

საერთაშორისო  
განვითარების  
ინსტიტუტი



CIVIC  
DEVELOPMENT  
INSTITUTE

## Civic Development Institute

# Study and Research on Election Media Coverage for 2016 Parliamentary Elections in Georgia

### Online Media Monitoring

31 August – 25 September, 2016

The Civic Development Institute (CDI) is implementing the monitoring of online media within the framework of the project entitled “Study of the Media Coverage of the 2016 Parliamentary Elections” funded by the European Union (EU) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The monitoring is carried out from 20 May to 19 December, 2016 and covers 17 online publications: allnews.ge, ambebi.ge, droni.ge, etanews.ge, info9.ge, interpressnews.ge, marshalpress.ge, netgazeti.ge, newposts.ge, news.ge, palitratv.ge, pirveli.com.ge, presa.ge, reportiori.ge, tabula.ge, civil.ge, dfwatch.net.

This report presents the results of media monitoring from 31 August through 25 September 2016.

The monitoring has revealed the following **key findings**:

- Online media most actively covered activities of the two political parties, specifically the “United National Movement” and the “Georgian Dream – Democratic Georgia”;
- Unlike the previous rounds of monitoring, both negative coverage of the “United National Movement” and positive treatment of the “Georgian Dream” party have significantly increased.
- Out of the 17 web sites under monitoring, the negative tone was prevalent on 11 in connection with the “United National Movement”. Two websites had a predominantly negative attitude towards the ruling political force;
- Positive tone indicators towards the ruling party were prevalent on 8 websites. None of the monitored websites revealed indicators of positive tone in connection with the “United National Movement”;
- Online media lacks critical thinking. In-depth and issue-based analyses are not common. Frequently, they report only statements of political actors and activities of different state agencies;
- Majority of the websites more or less follow journalistic standards and ethical norms. We practically have not encountered journalists using offensive or discriminatory language.

- One of the biggest challenges faced by the online media is that it is difficult to discern editorial content from one prepared under contractual agreements.
- During the monitoring period, five online media sources reported blood donation by the employees of the police department of Ajara autonomous republic. None of them indicated, though, that the content was taken from the web site of the Ministry of Interior.
- Quite similar was the case about the construction of a new kindergarten in Nadzaladevi district of Tbilisi, reported by five web sites. Only one indicated that the content was prepared under a contractual agreement.

**allnews.ge**

**During the third period of monitoring the indices of positive tone while covering the government team on allnews.ge grew considerably. The website covered most actively the pre-election activity of the Georgian Dream – Democratic Georgia.**

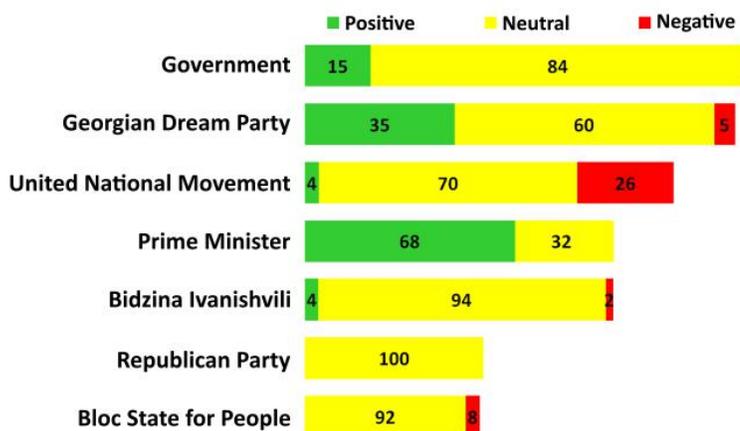
Activities of the government (17 %), the parties Georgian Dream – Democratic Georgia (16%) and the National United movement (14%) as well as the prime minister (12%) and the former prime minister, Bidzina Ivanishvili, were most actively covered on allnews.ge. Rather high percentage of indices of positive tone were revealed while covering the prime minister (68%) and the Georgian Dream – Democratic Georgia (35%). The highest percentage of indices of negative tone went to the “United National Movement” (26%).

The positive attitude toward the party Georgian Dream – Democratic Georgia is noticeable on the website as a result of the quantitative as well as qualitative observation. During the period of monitoring allnews.ge covered especially actively the pre-election pledges of the mentioned party; e.g. “the pledges whose fulfillment the Georgian Dream intends during the next 4 years” (9<sup>th</sup> September); “construction of 50 automobile tunnels is planned during the next four years” (17<sup>th</sup> September).

As a result we can conclude that during the third period of monitoring the positive tone indices grew considerably while covering the party Georgian Dream – Democratic Georgia on allnews.ge. The cases of grave violations of journalistic standards and ethical norms were not detected on the website.

**Volume of Text Allocated to the Subjects on "allnews.ge" According to the Tone (%)**

31 August - 25 September, 2016



**ambebi.ge**

**During the given period of monitoring the positive tone indices for the party Georgian Dream – Democratic Georgia and the negative tone indices for the United National Movement**

increased sharply on ambebi.ge. The website covered the pre-election activity of the ruling party most actively.

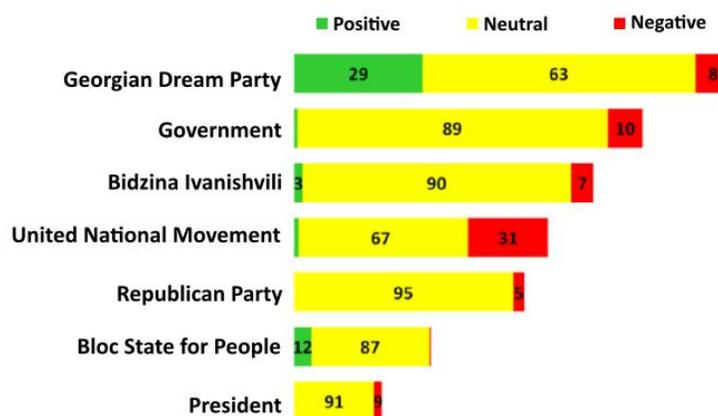
Ambebi.ge covered the Georgian Dream – Democratic Georgia (18%), the government (15%), former prime minister Bidzina Ivanishvili (13%) and the United National Movement (11%) most actively. The highest indices of positive tone went to Georgian Dream – Democratic Georgia (29%) and the prime minister (27%) and the highest percent of indices of negative tone – to the United National Movement 31%). The especially high percent of either positive or negative tone was not revealed while covering any subject of the monitoring.

