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INSIDE THIS ISSUE YOU WILL READ

ACCORDING TO THE LATEST UN RESEARCH, GEORGIA IS THE LEADER OF THE REGION BY THE LEVEL OF E-GOVERNANCE DEVELOPMENT

1
ACCORDING TO THE LATEST UN RESEARCH, GEORGIA IS THE LEADER OF THE REGION BY THE LEVEL OF E-GOVERNANCE DEVELOPMENT

2
THE USE OF ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES AND STAMP ON ELECTRONIC DOCUMENTS HAS BECOME MANDATORY



According to the United Nations e-governance survey of 2018, Georgia is the leader of the region in the e-Governance Development Index and shows high results among the Eastern Partnership countries. According to this index Georgia is ahead of Romania, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan; As to the Eastern Partnership

countries, along with Belarus, Georgia is surpassing Moldova, Ukraine, Azerbaijan and Armenia.

"It is noteworthy that those countries, which have a high level of e-Governance development, are spending solid resources in this direction. Georgia has a far less possibilities in this regard but the outcome is impressive, which is the result of a large-scale work carried out by the Georgian government through active involvement of various agencies. This success once again shows that Georgia is on the right path in terms of the e-Governance development and this direction will ensure sustainable development of our country." - said **Nikoloz Gagnidze**, Chairman of LEPL Data Exchange Agency of the Ministry of Justice of Georgia.

The objective of the United Nations E-governance World Index is to measure the success of a concrete country in the institutional arrangement of the electronic government, the policy determination and the construction of the relevant infrastructures. The index is published by two-year intervals.

"There are several noteworthy details in the 2018 survey that indicate Georgia's progress (Continued on P. 2).



(Continued from P.1) The general trend is that there is a positive convergence between the economic development and the index of e-governance development. The most important fact here is that Georgia along with 51 other countries is grouped in the category of low income countries, but enjoys the highest e-Governance development rate, which is unusual for this category. In this regard, as I have already mentioned, Georgia has significant progress - despite the fact that we are in the category of low income countries, our e-Governance Development Index is much higher (HIGH EGOVERNMENT DEVELOPMENT INDEX) and we are leading among those 51 countries seeded in the same category" , - added **Nikoloz Gagnidze**.

In assessing the overall level of e-governance development in some countries, Georgia has advanced 28 levels in 2012 compared to 2010, and moved to the 72nd place from the 100th level among 193 countries; In 2014 took the 56th place; The 61st in 2016, and according to the latest 2018 survey, Georgia stands at the 60th place.

It should be noted that the development of e-governance mainly is led by the European countries. For the first time in the history of the United Nations E-Governance Index a rapid development of online services across the globe and in the countries of all income categories was observed. The most widely used electronic services are utility payments, tax declaration and registration of new business entities.

According to the global index of e-governance development, the top three are Denmark, South Korea and Australia.

THE USE OF ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES AND STAMP ON ELECTRONIC DOCUMENTS HAS BECOME MANDATORY

Electronic services are becoming more and more relevant in the modern world. It is important to reduce the paper turnover and improve the quality of documentation.

From July 1, 2018, paragraphs 3 and 4 of Article 3 of the Law of Georgia on Electronic Document and Electronic Trust Services, as well as Article 11, entered into force.

In accordance with this law, if an individual or a legal entity of private law electronically communicates with the administrative body, documents provided in digital form should have a qualified electronic signatures and / or a qualified electronic stamp.

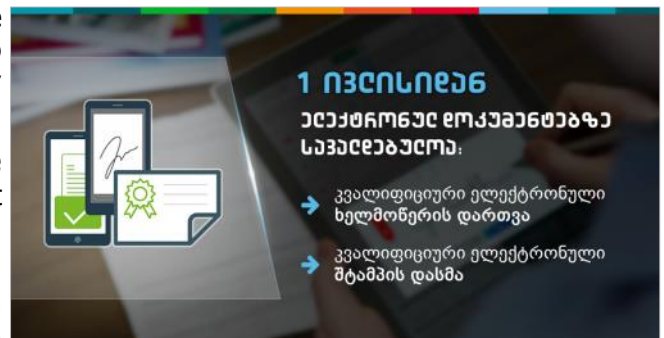
At the same time, the section for business entities available at MY.GOV.GE is temporarily suspending the function of carrying out correspondence from the business side. This function will remain limited until a new version of MY.GOV.GE becomes available, but this action is still usable from the physical person's account.

Till today a qualified electronic signature was introduced in Georgia for physical persons. From now on, qualified trusted services are available for organizations through a qualified electronic stamps.

A qualified electronic stamp enables organization to create customer-centered remote products, based on the highest standards of safety and reliability; To carry out such transactions that were previously considered a high risk for security; Remove paper from paperwork, save time and resources.

"Empowering through the law the use of qualified electronic signature and qualified electronic stamp is an important event on the path of development of digital Georgia. This means that the current trend of technological development has already allowed us to enable private or legal entities to express their will electronically and organizations to make the use of electronic stamps. This is the result of the great work that has been carried out by the various agencies to develop a technological platform, as well as a relative legal base," - said **Nikoloz Gagnidze**, Chairman of LEPL Data Exchange Agency of the Ministry of Justice of Georgia.

Security of qualified electronic signature and stamp is backed by a modern international standards.



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