

Questionnaire

Hello, we are calling from a research organization CRRC-Georgia,. This is an independent, non-profit research center that collects, analyzes, and publishes data on various important issues. Our survey concerns ongoing events in the country.

Your phone number was randomly generated. Your opinion is crucial for us. All responses will remain completely anonymous. Please spare 15 minutes to answer our questions about events happening in the country.

Demographic Characteristics

1. Age
2. Gender
3. Region
4. Type of settlement
5. **Many ethnic groups live in Georgia. Which ethnic group do you consider yourself a part of?**

[Interviewer: Do not read aloud. Match the response. Only one answer.]

Georgian	1
Armenian	2
Azerbaijani	3
Other	4
<i>(Don't know)</i>	-1
<i>(Refuse to answer)</i>	-2

6. What is the highest level of education you have achieved to date?

[Interviewer: Do not read aloud. Match the response. Only one answer.]

Did not complete 9 years of education	1
Completed 9 years of education	2
Secondary school diploma (11 or 12 years)	3
Vocational/technical education diploma	4
Bachelor's degree or 5-year diploma	5
Any degree above Bachelor's	6

<i>(Don't know)</i>	-1
<i>(Refuse to answer)</i>	-2

7. What is your employment status?

[Interviewer: Read aloud. Only one answer.]

Retired and not working	1
Student and not working	2
Housewife and not working	3
Unemployed	4
Working full or part-time in the public sector (including seasonal work, even if retired/student)	5
Working full or part-time in the private sector (including seasonal work, even if retired/student)	6
Self-employed (including seasonal work, even if retired/student)	7
Person with disabilities and unable to work	8
Other	9
<i>(Don't know)</i>	-1
<i>(Refuse to answer)</i>	-2

8. Which group does your household's total monthly income fall into, i.e., the take-home income of all household members after income and other taxes, including pensions and social assistance?

[Interviewer: Read aloud. Only one answer.]

Less than 2000 GEL	1
2000 GEL or more	2
<i>(Don't know)</i>	-1
<i>(Refuse to answer)</i>	-2

9. Last year, aside from special events such as weddings or funerals, how often did you attend religious services?

[Interviewer: Read aloud. Only one answer.]

At least once a week	1
At least once a month	2
Only on special religious holidays	3
Less frequently	4
Never	5
<i>(Don't know)</i>	-1
<i>(Refuse to answer)</i>	-2

10. There are many political parties in Georgia. Which political party is closest to you?

[Interviewer: Do not read aloud. Match the response. Only one answer.]

“Georgian Dream – Democratic Georgia”	1
“United National Movement” – Strategy Aghmashenebeli (Tinatin Bokuchava, Giorgi Vashadze)	2
“Ahali” (Nika Gvaramia, Nika Melia)	3
“Girchi – More Freedom” (Zurab Girchi Japaridze)	4
“Droa” (Elene Khoshtaria)	5
“Lelo” (Mamuka Khazaradze)	6
“For the People” (Anna Dolidze)	7
“Citizens” (Aleko Elisashvili)	8
“Gakharia for Georgia” (Giorgi Gakharia)	9
Girchi (Iago Khvichia)	10
Patriots Alliance of Georgia – Alt-Info (Irma Inashvili, Zurab Makharadze)	11
Labour Party of Georgia (Shalva Natelashvili)	12
Other (specify)	13
<i>(None)</i>	-5
<i>(Don't know)</i>	-1
<i>(Refuse to answer)</i>	-2

Media Consumption Behaviors

11. How often do you follow the news? By news, we mean any kind of news, including sports, weather, politics, current issues, or any other topic, that you may get in print, on television, radio, or social media.

[Interviewer: Read aloud. Only one answer.]

At least once a day	1
Every two or three days	2
At least once a week	3
Less frequently than once a week	4
Never (skip to 17)	5
<i>(Don't know)</i>	-1
<i>(Refuse to answer)</i>	-2

12. What is the main reason you trust or would trust a particular news media outlet?

[Interviewer: Do not read aloud. Match the response. Up to 3 answers.] [Programming instruction: Rotate the list.]

I have been using it for a long time	1
I trust the journalists	2
They present news in a balanced way/cover both sides	3
They cite sources/evidence	4
My close contacts (family, friends, relatives) have a positive attitude	5
People I consider authoritative have a positive attitude	6
It gives me a sense of calm and security	7
It aligns with my political views	8
Other (specify)	9
<i>(Don't know)</i>	-1
<i>(Refuse to answer)</i>	-2

13. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

[**Interviewer:** Read aloud. Only one answer.] [**Programming instruction:** Randomize statements.]

