



Maia Asakashvili



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SUMMARY

Philologist, Journalist, Specialist in Inclusive Education Pedagogy and Oligophrenic Pedagogy, Doctoral Candidate in Pedagogical Sciences, Expert on Issues of Persons with Disabilities (Expert of Intellectual and Mental Health Disorders, Certified (TOT) Trainer), Author of numerous scientific works, newspaper publications, and columns. Founder of the Association "Ika-21", Director of the "Skhivi" Social Enterprise, Head of various social projects, holder of numerous international certificates, parent, human rights defender, founder of the disability rights movement in Georgia.

LANGUAGES

- Georgian
- Russian
- English

FAMILY STATUS

- Divorced, one child with disabilities who passed away on February 6, 2021.
- On December 10, 2021, her son, Irakli Kemoklidze, was posthumously awarded the Order of Honor by the President of Georgia for his personal contribution to civil activism and the protection of the rights of persons with disabilities.

DATE OF BIRTH

05/05/1967

PLACE OF BIRTH

Tbilisi, Georgia

EDUCATION

- **1974-1985:** Tbilisi School No. 160
- **1989-1995:** Tbilisi Ivane Javakhishvili State University, Faculty of Philology, Georgian Language and Literature, Specialization: Journalism
- **2003-2004:** Centre for English Language - Grade B
- **2003-2004:** Computer Office Programs
- **2003-2006:** Iakob Gogebashvili State Pedagogical University, Doctoral Studies, Special Education (Correctional Pedagogy, Oligophrenopedagogy). Doctoral Candidate in Inclusive Education Pedagogical Sciences.
- **2016-2017:** Training course at the Polish Association of People with Intellectual Disabilities, European Experience; "Modern Methods of Working with People with Intellectual Disabilities Using Modern Educational and Therapeutic IT Tools" - Warsaw, Poland.
- **2017-2018:** Entrepreneurship School - Brussels, Belgium
- **2018-2019:** Intellect Center - Graphic Computer Programs - Illustrator, Corel.

WORK EXPERIENCE - QUALIFICATIONS

- 1993-2004: Journalist, "Sakartvelos Respublika" Newspaper
- 1997-Present: Founder, Board Chair, "Association for the Assistance of Children with Hearing and Speech Impairments"
- 1998-2004: Member of the Georgian Journalists' Federation
- 2004-2007: President of "Independent Media Development Association"
- 2005-2009: Director of School No. 205 (School-Boarding School)
- 2006-2007: Lecturer at the Department of Special Education, Faculty of Education, Ilia Chavchavadze State University
- 2011-2013: Lecturer of the Master's Course "Sign Language Learning Methodology," Faculty of Master's and Doctoral Programs, Ilia State University
- 2008-2010: Special Education Teacher, Georgian Language and Literature (Bilingual Method), Georgian Youth Union, Youth for Children Center
- 2008-2009: Editor of "Molaparake Xelebi" (Talking Hands) - The First Georgian Sign Language Dictionary
- 2009-2010: Georgian Ministry of Education and Science - Norwegian Government - "Inclusive Education Development in 9 Regional Boarding Schools of Georgia" - "Education for All." Trainer of "Learning Characteristics of Students with Sensory Deficits"
- 2012-Present: Head of the Day Center for People with Disabilities - State Program for Social Rehabilitation and Child Care of Persons with Disabilities (Experience working with individuals with intellectual disabilities, speech impairments, mental and multiple disabilities).
- 2014-2016: Author and Presenter of "People with Different Abilities" - Radio Program, First Medical Radio
- 2014-2016: Deputy Editor-in-Chief, "Imedi+" Magazine
- 2016-Present: Director of "Skhivi" Social Enterprise
- 2016-2017: Trainer, "Modern Methods of Working with People with Intellectual Disabilities Using Modern Educational and Therapeutic IT Tools" - (Polish Experience, working visit to Poland)
- 2018-2019: Trainer, "Equal Rights for All Voters" - Training on the Rights and Advocacy of Persons with Disabilities
- 2018-2020: Invited Board Member, Legal Organization "Article 42 of the Constitution"