During the third period of monitoring ambebi.ge widely covered the pre-election pledges of the party Georgian Dream – Democratic Georgia (as an example we can bring an article “what will Georgian Dream change if it remains in power – the six main pledges of the ruling party”, 9<sup>th</sup> September). It must be mentioned that the website covered the pre-election pledges of other parties less actively.

As a result of the monitoring we can conclude that the positive attitude toward the ruling party and a negative one toward the parliamentary opposition is noticeable on the website. The cases of grave violations of journalistic standards and ethical norms were not disclosed on ambebi.ge.

#### Volume of Text Allocated to the Subjects on "ambebi.ge" According to the Tone (%)

31 August - 25 September, 2016

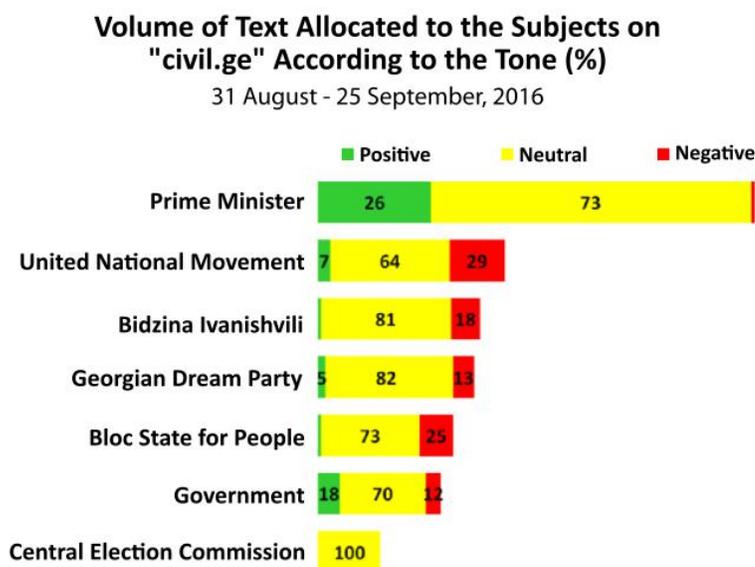


#### civil.ge

**In the third period of monitoring civil.ge showed neither positive nor negative attitude toward any political party. Journalistic standards and ethical norms are upheld to high standards on the website. Civil.ge is distinguished for its in-depth coverage of issues and versatility of sources in its articles.**

Civil.ge most intensively covered prime minister (28%), the United National Movement (12%), former prime minister Bidzina Ivanishvili (10%) and the Georgian Dream – Democratic Georgia (10%). Considerably high percent of positive tone index was revealed while covering the prime minister, which was caused by the fact that civil.ge widely covered his speech in the United Nations’ Organization, where the prime minister emphasized the successes achieved during his tenure (e.g. “PM Addresses UN General Assembly”; “PM Kvirikashvili’s UN Speech”, 22 September). We could not detect especially high percentage of either positive or negative tone indices while covering any of the subjects.

As a result of monitoring we can conclude that civil.ge still covers the processes underway in the country objectively and impartially. The website upholds journalistic standards and ethical norms to a high degree.



## Dfwatch.net

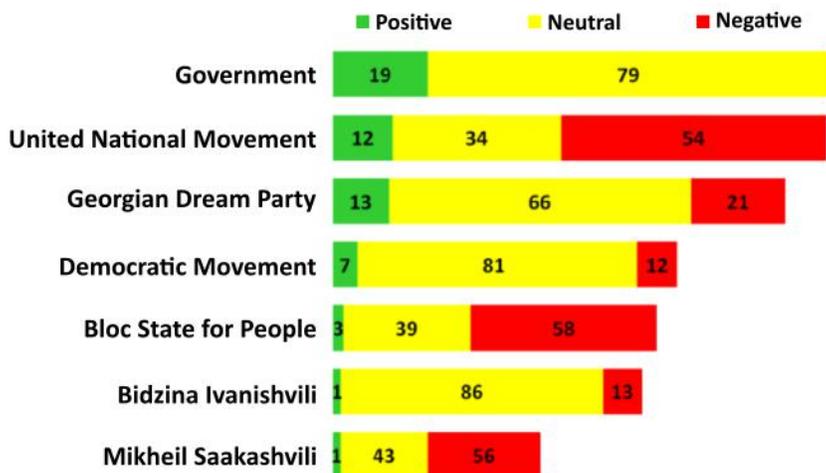
**In the given period of monitoring the negative tone indices toward parliamentary opposition, the ex-president and the bloc State for People increased considerably while being covered on dfwatch.net. Violations of journalistic standards or ethical norms were not detected on the site. dfwatch.net is distinguished with versatility of information sources in separate articles.**

dfwatch.net most actively covered the government (14%) the United National Movement (14%) and Georgian Dream – Democratic Georgia (13%). High percentage of negative tone indices was detected while covering the bloc State for People (58%) ex-president Mikheil Saakashvili (56%) and the party the United National Movement (54%). The highest index of positive tone was earned by the government (19%).

As a result of the monitoring we can conclude that journalistic standards and ethical norms are adhered to on dfwatch.net. During the third period of monitoring negative tone indices toward the United National Movement and ex-president Mikheil Saakashvili increased considerably.