		Totally disagree	More disagree than agree	More agree than disagree	Totally agree	<i>(Don't know)</i>	<i>(Refuse to answer)</i>
13.1	The manner of presenting information (style, emotions, tone, etc.) is often as important as its accuracy.						
13.2	The authority of the storyteller is often as important as the content of the story.						
13.3	A credible media outlet is not always required to provide evidence (e.g., facts, video/photo material, data).						

14. What is the most common way you follow the news?

[**Interviewer:** Read aloud. Only one answer.]

Television	1
Radio	2
Print media, newspapers/magazines	3
News websites or applications	4
Social media (Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, TikTok, etc.)	5
<i>(Don't know)</i>	-1
<i>(Refuse to answer)</i>	-2

15. Which TV channel do you primarily use to follow the news? This includes news obtained via television, the internet, social media, or YouTube.

[Interviewer: Do not read aloud. Match the response. Only one answer.]

Imedi TV	1	
Mtavari Arkhi	2	
Formula TV	3	
Kavkasia TV	4	
Rustavi 2	5	
Georgian Public Broadcaster – First Channel	6	
Maestro	7	
Adjara Public Broadcaster	8	
Second Channel (Georgian Public Broadcaster)	9	
Sezoni TV	10	
TV Obieqtivi	11	
Palitra TV	12	
TV Pirveli	13	
Euronews	14	
PosTV	15	
AzTV	16	
Armenia TV	17	

Alt-Info	18	
Other (specify)	19	
<i>(I don't watch news programs on TV or online)</i>	-5	<i>Skip to 17</i>
<i>(Don't know)</i>	-1	
<i>(Refuse to answer)</i>	-2	

16. What feeling do you primarily experience when following the news through this television channel (referring to the channel named in the previous question)?

[Interviewer: Read aloud. Only one answer.]

Anger	1
Fear	2
Disappointment	3
Satisfaction	4
Pride	5
Joy	6
<i>(No feeling)</i>	-5
<i>(Don't know)</i>	-1
<i>(Refuse to answer)</i>	-2

Misinformation/Disinformation (Perception and Impact)

17. In your opinion, what is the most common medium through which false/incorrect news spreads in Georgia?

[Interviewer: Read aloud. Only one answer.]

Television	1
Radio	2
Print media, newspapers/magazines	3
News websites or applications	4

Social media (Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, TikTok, etc.)	5
<i>(Don't know)</i>	-1
<i>(Refuse to answer)</i>	-2

18. In your opinion, who spreads false/incorrect news the most in Georgia?

[**Interviewer:** Do not read aloud. Match the response. Up to 3 answers.]

[**Programming instruction:** Rotate the list.]

European Union	1
USA	2
Russia	3
"Global War Party"/"Deep State"	4
Georgian government/Georgian Dream	5
Opposition	6
Non-governmental organizations	7
Journalists/Media	8
Citizens	9
<i>Other (specify)</i>	10
<i>(Don't know)</i>	-1
<i>(Refuse to answer)</i>	-2

19. In your opinion, what impact do false/incorrect news have on political events in Georgia - strong, weak, or none at all?

[**Interviewer:** Read aloud. Only one answer.]

Strong impact	1
Weak impact	2
No impact at all	3
<i>(Don't know)</i>	-1
<i>(Refuse to answer)</i>	-2

20. In your opinion, what impact do false/incorrect news have on relationships between people in Georgia - strong, weak, or none at all?

[Interviewer: Read aloud. Only one answer.]

Strong impact	1
Weak impact	2
No impact at all	-5
<i>(Don't know)</i>	-1
<i>(Refuse to answer)</i>	-2

21. Overall, in your opinion, what is the impact of false/incorrect news on Georgia: harmful, beneficial, or none at all?

[Interviewer: Read aloud. Only one answer.]

Beneficial	1	Skip to 23
Harmful	2	
None at all	3	Skip to 23
<i>(Don't know)</i>	-1	<i>Skip to 23</i>
<i>(Refuse to answer)</i>	-2	<i>Skip to 23</i>

22. In your opinion, which issues are most harmed by the spread of false/incorrect news?

[Interviewer: Do not read aloud. Match the response. Up to 3 answers.]

[Programming instruction: Rotate the list.]

EU integration	1
NATO integration	2
Georgia's international reputation	3
Economy	4
Education	5
Human rights and democracy	6
Reputation of the government/"Georgian Dream"	7

Reputation of the opposition	8
Relations with Russia	9
Peace/avoiding war	10
Maintaining order within the country	11
Georgian national identity (culture, religion, traditions)	12
Social unity / human relationships	13
<i>Other (specify)</i>	14
<i>(Don't know)</i>	-1
<i>(Refuse to answer)</i>	-2

23. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

[**Interviewer:** Read aloud. Only one answer.] [**Programming instruction:** Randomize statements.]

