**GEORGIA**

**THE 29th session of the UPR Working group**

**UPR of the BURUNDI**

**18 January, 2018**

Georgia remains seriously concerned by the human rights situation in Burundi and calls on the Government to cooperate with the Human Rights Council–mandated Commission of Inquiry on Burundi and ensure unhindered access by UN entities, including OHCHR and the Commission of Inquiry.

We are particularly alarmed by the human rights violations undermining the rule of law and restricting fundamental freedoms and call upon the Government to take all necessary steps to ensure that relevant policies and legislation were in full compliance with international standards.

In line of the aforesaid Georgia would like to **recommend** to the Government of Burundi:

* To take urgent measures to put an end to extrajudicial execution and acts of torture;
* To conduct prompt and impartial investigation of all crimes against journalists;
* To intensify efforts to accede to the OPCAT;
* To take necessary measures to ensure full protection of human rights defenders;
* To ratify Optional Protocols to the ICCPR;
* To strengthen measures aimed at combating gender-based violence.