### Volume of Text Allocated to the Subjects on "dfwatch.net" According to the Tone (%)

31 August - 25 September, 2016



#### droni.ge

**During the third period of monitoring the majority of the articles on droni.ge were published under the sign of advertisement. The website does not properly demarcate advertising articles from the editorial materials. droni.ge published a number of articles where journalists covered the pre-election activity of independent majority candidate Cezar Chocheli very positively.**

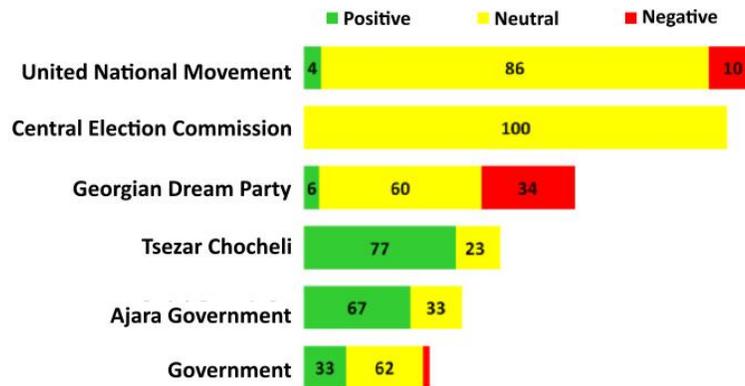
droni.ge covered most actively the United National Movement (24%), the Central Election Committee (23%), the Georgian Dream – Democratic Georgia (14%) and independent majority candidate Cezar Chocheli (10%). High percentage of negative tone indices was revealed while covering the party Georgian Dream – Democratic Georgia (34%). High percentage of positive tone indices went to Cezar Chocheli (77%) and the Adjara government (67%).

During the given period of monitoring droni.ge published quite a number of articles in which the journalists positively assess Cezar Chocheli's activity; e.g. "this is why I support Cezar Chocheli" (31 August); "he had seen hardship, war, slander but he stands firmly on his two feet and provides employment to people" (8 September). It is noteworthy that these articles were not published under the sign of advertising.

As a result of the monitoring we can conclude, that droni.ge clearly manifests an utterly positive attitude toward the independent majority candidate Cezar Chocheli. The majority of the articles on the site is published under the sign of advertisement.

### Volume of Text Allocated to the Subjects on "droni.ge" According to the Tone (%)

31 August - 25 September, 2016



etanews.ge

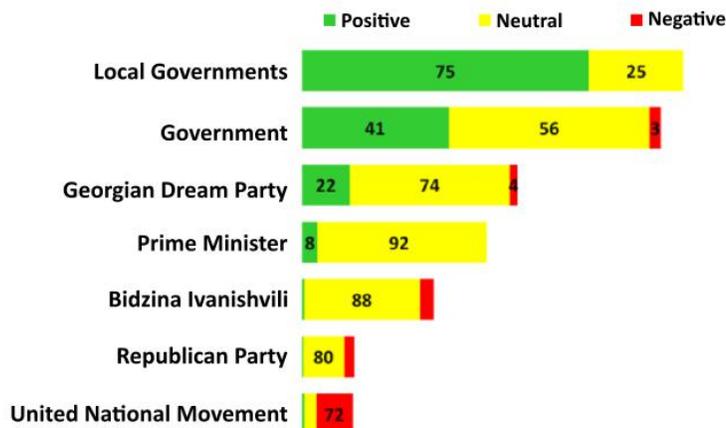
**During the third period of monitoring negative tone indices toward the United National Movement grew even more on etanews.ge while positive tone index is high while covering the government team. The cases of grave violations of journalistic standards and ethical norms were not detected on the website.**

Activities of the local self-governments (26%), the government (24%), the party “Georgian Dream – Democratic Georgia (15%), the prime minister (12%) and the former prime minister Bidzina Ivanishvili (9%) were covered most actively. High percent of positive tone indices was revealed while covering the local self-governments (75%), the government (41%) and the party “Georgian Dream – Democratic Georgia (22%). Utterly high percent of negative tone indices went to the United National Movement (72%).

As a result of the monitoring we can conclude that during the given period of monitoring negative tone indices toward the parliamentary opposition and the positive tone ones toward the ruling team increased on etanews.ge.

### Volume of Text Allocated to the Subjects on "etanews.ge" According to the Tone (%)

31 August - 25 September, 2016



#### info9.ge

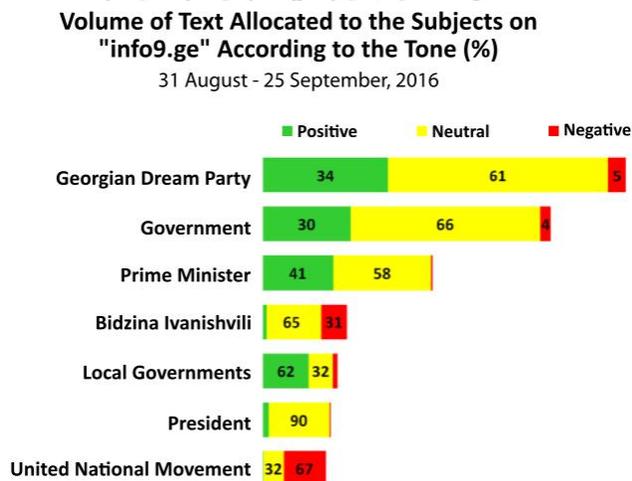
**During the third period of monitoring a negative attitude while covering the United National Movement and the ex-president, Mikheil Saakashvili grew considerably on info9.ge. The website still prevails in positive attitude while covering the ruling team. We often come across articles which are not prepared by the editorial board, though the sources where the articles came from are not pointed out either. Info9.ge covers the pre-election activity of the party Georgian Dream - Democratic Georgia especially actively.**

In the given period of monitoring the activities of (36%), Georgian Dream – Democratic Georgia (27%), the government (22%) and the prime minister (13%) were most actively covered on info9.ge. High indices of positive tone predominated in connection with the mentioned subjects while high indices of negative tone went to the former president, Mikheil Saakashvili (83%) and the United National Movement (67%).

info9.ge is one of the five sites, which during the period of monitoring copy-pasted the information posted on the website of the Ministry of Internal Affairs about donation of blood by the Adjara patrol police department employees as a charitable act. Out of the five sites none pointed out that that the material was gotten from the ministry website. It is noteworthy, that the same article was published by interpressnews.ge, which had pointed out that the mentioned article was prepared in the framework of a commercial agreement.

