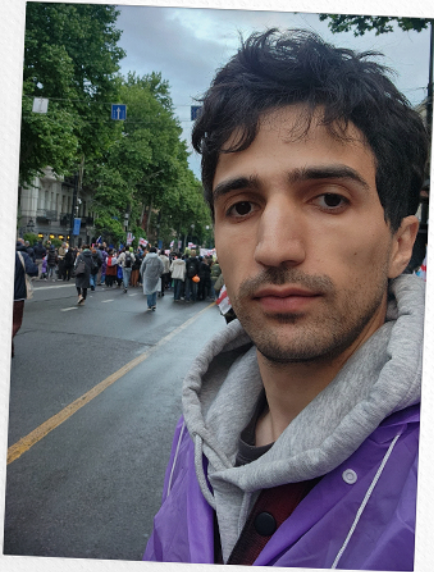




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# KONSTANTINE TVALASHVILI STORY

Konstantine Tvalashvili, a professional programmer, was arrested on November 30, 2024, during the subsequent protest at approximately 06:10 AM. At the time of his arrest, he was with his friends near the turn of Besiki Street when a cordon of special forces advanced in their direction. As a result, chaos ensued among the protesters. The group initially moved toward the Opera; however, special forces were also present in that direction. The crowd then proceeded toward the 'Marriott,' at which point Konstantine and one of his friends found himself near the special forces.

The protesters were encircled, leaving no viable means of escape. Masked individuals forcibly detained Konstantine Tvalashvili's friend as he attempted to assist him. At that moment, Tvalashvili was also subjected to physical assault and subsequently arrested. According to the affected individual, the riot police exhibited heightened aggression, engaging in both physical violence and verbal abuse. Tvalashvili was punched, kicked, and struck with batons on his face, head, torso, and arms.

The detained programmer was forcibly transported to Rustaveli Avenue, where the physical assault and verbal abuse continued. Despite offering no resistance and complying with the orders of the special forces, Tvalashvili was subjected to ongoing violence by law enforcement officers. During one of the subsequent blows, he overheard the voice: 'Get up, they stopped hitting. Get up!'

Two police officers escorted the arrested Tvalashvili to a vehicle. At that time, due to the severity of his injuries, he was unable to see clearly but could sense that riot police officers were still following him. The police officers attempted to intervene, stating, 'Do not hit him anymore; he is already under arrest.' Despite this, one of the masked officers managed to evade their restraint and struck Tvalashvili forcefully in the face, causing his nose to bleed.



Konstantine was placed in a police vehicle, where he continued to be subjected to psychological abuse. Officers directed derogatory remarks at him, stating: 'What do you want, son, with those pederasts?' 'Who are you standing up for? The politicians have left; they are getting paid and sleeping peacefully, while you face the consequences because of them. They abandoned you to the special forces.' 'Do you want war?'

Upon his arrival at the temporary detention center, a doctor visually examined Tvalashvili. However, the assessment did not determine whether he required immediate medical intervention. At that time, Konstantine's nose was visibly swollen, and he was experiencing severe pain. Following his release from the detention center, Tvalashvili underwent a medical examination, which confirmed a cartilage fracture.

Judge Lela Tsagareishvili adjudicated Konstantine Tvalashvili's case. He was charged with disobeying a lawful order from a police officer and insulting an officer. During the court proceedings, only one police officer testified despite not being present at the scene at the time of Tvalashvili's arrest. Judge Tsagareishvili found Tvalashvili in violation of the law and sentenced him to eight days of administrative detention.

The Special Investigation Service has initiated an investigation into alleged offenses under Article 333, Part 3, Subparagraph (b), and Article 154, Part 2 of the Criminal Code of Georgia. These provisions pertain to the abuse of official authority by an individual holding a state or political position through the use of violence or weapons, as well as unlawful interference with a journalist's professional activities. Specifically, the investigation concerns acts of coercion aimed at compelling a journalist to disseminate or withhold information, carried out through threats of violence or abuse of official authority.

It is important to note that Konstantine Tvalashvili is not a professional journalist. The investigation into his mistreatment is being conducted as part of a single criminal case, along with alleged offenses committed against other individuals. This practice by the investigative body is problematic, as it creates a misleading perception of investigative effectiveness by consolidating multiple investigative and procedural actions under one case.

The Special Investigation Service conducted a medical examination of Konstantine Tvalashvili, followed by a detailed questioning. However, law enforcement authorities have yet to grant him the status of a victim.