		Totally disagree	More disagree than agree	More agree than disagree	Totally agree	<i>(Don't know)</i>	<i>(Refuse to answer)</i>
23.1	In Georgia, lie generally spreads faster than the truth.	1	2	3	4	-1	-2
23.2	In Georgia, there are media outlets whose news does not require additional verification.	1	2	3	4	-1	-2

Media Literacy and Identifying Misinformation

24. How often have you suspected that a news story you learned about was false/incorrect?

[**Interviewer:** Read aloud. Only one answer.]

Never (skip to 29)	1
Rarely	2
Often	3
Always	4
<i>(Don't know)</i>	-1
<i>(Refuse to answer)</i>	-2

25. In general, what makes you suspect that a news story might be false/incorrect?

[**Interviewer:** Do not read aloud. Match the response. Up to 3 answers.]

[**Programming instruction:** Rotate the list.]

The author/source is suspicious	1
It contradicts already known credible information	2
No source is cited	3
Comments claim the information is false	4
Attached photo/video material is fake (e.g., photoshopped, edited)	5
It contradicts personal experience	6
It contradicts information from close contacts	7
It is presented one-sidedly/does not show the other side's position	8
The author/source's position and personal interests are evident	9
<i>Other (specify)</i>	10
<i>(Don't know)</i>	-1
<i>(Refuse to answer)</i>	-2

26. How often have you verified the accuracy of false/incorrect news?

[Interviewer: Read aloud. Only one answer.]

Never	1	Skip to 29
Rarely	2	
Often	3	
Always	4	
<i>(Don't know)</i>	-1	
<i>(Refuse to answer)</i>	-2	

27. When you thought a news story was suspicious, how did you verify it?

[Interviewer: Do not read aloud. Match the response. Up to 3 answers.]

[Programming instruction: Rotate the list.]

Asked close contacts (family, friends, relatives)	1
Checked authoritative individuals' social media	2
Searched on Google or another search engine	3
Found the original source (official website, politician's social media, etc.)	4
Checked in foreign media	5
Checked in other Georgian media	6
<i>Other (specify)</i>	7
<i>Never verified</i>	-5
<i>(Don't know)</i>	-1
<i>(Refuse to answer)</i>	-2

28. After verification, how often did you find that a news story was indeed false/incorrect?

[Interviewer: Read aloud. Only one answer.]

Never	1
Rarely	2
Often	3

Always	4
<i>(Don't know)</i>	-1
<i>(Refuse to answer)</i>	-2

29. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

[**Interviewer:** Read aloud. Only one answer.] [**Programming instruction:** Randomize statements.]

		Totally disagree	More disagree than agree	More agree than disagree	Totally agree	<i>(Don't know)</i>	<i>(Refuse to answer)</i>
29.1	It is the citizen's responsibility not to blindly believe news and to verify its credibility.	1	2	3	4	-1	-2
29.2	It is the media's responsibility to spread only credible and verified news.	1	2	3	4	-1	-2
29.3	It is the state's responsibility to ensure the spread of credible and verified news.	1	2	3	4	-1	-2

Political Polarization

30.1. How do you feel about supporters of "Georgian Dream"?

[**Interviewer:** Read aloud. Only one answer.] [**Programming instruction:** Rotate statement pairs.]

Very negatively	1
More negatively than positively	2
Neutral	3
More positively than negatively	4
Very positively	5
<i>(Don't know)</i>	-1
<i>(Refuse to answer)</i>	-2

30.2. How do you feel about supporters of the opposition?

[**Interviewer:** Read aloud. Only one answer.]

Very negatively	1
More negatively than positively	2
Neutral	3
More positively than negatively	4
Very positively	5
<i>(Don't know)</i>	-1
<i>(Refuse to answer)</i>	-2

31.1. In your opinion, to what extent does or does not “Georgian Dream” do what is necessary for the country?

[**Interviewer:** Read aloud. Only one answer.] [**Programming instruction:** Rotate statement pairs.]

Does not do at all	1
Mostly does not do	2
Mostly does	3
Always does	4
<i>(Don't know)</i>	-1

<i>(Refuse to answer)</i>	-2
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31.2. In your opinion, to what extent does or does not the opposition do what is necessary for the country?

[**Interviewer:** Read aloud. Only one answer.]

