

JAR-A E-SEMINARS

THE NEED TO EMPOWER MORE INDIVIDUALS WITH INDEPENDENCE, RATHER THAN EMPOWERING THE FORMAL INSTITUTIONS — GEORGIA'S EXPERIENCE



TUESDAY
7th October
2025

4:30 pm
CET time

Since independence in 1991, Georgia has pursued ambitious judicial reforms modeled on European and American systems. Despite sophisticated frameworks for selection, governance, and discipline, real independence and accountability remain elusive. Overemphasis on institutions rather than judges' autonomy has enabled a powerful "clan" to dominate, especially through the High Council of Justice, which concentrates power instead of safeguarding it. New 2025 laws further tightened control, raising the question of whether Georgia can still build a judiciary based on judges' integrity rather than institutional loyalty.

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