



**MINISTRY OF JUSTICE
OF GEORGIA**

Statement of the Deputy Minister of Justice of Georgia

H.E. Mr. Giorgi Dgebuadze

Twenty-Fourth Session of the Assembly of States Parties

to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court

1-6 December 2025

Madame President, Excellences, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Georgia expresses appreciation for convening the twenty-fourth session of the Assembly of States Parties.

We thank the Assembly and the organs of the Court for their dedicated work throughout the past year and acknowledge the steady efforts made to reinforce cooperation, support victims, and advance the effective implementation of the Court's mandate.

The delegation reaffirms full support for the Court as an impartial and independent judicial institution and stresses the importance of safeguarding the integrity and effectiveness of the Rome Statute system, so that the mandate of the Court is carried out with credibility and with the confidence of States Parties and affected communities.

We are proud to stand among the founding States Parties to the Rome Statute and reaffirm our unwavering commitment to the principles and purposes that underpin the Rome Statute system.

The delegation recalls that the Situation in Georgia presents a clear demonstration of the mandate entrusted to the Court. The investigation represented the ICC's first engagement on the territory of a European State Party and the first examination of alleged crimes arising from an international armed conflict. The significance of this development reaches far beyond our region. The experience confirms the global reach of the Court's jurisdiction and reinforces the expectation that accountability must be pursued in a principled and impartial manner, regardless of geography, the identity of alleged perpetrators, or any political consideration.

In this context, we have maintained full and continuous cooperation with the Office of the Prosecutor, providing comprehensive assistance to support a fair, transparent, and effective investigative process. This cooperation led to the issuance of arrest warrants for three individuals who had committed crimes against the population of Georgia.

For us, effective execution of the Court's arrest warrants remains a central test of the international community's commitment to justice and the rule of law. Genuine progress on enforcement is essential to secure long-awaited justice for the victims of the 2008 armed conflict and to reaffirm that accountability for the gravest crimes is a shared responsibility that sustains the credibility, unity and purpose of the Rome Statute system.

In this regard, Georgia further refers to the landmark judgment of the European Court of Human Rights (the ECtHR) of 14 October 2025 on the case of *Georgia v. Russia (IV)*. In the Judgment, the Court has ordered the Russian Federation to pay over 253 million Euros in compensation to more than 29,000 affected citizens of Georgia. The ECtHR held Russia fully responsible for the mass harassment, unlawful detention, physical attacks, killings, and the official tolerance of such actions against the population of Georgia in the occupied territories and along the occupation line. These violations occurred in the context of the ongoing occupation of the territories of Georgia and the process of the so-called 'borderisation'.

We would like to reaffirm that full, timely and good-faith cooperation is essential to the effective functioning of the Rome Statute system and we remain committed to meeting all cooperation obligations in conformity with the Statute.

The delegation notes our steady and constructive engagement with all structures of the Court, including the provision of prompt and coordinated responses to requests for information and assistance through established national mechanisms.

We continue to consolidate national cooperation arrangements through clear procedures, coordinated action, and strengthened institutional capacities, reflecting our firm conviction that consistent and reliable cooperation by all States Parties is essential to safeguarding the authority of the Court and sustaining confidence in the Rome Statute system.

In closing, we reaffirm our deep commitment to the International Criminal Court and to the pursuit of accountability for the most serious crimes committed against the population of Georgia.

There remains a clear and well-founded expectation among the people of Georgia and the wider international community that the Court's arrest warrants will be executed without delay so that the victims of the August 2008 armed conflict receive the justice they have awaited with patience and dignity.

In this regard, we will continue to work closely and constructively with the Court toward this objective and encourage all States Parties to strengthen cooperation and coordinated action in support of effective implementation of the Court's mandate, which is essential to maintaining confidence in the Rome Statute system.

The delegation of Georgia expresses sincere appreciation to Madame President and the entire ASP team for their dedicated work and extends its best wishes for a successful session and for continued progress in the period ahead.