while Mr. Mumladze has a wife and a minor child. Defense counsel for both men argue that the court failed to consider these mitigating factors, claiming that judges are imposing the harshest measure—pre-trial detention—in nearly all protest-related cases, purportedly following instructions to do so.</p>		
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					Negotiations are currently underway between Mr. Khutashvili's defense counsel and the Prosecutor's Office regarding a potential plea agreement. Mr. Khutashvili has offered to compensate for damages in exchange for his release. The case file values the damage to seven video cameras at 7,700 GEL. Both men remain in custody pending further proceedings.		
37.	November 30	Archil Museliants			<p>Archil Museliantsi, 29, was initially detained on administrative grounds during a protest on Rustaveli Avenue on November 30. According to his attorney, Dimitri Vardiashvili, Mr. Museliantsi was moved from one detention facility to another for several days. By the time the attorney located him in the third division of the Didube-Chugureti police unit, Mr. Museliantsi was in custody on criminal charges rather than an administrative offense.</p> <p>The Prosecutor's Office alleges that Mr. Museliantsi intentionally damaged and set fire to cables attached to a pole in front of the Parliament building, supposedly to prevent identification of protesters' faces. The investigation proceeds under Article 187(2) of the Criminal Code, addressing damage or destruction of property by fire, explosion, or other dangerous means. If convicted, he faces a prison term ranging from three to six years.</p> <p>Mr. Vardiashvili reports that Mr. Museliantsi was subjected to physical abuse before being taken to the detention facility, was denied access to a lawyer in violation of procedural norms, and was threatened with harm to his family. He further states that officers tried to compel Mr. Museliantsi to implicate leaders of opposition parties. According to Mr. Vardiashvili, when Mr. Museliantsi refused to cooperate, officers issued further threats,</p>	Pretrial detention	https://www.radiotavisupleba.ge/a/სათვალთვალო-კამერების-დაზიანების-გამო-დაკავებულების-საქმე/33279380.html

					<p>including references to his family—despite Mr. Museliantsi having no immediate family members.</p> <p>The primary evidence against the defendant is video footage filmed by a bystander and later published by Postv, allegedly showing an individual with a covered face setting fire to cables. Prosecutors have requested a “habitoscopic” examination (a form of visual identification) to determine whether Mr. Museliantsi is the individual shown in the footage. Additionally, a phonoscopic examination (voice identification) has been initiated. Police officers have also provided statements asserting they recognized Mr. Museliantsi at the scene. The defendant denies the charges in their entirety.</p>		
38.	December 4	Lasha Chkhaidze	Lela Kalichenko		<p>On December 4, at night, 43-year-old Mr. Lasha Chkhaidze was arrested and charged with the offense of property damage, allegedly committed in Mziuri Park rather than on or near Rustaveli Avenue. The Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA) maintains that after Mr. Chkhaidze left an ongoing protest on Rustaveli Avenue, he proceeded to Mziuri Park and deliberately damaged three surveillance cameras owned by Tbilisi City Hall’s Municipal Security Service, thereby causing significant property damage.</p> <p>Under the relevant provisions of the Criminal Code, Mr. Chkhaidze may face up to five years’ imprisonment if convicted. According to a statement released by the MIA, Mr. Chkhaidze has prior convictions for attempted murder and theft, which may have an impact on any sentencing considerations. The case is currently under investigation, with the prosecution asserting that Mr. Chkhaidze’s actions were directly connected to events following the protest. Mr. Chkhaidze’s defense, factual</p>	Pretrial detention	https://www.radiotavisupleba.ge/a/სათვალთვალო-კამერების-დაზიანების-გამო-დაკავებულების-საქმე/33279380.html