The similar example was revealed in Nadzaladevi district in an article concerning construction of the new kindergarten. The mentioned article, under identical texts and headlines, was published by the websites info9.ge, pirveli.com.ge, newposts.ge and interpressnews.ge. Only interpressnews.ge pointed out, that the mentioned article was prepared in the framework of a commercial agreement.

As a result of the monitoring we can conclude that a clearly negative attitude toward the United National Movement and the former president, Mikheil Saakashvili is noticeable on info9.ge. The website does not demarcate the articles prepared in the framework of commercial agreements from the editorial materials.



### Interpressnews.ge

**During the given period of monitoring the negative tone indices while covering the United National Movement and the former president Mikheil Saakashvili increased. The website upholds journalistic standards and ethical norms. Interpressnews.ge demarcates the editorial materials from the articles prepared in the framework of commercial agreements, albeit the mentioned articles carry explanations in Latin symbols, which may not be easily understandable to the reader.**

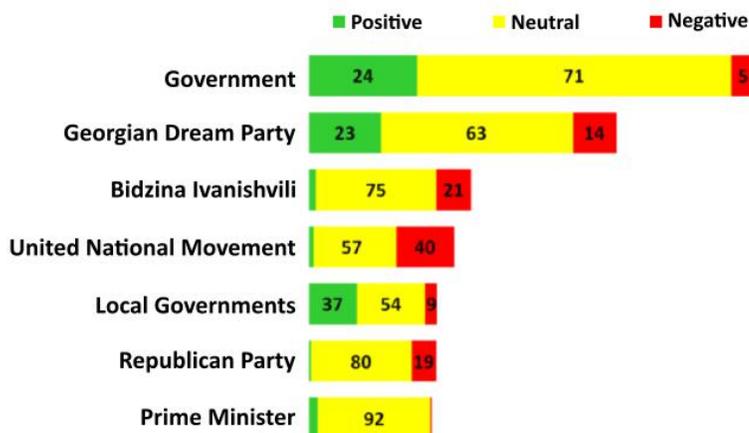
Activities of the government (24%), Georgian Dream – Democratic Georgia (17) were most actively covered on the interpressnews.ge. Rather high indicators of negative tone were revealed while covering the ex-president Mikheil Saakashvili (49%) and the United National Movement (40%). High percentage of indices of positive tone was earned by local self-governments (37%), the Adjara Government (27%), the government (24%) and Georgian Dream – Democratic Georgia (23%).

Unlike a number of websites selected for the monitoring interpressnews.ge gives guidance for the articles prepared in the framework of commercial agreements. Though the mentioned guidance is not easily understandable for every reader. As the notes are provided in Latin symbols (e.g. the symbol NS) and when bringing cursor to it, it reads the “News from Subscriber” (in English). It would be preferable if the website used such notes for the articles which are easily understandable to the reader.

We can conclude that during the third period of monitoring a rather positive attitude toward the ruling team and a negative one to the parliamentary opposition and the ex-president was noticeable on the enterpressnews.ge.

## Volume of Text Allocated to the Subjects on "interpressnews.ge" According to the Tone (%)

31 August - 25 September, 2016



### marshalpress.ge

**During the given period of monitoring the positive tone indices toward the ruling team and the negative tone indices while covering the United National Movement and the former president Mikheil Saakashvili increased on marshalpress.ge. We come across articles on the website, which were not prepared by the editorial staff, though it is not pointed out where the mentioned material was taken from. marshalpress.ge especially actively covers the pre-election activity of the representatives of the party Georgian Dream – Democratic Georgia. We come across the cases of violations of journalistic standards and ethical norms on the website.**

Activities of the prime minister (19%), the party Georgian Dream – Democratic Georgia (16%) and the United National Movement (14%) were most actively covered on marshalpress.ge. Extremely high percentage of index of negative tone was shown while covering the United National Movement (80%), the Republican Party (75%) the ex-president Mikheil Saakashvili (62%) and the bloc State for People (51). High indices of positive tone went to the prime minister (51%), the government (48%) and Georgian Dream – Democratic Georgia (41%).

The positive attitude toward the ruling team and the former prime minister Bidzina Ivanishvili on marshalpress.ge is noticeable through quantitative as well as qualitative analysis. E.g. "... Bidzina Ivanishvili, the former prime minister of Georgia has once again conducted a master-class for the Georgian political spectrum..." (The Declaration which will kick the Living Daylights out of the Nationals and Pro-Russians at the same time", 14 September).

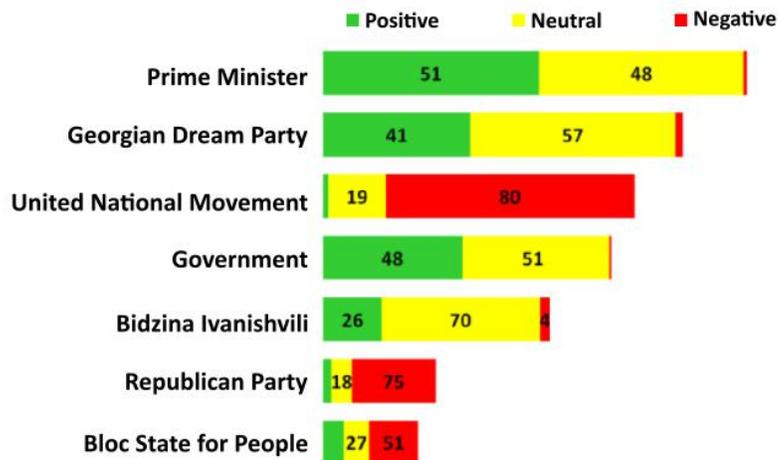
Marshalprees.ge is one of the five websites, which during the given period of monitoring copy pasted the information posted on the website of the Ministry of Internal Affairs concerning donation of blood by the employees of Adjara Patrol Police Department . None of the five websites pointed out that the material was gotten from the Ministry website. It is noteworthy, that the same article

was published by [interpressnews.ge](http://interpressnews.ge), which pointed out that the mentioned article was prepared in the framework of a commercial agreement.