Does not do at all	1
Mostly does not do	2
Mostly does	3
Always does	4
<i>(Don't know)</i>	-1
<i>(Refuse to answer)</i>	-2

32.1. How comfortable would you feel with a friend if you knew they supported "Georgian Dream"?

[**Interviewer:** Read aloud. Only one answer. **If the respondent says "It doesn't matter," mark "Very comfortable."**] [**Programming instruction:** Rotate statement pairs.]

Very uncomfortable	1
More uncomfortable than comfortable	2
More comfortable than uncomfortable	3
Very comfortable	4
<i>(Don't know)</i>	-1
<i>(Refuse to answer)</i>	-2

32.2. How comfortable would you feel with a friend if you knew they supported the opposition?

[**Interviewer:** Read aloud. Only one answer. **If the respondent says "It doesn't matter," mark "Very comfortable."**] [**Programming instruction:** Rotate statement pairs.]

Very uncomfortable	1
More uncomfortable than comfortable	2

More comfortable than uncomfortable	3
Very comfortable	4
<i>(Don't know)</i>	-1
<i>(Refuse to answer)</i>	-2

Conspiratorial Thinking

33. Do you believe that there is a “Global War Party” that controls major global processes?

[Interviewer: If the respondent mentions “Deep State,” accept it as “Global War Party.”]

Yes	1
No	2
<i>(Don't know)</i>	-1
<i>(Refuse to answer)</i>	-2

34. Please indicate on a scale from 1 to 5, where 1 means “Not true at all” and 5 means “Completely true,” to what extent you agree or disagree with the following statements?

[Interviewer: Mark on a scale from 1 to 5, where 1 means “Not true at all” and 5 means “Completely true.”] **[Programming instruction: Randomize statements.]**

		Not true at all				Completely true	<i>(Don't know)</i>	<i>(Refuse to answer)</i>
34.1	State leaders obey a small group of people who actually control global politics.	1	2	3	4	5	-1	-2
34.2	Intelligence services have connections with extraterrestrials but	1	2	3	4	5	-1	-2

	hide this from the public.							
34.3	Viruses and diseases are deliberately spread by certain organizations.	1	2	3	4	5	-1	-2
34.4	Technologies are being used on people to control their minds without their own awareness	1	2	3	4	5	-1	-2

Misinformation/Disinformation Recognition Test

35. Now I will read you several statements, and please assess whether they are true or not.

[Programming instruction: Rotate statement pairs.]

		Yes	No	(Don't know)	(Refuse to answer)
True (pro-GD)	In 2024, Georgia's foreign trade increased by 8% compared to the previous year.	1	0	-1	-2
True (anti-GD)	In 2024, the EU suspended aid to Georgia amounting to 121 million euros.	1	0	-1	-2
False (pro-GD)	If Georgia joins the EU, it will be required to legalize same-sex marriage.	1	0	-1	-2
False (anti-GD)	After the 2024 parliamentary elections, the EU revoked Georgia's candidate status.	1	0	-1	-2

36. If parliamentary elections were held tomorrow, would you participate?

[Interviewer: Read aloud. Only one answer.]

Definitely would not participate	1
Probably would not participate	2
Probably would participate	3
Definitely would participate	4
<i>(Don't know)</i>	-1
<i>(Refuse to answer)</i>	-2

List Experiment

[Randomization into three equal groups]

Group 1.

[Interviewer: Please read each activity carefully and slowly. Before the respondent answers, ask if they understood the list clearly and whether the activities need to be reread.]

I will now read you four activities. After I read them, please tell me how many of them apply to you. We are not interested in which ones apply to you. Please tell us how many apply to you.

1. I watch news programs.
2. I discuss events in the country with close contacts.
3. I post on social media.
4. I have personally met Donald Trump.

LX_1. |__| [Enter number]

-2. Refuse to answer

Group 2.

[Interviewer: Please read each activity carefully and slowly. Before the respondent answers, ask if they understood the list clearly and whether the activities need to be reread.]

I will now read you four activities. After I read them, please tell me how many of them apply to you. We are not interested in which ones apply to you. Please tell us how many apply to you.

1. I watch news programs.
2. I discuss events in the country with close contacts.
3. I post on social media.

4. I support "Georgian Dream."

LX_2. |__| [Enter number]

-2. Refuse to answer

Group 3.

[**Interviewer:** Please read each activity carefully and slowly. Before the respondent answers, ask if they understood the list clearly and whether the activities need to be reread.]

I will now read you four activities. After I read them, please tell me how many of them apply to you. We are not interested in which ones apply to you. Please tell us how many apply to you.

1. I watch news programs.
2. I discuss events in the country with close contacts.
3. I post on social media.
4. I support an opposition party.

LX_3. |__| [Enter number]

-2. Refuse to answer