					circumstances, and any mitigating factors or counterarguments have yet to be presented at trial.		
39.	December 3	Anton Chechini			<p>On December 3, 2024, protester Mr. Anton Chechin—a Russian citizen, who has fled Russia—was arrested on charges relating to the purchase and possession of a narcotic substance. According to public sources, individuals allegedly lacking any official identification accosted Mr. Chechin near his residence, forced him into a vehicle, subjected him to physical violence, and planted narcotics on his person to fabricate evidence against him.</p> <p>The prosecution has charged Mr. Chechin under Article 260(6)(a) of the Criminal Code, which imposes a sentence of eight to twenty years—or, in some cases, life imprisonment—if convicted. Prior to relocating, Mr. Chechin had participated in various protest actions in Russia and had previously been subjected to state-sponsored persecution. Notably, he filed a complaint with the ECtHR, which found violations of his rights and ordered compensation from the Russian Federation.</p> <p>The circumstances surrounding Mr. Chechin’s arrest call into question the legality of the evidence and raise broader concerns about potential retaliatory measures against him, given his history of political activism. Further investigation and legal proceedings are expected to shed light on the nature of the arrest, the reliability of the alleged evidence, and any procedural irregularities that may have occurred.</p>	Pretrial detention	https://hudoc.echr.coe.int/rus?fbclid=IwY2xjawH50txleHRuA2F1bQIxMAABHXWBEtDQihzpmnJncTU9O7KWQs57IFix-1E1bihDqpK5OJY7r3Uvk6Qv3A_aem_y6s7HUIh-8udKBBGEiIozw#{%22itemid%22:[%22001-234015%22]}

40.		Sergey Kukharchuki	Tamar Mchedlishvili		225 - Organisation, management or participation in group violence	Pretrial detention	https://www.radiotavisupleba.ge/a/33271145.html
41.		Giorgi Terashvili	Tamar Mchedlishvili		Mr. Giorgi Terishvili has been arrested on charges of participating in group violence, an offense under the Criminal Code that carries a potential prison sentence of four to six years. According to public sources, Mr. Terishvili frequently attended protests, motivated in part by a personal tragedy—his brother was killed by sniper fire at a demonstration near the circus in Tbilisi on February 2, 1992, while holding a flag at the front of the protest.	Pretrial detention	https://www.radiotavisupleba.ge/a/33271145.html
42.	December 7	Tedo Abramov	Irakli Khuskivadze		Tedo Abramov has been charged under Article 260 of the Criminal Code for allegedly manufacturing, producing, acquiring, possessing, transporting, or sending a narcotic substance (including its analogues or precursors) in an especially large quantity. This provision carries a potential sentence of eight to twenty years' imprisonment or, in some instances, life imprisonment, should the prosecution establish his guilt.	Pretrial detention	https://netgazeti.ge/life/756807/
43.	January 11	Mzia Amaglobeli (A journalist)	Nino Sakhelashvili	Vladimer Turmanidze	A prominent journalist Mzia Amaglobeli, who also serves as the director of the online media outlet Batumelebi and Netgazeti was initially detained on January 11 in Batumi during a pro-European rally after attempting to put up a poster. Though she was released shortly thereafter, she was arrested again minutes later on criminal charges. Ms. Amaglobeli is accused of assaulting a police officer, a charge brought under Article 353 ¹ (1) of the Criminal Code. Pro-government media outlets circulated video footage showing Ms. Amaglobeli allegedly striking Batumi Police Chief Irakli Dgebuadze in the face after her release from	Pretrial detention	https://www.interpressnews.ge/ka/article/827535-prokurori-mzia-amaglobeli-policiels-tavs-shurisziebis-miznit-daesxa-policielze-tavdasxmaris-mzime-danashauli-romelic-qvela-kveqanashi-isjeba/

					<p>administrative detention. The video in question was published without audio. According to the defense, immediately before the apparent slap, Chief Dgebuadze directed severe verbal abuse at Ms. Amaglobeli.</p> <p>Subsequently, the GYLA reported that Ms. Amaglobeli was subjected to inhuman treatment while in detention. The organization alleges that Chief Dgebuadze physically harassed Ms. Amaglobeli, spat in her face, and deprived her of access to drinking water and restroom facilities. These claims raise concerns about potential abuses of power, as well as possible violations of Ms. Amaglobeli's fundamental rights during her detention. The defense maintains that the prosecution's case neglects the alleged provocations and mistreatment Ms. Amaglobeli suffered and underscores that any use of force by Ms. Amaglobeli was prompted by the police officer's own conduct.</p>		
44.		Davit Khomeriki			Khomeriki stands accused under Articles 18–229 of the Criminal Code, which addresses the preparation or conspiracy to commit an explosion.	Pretrial detention	
45.		L.Ch.			<p>L.Ch. faces prosecution under Article 187(1) of the Criminal Code, which criminalizes the damage or destruction of another person's property. If convicted of this offense, the individual may be subject to imprisonment or other penalties as prescribed by law.</p> <p>To secure a conviction, the prosecution must establish:</p>	Pretrial detention	