As a result of monitoring we can conclude that [marshalpress.ge](http://marshalpress.ge) clearly shows a positive attitude to the ruling team and the former prime minister, Bidzina Ivanishvili on the one hand and on the other - an utterly negative attitude toward the parliamentary opposition and the former president, Mikheil Saakashvili. Violations of journalistic standards and ethical norms are present on the website.

### Volume of Text Allocated to the Subjects on "marshalpress.ge" According to the Tone (%)

31 August - 25 September, 2016



### Netgazeti.ge

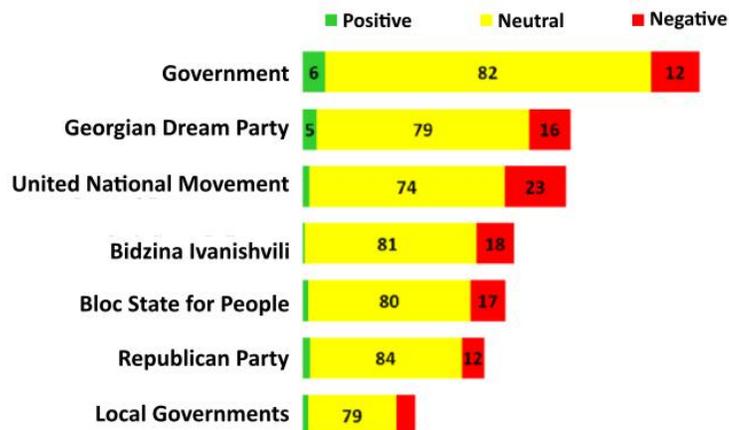
Neither positive nor negative attitude toward any political force was noticeable on [netgazeti.ge](http://netgazeti.ge) during the third period of monitoring. Criticism of the United National Movement was comparatively prevalent on the website, although it must be mentioned that the criticism was found in the respondents' declarations and not the texts edited by the journalists. The website adhered to journalistic standards and ethical norms. It must be noted that [netgazeti.ge](http://netgazeti.ge) clearly demarcates the articles prepared in the framework of commercial agreements from the editorial materials. [Netgazeti.ge](http://netgazeti.ge) is distinguished for the in-depth analysis of the issues and versatility of sources in separate articles.

[Netgazeti.ge](http://netgazeti.ge) covers most actively activity of the government (18%), the party Georgian Dream – Democratic Georgia (12%) and the United National Movement (12%). Comparatively high percentage of negative tone indices went to United National Movement (23%). Especially high indices of either positive or negative tone were not revealed while covering other subjects of the monitoring.

As a result we can conclude that [netgazeti.ge](http://netgazeti.ge) still impartially covers political processes underway in the country. The website upholds high journalistic standards and ethical norms.

### Volume of Text Allocated to the Subjects on "netgazeti.ge" According to the Tone (%)

31 August - 25 September, 2016



#### newposts.ge

**During the given period of monitoring the positive tone indices while covering the ruling team increased on newposts.ge. The site covers especially actively the pre-election activity of the representatives of the party Georgian Dream – Democratic Georgia. On newposts.ge we encounter the articles, which has not been prepared by the editorial board although it does not even point out where the mentioned articles were gotten from.**

Newspost.ge covered the government's (24%) and Georgian Dream – Democratic Georgia's (21%) activity most actively. The highest percentage of negative tone indices was revealed while covering the United National Movement (29%) and the ex-president Mikheil Saakashvili (29%). High percentage of positive tone indices was earned by the local self-governments (50%), the party Georgian Dream – Democratic Georgia (43%), the prime minister (33%) and the government (28%).

Newposts.ge is one of the five websites, which during the given period of monitoring copy pasted the information posted on the website of the Ministry of Internal Affairs concerning donation of blood by the employees of Adjara Patrol Police Department as a charitable act. None of the five websites pointed out that the material was gotten from the Ministry website. It is noteworthy, that the same article was published by interpressnews.ge, which pointed out that the mentioned article was prepared in the framework of a commercial agreement.

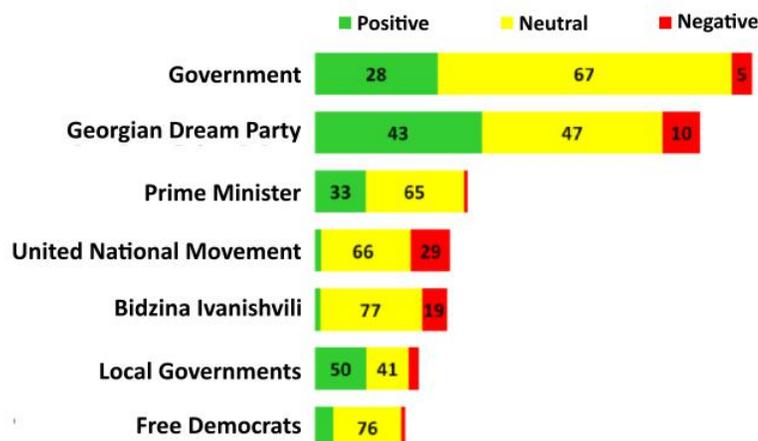
The similar case was revealed in an article prepared about construction of a new kindergarten in Nadzaladevi district. The websites newposts.ge, pirveli.com.ge, info9.ge and interpressnews.ge published the mentioned article with identical texts and headlines. Only interpressnews.ge pointed to the fact that the mentioned article was prepared in the framework of a commercial agreement.

