

GAP-INC-2024-0001

Date: 2024-05-28 Time (approx): during daytime protests Status: PUBLISHED

Classification

Type	UNLAWFUL DETENTION
Severity	CRITICAL
Verification	DOCUMENTED BY INTL ORG (by Amnesty International) on 2024-09-01

Location

City	Tbilisi
Location	Near Parliament, Rustaveli Avenue

Summary

Omar Okribelashvili and Saba Meparishvili were detained during the Foreign Agents Law protests in May 2024. Both were subsequently sentenced to 2.5 years in prison for approximately 400 GEL in property damage. Amnesty International documented credible allegations of torture in custody, including beatings and psychological abuse.

Detailed Account

Omar Okribelashvili and Saba Meparishvili were among thousands of citizens who took to the streets in May 2024 to protest the Foreign Agents Law. They were arrested by masked Department of Special Assignments officers during a dispersal operation near Parliament. According to Amnesty International's investigation, both men reported being beaten during arrest and subjected to cruel treatment in custody. Despite the disproportionate nature of the sentence relative to the alleged offense (400 GEL in damage), the court convicted both to 2.5 years imprisonment. The prosecution relied on a confession that, according to Amnesty's assessment, was obtained under coercive conditions.

Victims

Omar Okribelashvili

Occupation: protester
Role in incident: primary victim
Current Status: imprisoned

Saba Meparishvili

Occupation: protester
Role in incident: primary victim
Current Status: imprisoned

Victim Impact

Injuries: Beatings during arrest, reported psychological abuse in custody
Medical Report: No
Hospitalized: No
Torture Alleged: Yes

Identified Individuals

Unknown — Department of Special Assignments SUSPECTED

Name (KA): ~~საქმის განყოფილება~~
Unit: Department of Special Assignments
Agency: MoIA
Role: arresting officer / unit
Actions: Participated in arrest and/or detention operations
Current Status: active duty

Evidence

MEDIA REPORT

Description	Amnesty International investigation documenting torture allegations
Captured At	N/A
Captured By	Amnesty International

Legal Context

Charges Filed	Property damage (~400 GEL)
Legal Basis	Criminal Code of Georgia
Court Case	Tbilisi City Court, 2024
Outcome	Convicted – 2.5 years imprisonment each

Sources

Amnesty International (NGO report)

<https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/eur56/2024/>

Civil.ge (media)

<https://civil.ge/>

may-2024 foreign-agents-law torture disproportionate-sentence

Related Profiles

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