



# YERKIR

Union of NGO for Repatriation and Settlement  
Union d'ONG pour le Rapatriement et la Réinsertion  
Союз общественных организаций «Еркир» по репатриации и освоению  
Հայրենադարձության եւ հիմնավորման կազմակերպությունների միություն

**Press-release**  
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## **GEORGIAN AUTHORITIES RESTART POLICY OF RELOCATION ADJAR ECO-MIGRANTS TO JAVAKHK**

The authorities in Georgia have once again started to relocate eco-migrants from Adjara to Javakhk. According to the Georgian press, 14 families from the Khulo region of Adjara were recently given houses in the village of Gorelovka in the Ninotsminda (formerly Bogdanovka) region. Around 50 families, relocated from the mountainous regions of Adjara, currently reside in Gorelovka (<http://www.adjaratv.ge/ru/index.php?page=shownews&id=11175>).

The policy of relocating Adjars to regions in Georgia populated by Armenians is a clear move to change the ethnic and demographic profile of the country. This process is in direct violation of article 16 of the European Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (which Georgia signed on 22 December 2005). This states that signatory states should avoid steps that would lead to a change in the demographics of the population in regions where ethnic minorities reside.

The Yerkir Union has appealed to the Armenian authorities as well as diplomatic bodies in Georgia to respond immediately to this attempt by the Georgian authorities to violate the rights of the Armenians of Javakheti and to cease the process of relocating ethnic Adjars to this region.