As a result of monitoring we can conclude that newposts.ge clearly prevails in positive tone indices toward the ruling team and a negative one toward the parliamentary opposition and the ex-president

Mikheil Saakashvili. The website does not demarcate between the editorial materials and the articles prepared in the framework of commercial agreement.

### Volume of Text Allocated to the Subjects on "newposts.ge" According to the Tone (%)

31 August - 25 September, 2016



### News.ge

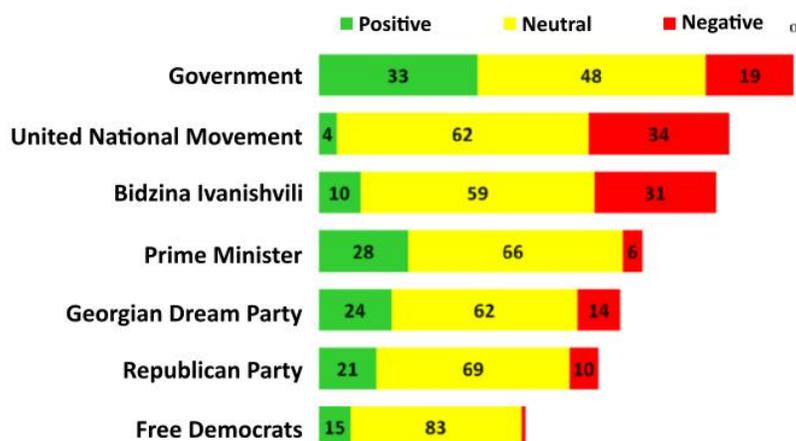
**During the third period of monitoring the criticism toward the United National Movement and the ex-president Mikheil Saakashvili grew on news.ge. The violations of journalistic standards or ethical norms were not found on the site.**

The activities of the government (18%), the United National movement (12%) and the former prime minister Bidzina Ivanishvili (9%) were covered most actively. Rather high indices of positive tone were revealed while covering the government (33%) and the prime minister (28%) High indices of negative tone went to the United National Movement (34%) and the ex-president Mikheil Saakashvili (34%) and the former prime minister Bidzina Ivanishvili (31%).

We can conclude that in comparison with the previous period of monitoring criticism of the parliamentary opposition and the ex-president increased on news.ge. Though it must be mentioned that criticism is found in the respondents' declarations rather than the journalists' texts.

### Volume of Text Allocated to the Subjects on "news.ge" According to the Tone (%)

31 August - 25 September, 2016



palitravt.ge

**In the given period of monitoring the negative tone indices while covering the United National Movement grew considerably on palitra.ge. The facts of violations of journalistic standards and ethical norms were not revealed on the site.**

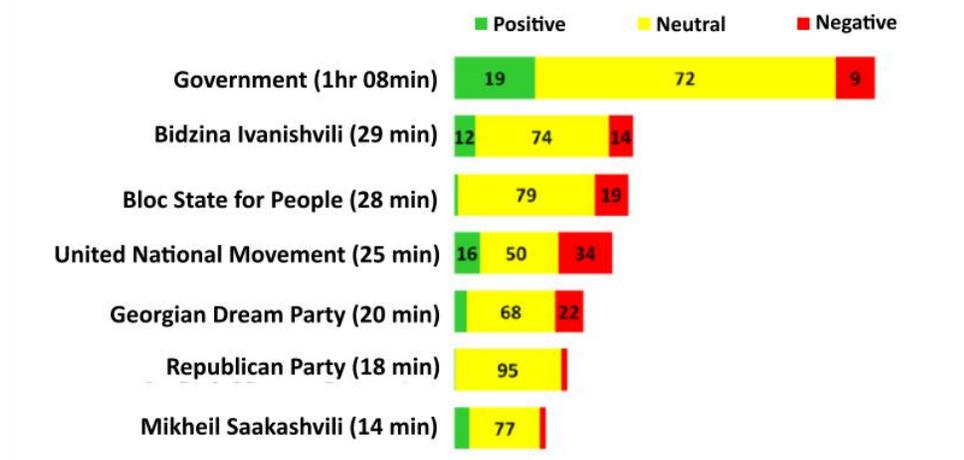
The activities of the government (27%), the former prime minister, Bidzina Ivanishvili (12%), the bloc State for People (11%), the United National movement (10%) and Georgian Dream – Democratic Georgia (8%) were most actively covered on palitra.ge. Especially high percent of negative tone index was revealed while covering the United National movement (34%) and of positive tone – while covering the government (19%).

During the period of monitoring palitravt.ge posted special material, political type programs prepared by the site as well as clips or excerpts from other programs. Balance was preserved in the mentioned programs and extracts during the selection of respondents and the lengthy footage and speeches of the ruling party representatives as well as representatives from both the parliamentary and non-parliamentary opposition were also found.

We can conclude that criticism of the parliamentary opposition considerably increased on palitravt.ge during the given period of monitoring. The website adheres to journalistic standards and ethical norms.

### Time Allocated to the Subjects on "palityratv.ge" According to the Tone (%)

31 August - 25 September, 2016



#### Pirveli.com.ge

**Negative tone indices while covering the United National Movement and ex-president Mikheil Saakashvili drastically increased on pirveli.com.ge during the given period of monitoring. We come across articles on the website, which were not prepared by the editorial staff, though it is not pointed out where the mentioned material was taken from. pirveli.com.ge covers especially actively the pre-election activity of the representatives of Georgian Dream – Democratic Georgia.**

pirveli.com.ge covered activities of the party Georgian Dream – Democratic Georgia (31%), and the government (18%) most actively. Utterly high percentage of negative tone indices went to the party the United National Movement (87%) and the ex-president Mikheil Saakashvili (87%). High positive tone indices were earned by the local self-governments (61%), Adjara government (41%), Georgian Dream – Democratic Georgia (25%) and the government (22%).

