



JOINT STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT
on the Georgian authorities' refusal to release former President Mikheil Saakashvili for
medical treatment abroad

Brussels, 7 February 2023 - “We, the undersigned Members of the European Parliament, express our deep disappointment and regret at the indifference of the Georgian authorities to the rapidly deteriorating state of health of former President Mikheil Saakashvili. We take a note of the decision of the Tbilisi City Court on February 6 not to release President Saakashvili from detention due to his deteriorating health.

The European Parliament, in its resolution of 9 June 2022, expressed concern about President Saakashvili’s health and called for his release on humanitarian grounds so that he could receive proper medical treatment abroad, and has repeated this concern ever since.

As President Saakashvili’s health is deteriorating rapidly, we are very concerned for his life.

We recognise and strongly support the European aspirations of the Georgian people. To be European is to be committed to European values and ideals, which we currently lack on the Georgian side. We call on the Georgian authorities and the Georgian people to respect President Saakashvili’s human dignity and protect his life. We call on you to prevent a tragedy that would undermine your European aspirations and delay your EU candidate status.”

Petras Auštrevičius, Renew Europe

Miriam Lexmann, EPP

Markéta Gregorová, Greens/EFA

Andrius Kubilius, EPP