1991

Georgia declares **independence from the USSR** on April 9.
Life under the USSR meant little political freedom and strong control from Moscow, while Georgian culture and language were often suppressed. Independence gave the country a chance to choose its own path. Life as part of USSR is associated with oppressions, limited freedom, living in totalitarian regime, where human rights where denied and being heavily depended on moscow economically, which later caused economical crisis in Georgia.

1999

Georgia signs its first major agreement with the EU – the PCA. This is a legal agreement between Georgia and the EU, which sets the framework for political dialogue, trade, and cooperation. It was the first formal step toward closer EU–Georgia relations.

2003

Rose Revolution

A peaceful revolution leads to a change of power; Mikheil Saakashvili with United National Movement (UNM) becomes the new leader of government. the revolution was sparked by public outrage over rigged elections, huge level of corruption,high level of poverty, authoritarianism and economical stagnation of past few years. It led to his resignation of past president eduard shevardnadze and marked the start of a pro-Western reform era. the name itself reflects both peaceful nature of the revolution and the symbolic use of flowers - during the climax on november 22, demonstrators entered the parliament building carrying roses and confronted shevardnadze peacefully.

Aug 2008

A five-day war erupts between Russia and Georgia over South Ossetia (Samachablo) the region ended up being occupied by Russia. One of the Key reasons for the Russian-Georgian war is its aspirations to join Nato and EU.

2009

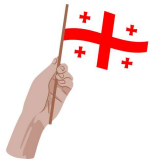
Georgia becomes a founding member of the EU's Eastern Partnership initiative (EAP). The Eastern Partnership is an EU initiative launched to strengthen ties with six Eastern European countries, including Georgia. It helps with reforms, trade, and closer political cooperation with the EU.

2012

Georgia has held pivotal parliamentary elections that marked a significant shift in its political landscape. The United National Movement (UNM), led by President Mikheil Saakashvili, lost power to the Georgian Dream coalition founded by billionaire Bidzina Ivanishvili. This peaceful transfer of power was seen as a democratic milestone and raised hopes for stronger democratic institutions and closer ties with the European Union.
Since this election, Georgian dream holds the power in Georgia.

2014

After negotiations Georgia signed the Association Agreement with the European Union, which included the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA). This agreement deepened political and economic integration, aligning Georgia's laws and standards with the EU. It was a major step toward EU membership and a clear sign of Georgia's pro-European trajectory.



2017

Georgian citizens gained visa-free travel to the Schengen Area for short stays (up to 90 days). This was a major achievement in EU-Georgia relations, rewarding reforms in areas like rule of law, border management, and human rights. It also symbolized tangible benefits of the European integration process for ordinary citizens. It had huge positive impact on citizens of georgia, because they got the chance to visit relatives living in the EU, get easier access to study programmes and youth exchanges and also to go for seasonal jobs.

2022

After Russia's invasion of Ukraine, Georgia officially applied for EU membership in, alongside Ukraine and Moldova. This move was largely symbolic but marked a historic commitment to joining the European family. The application reflected public support for EU integration, but the EU signaled that Georgia still had work to do on democratic reforms.

2023

In December, the European Union granted Georgia official candidate status. Although conditional, the decision marked a diplomatic victory for Georgia and acknowledged the country's European aspirations. However, the EU emphasized that further progress on rule of law, judicial independence, and media freedom was necessary before starting accession talks.

May 2024

The Georgian Parliament approved a law called the "foreign influence law." It was similar to a Russia's FARA law. The law said that NGOs and media groups that get money from other countries must register as "agents of foreign influence." If an organization gets more than 20% of its funding from abroad, it must register as a "foreign agent." If it refuses, organization will be fined. The law sparked massive nationwide protests, seen as a threat to civil society and democratic values.

Oct 2024

Elections were widely criticized as unfair. Domestic and international observers reported irregularities and alleged that the elections were rigged in favor of the Georgian Dream (ruling party). The results further deepened political polarization and public distrust in electoral processes.

Nov 2024

The Prime Minister Irakli Kobakhidze unexpectedly announced stopping the EU accession negotiations till 2028, triggering a new wave of anti-government protests. In reality the government wanted to maintain power to create more authoritarian regime and through active partnership with EU, it would be hard. Few days after, he tried to justify his words by saying that accession process isn't stopped, Georgia is not going to apply for it till 2028 to be more ready for negotiations and fulfill all the responsibilities on the way of westernisation. The protests at some point have become brutal and violent - police and special forces began using tear gas, rubber bullets, and water cannons to disperse the crowds. Protesters and several journalists were beaten with batons, and many were injured. EU condemned the crackdown, saying the government was using violence against its own citizens to silence opposition. The protest movement continues into 2025, reflecting widespread dissatisfaction with the government.

Dec 2024

Parliament passed controversial amendments (changes) to the Law of Georgia on Public Service. Critics argue that the changes allow greater political interference in public administration and weaken merit-based hiring, undermining Georgia's efforts to align with EU governance standards. With these amendments , Georgia undermined its commitment under the Association Agreement to regulate the public sector in accordance to EU standards, which began in 2017. Consequently, almost 7 years of work were wasted and the public sector returned to its authoritarian origins.

Dec 2024

A presidential election was held under controversial circumstances - The election system had been changed earlier (2018): instead of citizens voting directly, the president was now chosen by parliament members and regional representatives. However, after the disputed and rigged parliamentary elections in October, only Georgian Dream (GD) remained in parliament, since the opposition boycotted the results. This meant that only GD members and their allies were able to vote, so the president was effectively picked by the ruling party alone, not by the people or a balanced parliament

Apr 2025

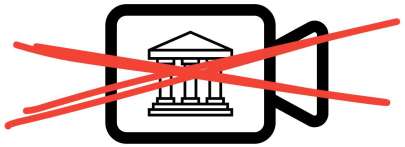
Georgia put into effect a law that was almost the same as America's FARA law. This new law made the pressure on NGOs, journalists, and opposition groups even stronger. The European Union and many civic groups criticized it, saying it strengthened authoritarian rules and hurt people's freedom to organize and speak. The difference between the "foreign influence law" and FARA is this:

- The Georgian "foreign influence law" looks only at where the money comes from. If an NGO or media group gets money from abroad, it is labeled "under foreign influence."
- FARA looks not just at the money but also at what people or groups do with it. FARA can also target private individuals, while the previous "foreign agents law" focuses only on NGOs and media.

The U.S. law is about transparency of lobbying, not silencing independent groups. The Georgian government says the law protects the country from "foreign control," but in reality it is used to weaken journalists, activists, and NGOs who defend democracy and human rights.

Jun 2025

New regulations were adopted that banned media from broadcasting courtroom proceedings. From that time, journalists are only allowed to take notes during the process. The move was framed as a security measure, but watchdogs warned it would reduce judicial transparency and limit public oversight—further straining Georgia's democratic credentials.



Feb 2025

The European Parliament adopted a resolution sharply criticizing democratic backsliding in Georgia. The resolution called on the Georgian government to reverse authoritarian measures and reiterated that progress toward EU accession depended on upholding democratic standards.

Jul 2025

The European Parliament made a dramatic statement via official channels, declaring that the Georgian government no longer met the criteria of a legitimate democratic authority. The declaration followed months of democratic erosion, protest suppression, and violations of EU principles. GD is officialy recognised as illegitimate power