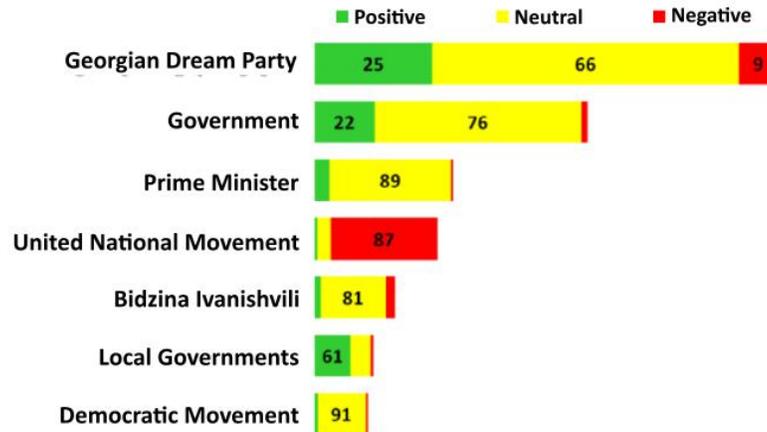
Newposts.ge is one of the five websites, which during the given period of monitoring copy pasted the information posted on the website of the Ministry of Internal Affairs concerning donation of blood by the employees of Adjara Patrol Police Department as a charitable act. None of the five websites pointed out that the material was gotten from the Ministry website. It is noteworthy, that the same article was published by interpressnews.ge, which pointed out that the mentioned article was prepared in the framework of a commercial agreement.

The similar case was revealed in an article prepared about construction of a new kindergarten in Nadzaladevi district. The websites newposts.ge, pirveli.com.ge, info9.ge and interpressnews.ge published the mentioned article with identical texts and headlines. Only interpressnews.ge pointed to the fact that the mentioned article was prepared in the framework of a commercial agreement.

We can conclude that pirveli.com.ge clearly shows a negative tone toward the United National Movement and ex-president Mikheil Saakashvili. The website does not demarcate between the editorial materials and the articles prepared under commercial agreement.

### Volume of Text Allocated to the Subjects on "pirveli.com.ge" According to the Tone (%)

31 August - 25 September, 2016



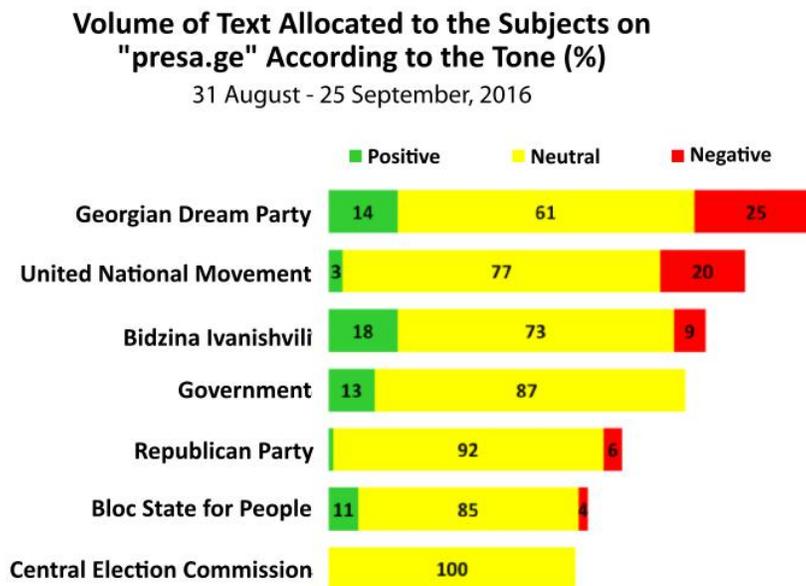
### Presa.ge

**Quantitative analysis of the results on presa.ge during the third period of monitoring did not reveal either positive or negative attitude toward any political force although the qualitative analysis revealed a negative attitude while covering the ruling party. While covering the mentioned party we came across the facts of violations of journalistic standards and ethical norms by the journalists on presa.ge quite a few times.**

Activities of Georgian Dream – Democratic Georgia (15%), the United National Movement (13%), former prime minister Bidzina Ivanishvili (12%) and the government (11%) were most actively covered on presa.ge. Especially high percentage of indices of either positive or negative tone was not found while covering any of the subjects of monitoring.

As a result of the qualitative observation presa.ge revealed a negative attitude while covering Georgian Dream – Democratic Georgia. In an article published on 22 September “Part of Districts where the Dream’s Majority Candidates for Deputies Lose Elections” the journalist speculates on the probable defeat of the ruling party in different districts, albeit this speculation is not backed up with relevant arguments and it is unclear what data the reporter uses to support his/her attitudes. In an article “What Provocations does the Mtskheta Municipality plan?” (20<sup>th</sup> September) the journalist speaks about the plan of the representatives of the ruling party to carry out provocations in Mtskheta municipality, although the article does not provide the facts that such plan exists; the journalist writes: “if you cannot manage to win you must rig elections – this is probably the motto which Mtskheta Town Hall high ranking officials guided themselves with, when they hatched a plan for the next provocation”.

As a result of the monitoring we can conclude that presa.ge clearly reveals negative attitude while covering Georgian Dream –Democratic Georgia. While covering the mentioned party journalistic standards and ethical norms were violated in certain cases.



