

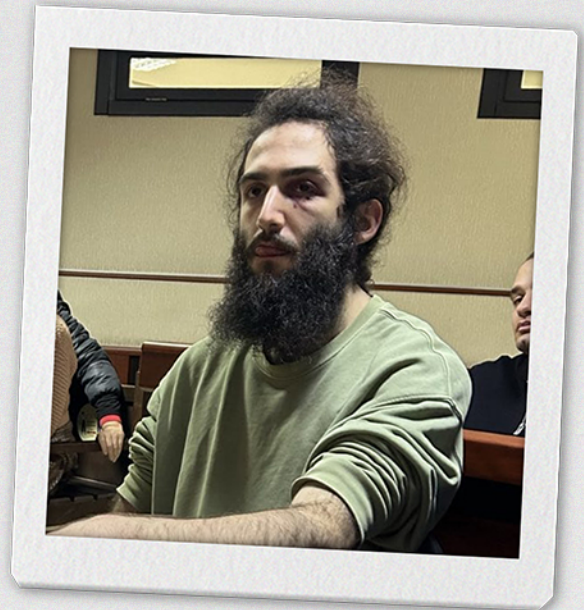


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GIORGI MAISASHVILI STORY

Giorgi Maisashvili, a student, has been accused of disobeying a lawful order of a police officer and insulting a police officer. On November 30, 2024, at approximately 06:30, he was arrested on Rustaveli Avenue. Mr. Maisashvili attended the demonstration with his brother and friends when he heard the participants were surrounded. He and his group paused on Besiki Street before heading back toward Rustaveli Avenue. At that time, heavily armed law enforcement officers, described as "RoboCops," were observed running down Lagidze Street. Mr. Maisashvili turned around and witnessed officers rushing at his brother, forcibly knocking him to the ground, and stepping on him. When Mr. Maisashvili attempted to intervene to assist his brother, he was struck in the head with a blunt object. As a result, he fell to the ground and instinctively curled up. Meanwhile, the RoboCops continued beating him. He soon lost consciousness, with his memory returning intermittently. He has fragmented memories of being inside a police vehicle following the incident. Despite suffering injuries, including an injured eye and multiple concussions, Mr. Maisashvili was transported to a small police car and taken first to the police department in the morning and later to the Avchala Temporary Detention Center. Due to a backlog at the detention facility, he was not accommodated until the evening. During the arrest, his personal belongings were confiscated, and a first aid kit and a skateboard were subsequently lost. During this period, Mr. Maisashvili expressed significant concern for his brother's condition, as he was unable to obtain any information. He only learned about his brother's hospitalization after hearing an interview with his mother on television while at the police department. Due to the large number of arrests during the raid that day, the accommodation process at the Avchala detention center and the meetings with lawyers were significantly delayed because of a shortage of meeting rooms. Despite the fact that Giorgi was severely beaten, his pre-trial detention period was extended to 48 hours before he was brought before the court. Compounding his distress, Mr. Maisashvili was worried about his dog, who had recently undergone surgery and was under his care at the time of his arrest. Although Mr. Maisashvili sustained severe injuries during his arrest, he was not transferred to a medical facility. Following his release, he required medical treatment, including an MRI and treatment for his eye injury.

An administrative offense report was filed against Mr. Maisashvili under Part 1 of Article 173 of the Code of Administrative Offences. Judge Manuchar Tsatsua heard his case. Two police officers testified. No evidence was presented at the trial apart from the police officers' testimonies, which appeared identical and standard across all similar cases - "While performing my official duties, I observed a citizen, later identified as Giorgi Maisashvili, who failed to comply with our request to leave the area. Due to the absence of appropriate equipment, we requested the GDD officers to detain him".



No additional evidence was presented at trial. Despite the absence of corroborative evidence and without due consideration of Mr. Maisashvili's health condition or the broader circumstances of the case, Judge Tsatsua sentenced him to six days of administrative detention. Due to overcrowding in the Tbilisi detention facility, Mr. Maisashvili was transferred to the Kutaisi detention center. In addition to the inhumane treatment, it is noteworthy that Giorgi's personal belongings were confiscated during his detention. While some of these items were returned to him upon his release, the majority were lost. Based on available information, the Special Investigation Service has initiated an investigation into the alleged abuse of official authority. Giorgi was summoned to the department, where he provided testimony and underwent an examination. The actions of the police officer, in addition to the alleged abuse of authority, may potentially constitute torture and/or inhuman or degrading treatment. At this stage, the Special Investigation Service has not granted Giorgi victim status, nor have the responsible parties been identified or held criminally accountable.