## Reportiori.ge

**Positive attitude toward the ruling party and a negative one toward the United National Movement and the ex-president Mikheil Saakashvili increased still more on reportiori.ge during the given period of monitoring. We come across articles on the website, which were not prepared by the editorial staff though it is not pointed out where the mentioned material was taken from. Reportiori.ge covers the pre-election activity of the representatives of the party Georgian Dream –Democratic Georgia most actively. We come across cases of violations of both journalistic standards and ethical norms on the site.**

Reportiori.ge covered activities of the Georgian Dream – Democratic Georgia (29%), the government (13%), the United National Movement (12%) and the prime minister (11%) most actively. Extremely high percentage of indices of negative tone was revealed while covering ex-president Mikheil Saakashvili (95%), the United National Movement (85%) and the bloc State for the People (69%). Rather high indices of positive tone were earned by the prime minister (74%), Georgian Dream – Democratic Georgia (60%), former prime minister Bidzina Ivanishvili (47%) and the government (45%).

During given period of monitoring reportiori.ge very actively covered the pre-election pledges of the party Georgian Dream –Democratic Georgia. In a number of cases the pledged mentioned in the headlines of the articles were represented as facts without pointing out that these quotations represented only a part of an election program of a party; e.g. “Georgian Dream will Create 200 thousand new Jobs” (9<sup>th</sup> September); “Georgian Dream will Carry out Land Reforms” (9<sup>th</sup> September); the Government will Continue the efficient Policy of Providing the IDP-s with a

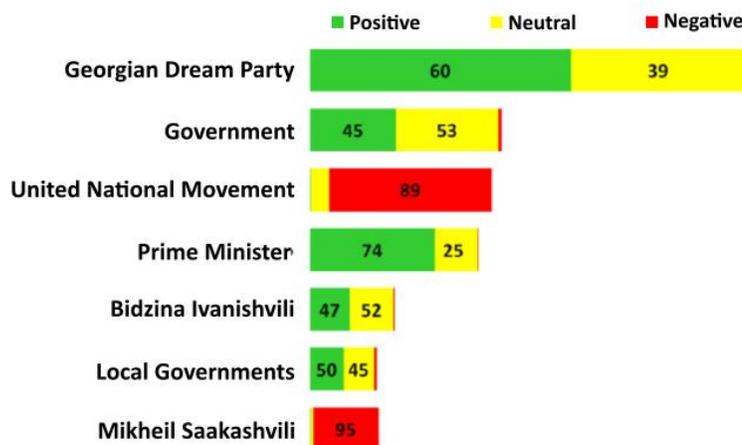
Residential Space” (11<sup>th</sup> September); “Unseen Changes in the Georgian Infrastructure – where will the new Roads, Bridges and Tunnels be Constructed during the next four Years (17<sup>th</sup> September)

reportiori.ge is one of the five websites, which during the given period of monitoring copy pasted the information posted on the website of the Ministry of Internal Affairs concerning donation of blood by the employees of Adjara Patrol Police Department as a charitable act. None of the five websites pointed out that the material was gotten from the Ministry website. It is noteworthy, that the same article was published by interpressnews.ge, which pointed out that the mentioned article was prepared in the framework of a commercial agreement.

We can conclude that reportiori.ge clearly shows positive attitude toward the ruling team and an utterly negative attitude toward the parliamentary opposition and ex-president Mikheil Saakashvili.

### Volume of Text Allocated to the Subjects on "reportiori.ge" According to the Tone (%)

31 August - 25 September, 2016



### Tabula.ge

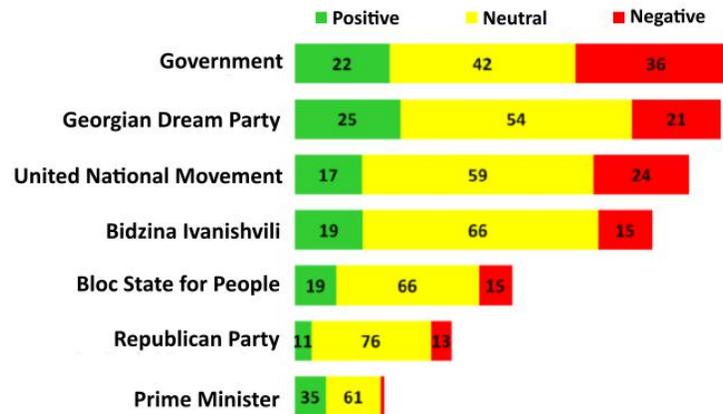
**Comparatively negative attitude toward the government was still noticeable on tabula.ge during the given period of monitoring . Though we found the criticism of the government mostly in the respondents’ declarations and not the journalists texts. Grave violations of journalistic standards or ethical norms were not detected on tabula.ge.**

tabula.ge covered activities of the government (18%), the party Georgian Dream – Democratic Georgia (17%), the United National Movement (16%) and the former prime minister, Bidzina Ivanishvili (15%) most intensively. The highest percent of negative tone index turned up while covering the government (36%). High index of positive tone was earned by the prime minister (35%).

As a result of the monitoring we can conclude that tabula.ge reveals neither unilaterally negative nor positive tone toward any political party. The site holds up the journalistic standards and ethical norms.

### Volume of Text Allocated to the Subjects on "tabula.ge" According to the Tone (%)

31 August - 25 September, 2016



### Conclusion

Negative tone indices while covering the United National Movement and the positive tone indices while covering Georgian Dream – Democratic Georgia increased considerably in online media during the third period of monitoring

Lack of critical analysis is still noticeable in Georgian online media. The majority of websites posts declarations of different politicians and activities of state structures without comment. We rarely come across an in-depth coverage and analyses of different issues. Presentation of differing points of view and opinions in separate articles is also very infrequent. Also the cases of grave violations of norms of journalistic ethics are rather rare.

Non-compliant demarcation between editorial materials and the articles prepared in the framework of commercial agreements still remains as one of the challenges of online media. It is noteworthy that during the third period of monitoring five online publications practically copy-pasted the material posted on the website of the ministry of Internal Affairs and none of the five websites pointed out where the material was gotten from.