- Author of numerous publications: "Woman, Problems, Perspectives," "Youth, Society, Present," and many publications on social issues, persons with disabilities, human rights, and conflictology.
- Participant in the 8th World Congress of Persons with Disabilities in Stavanger, Norway, 2004: "Towards a Fully Inclusive Society." Participant in various international conferences and seminars, gaining experience in the field of education for persons with disabilities in different European countries.
- Member of: Coalition "For Independent Living," Coalition "Movement for Change," "Strong Parents' Network for Community Service Development," Coalition for Children and Youth, Women's Coalition, and Social Enterprise Alliance.
- 2005-Present: Working on a dissertation: "Social Integration of Persons with Intellectual Disabilities."
- 2005-2006: Iakob Gogebashvili National Institute of Pedagogical Sciences, Works Collection "Sazrisi" #19, 20, 21.
- Author of several scientific papers: "Mental Retardation and Teaching Methods" - American Experience; "Mental Retardation, Medical, Psychological, and Pedagogical Aspects"; "General Characterization of Labor Activity of Persons with Mental Retardation"; "Learning Characteristics of Persons with Sensory Deficits."

1997-2022: WITH THE SUPPORT OF VARIOUS INTERNATIONAL DONORS, I HAVE IMPLEMENTED THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS:

- Preparatory group at a speech therapy school - Horizon Foundation
- Correctional pedagogy, children with disabilities, and integration - Horizon Foundation
- Science club for children with disabilities
- Brochure: "The Child Learns to Speak"
- Audio cassette: "Georgian Sounds"
- Inclusive camp "Let's Be Together" - RIA Society Georgia
- Science camp "Skhivi" - RIA Society Georgia
- Project "Cooperation" for the Gldani boarding school - Mercy Corps
- "Let's Listen Together" project for a children with disabilities rehabilitation center - Mercy Corps

- "Social Integration Program for Children with Disabilities" - Ministry of Labor, Health, and Social Protection
- "Integration Program in the Education Sector" - Unified National Fund
- "We Believe in Living Together" - World Learning, USAID
- "We Work Together" - Netherlands Embassy
- "Restoration of Kosta Khetagurovi's Bridge" - conflict resolution in Georgia - RIA Society Georgia
- "We Work Together" - Netherlands United Kingdom
- "Inclusive Club for Young Leaders" - World Bank representation in Georgia
- "Imedi" - Independent Living Center - World Bank
- "Employment of Persons with Disabilities" - American Education Development Fund
- "Social Integration of Children with Disabilities" - Day Center - Agency for Health Protection and Social Programs
- "Talking Hands" - Georgian Sign Language Dictionary - Georgian Youth Union, Georgian Ministry of Education and Science, National Center for Educational Programs and Assessment, Norwegian Ministry of Education, Norwegian Government
- First Georgian Sign Language Dictionary "Talking Hands" - DVD-R
- "Development of Professional Skills and Creation of Equal Conditions for Persons with Disabilities" - American Embassy
- "Day Center" - Social Rehabilitation and Child Care State Program - Ministry of Labor, Health, and Social Protection, Social Services Agency
- On October 8, 2014, in an unprecedented case in the history of the Georgian parliament and judiciary, based on the appeal of my son, Irakli Kemoklidze, the Constitutional Court abolished the system restricting my ability to work in Georgia.
- 2016-2019: The "Skhivi" wood workshop was created in partnership with the "Children and Youth Fund," the Czech Development Agency, and the Czech organization "People in Need," within the framework of the project "Supporting Social Inclusion/Integration of Young People with Disabilities," co-financed by Tbilisi City Hall.
- 2018-2019: Trainer, "Equal Rights for All Voters"
- 2021: Member of the Council on Issues of Persons with Disabilities under the Mayor of Tbilisi Municipality

- 2022: Member of the Coordination Council for the Enforcement of the Law on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities - Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Labor, Health, and Social Affairs of Georgia.
- 2021-2022: Based on the Agreement No. 12-001-2021 signed on December 13, 2021, between the Ministry of Justice of Georgia and the Non-profit Legal Entity "Association for the Assistance of Children with Hearing and Speech Impairments," Head of the project "Together for Each Other" - Resocialization-Integration Project for Persons with Disabilities among Former Prisoners and Persons on Probation.
- In 2021, with the support of the Ministry of Justice of Georgia: "Strengthening Human Rights Protection in the System of the Ministry of Justice of Georgia, Introducing Innovative Services, Promoting the Rehabilitation-Resocialization of Convicts and Former Prisoners, and Effective Crime Prevention." Within the framework of promoting the rehabilitation and resocialization of convicts and former prisoners and effective crime prevention, we implemented the project "Together for Each Other," which aimed to develop a social service tailored to the needs of former prisoners and probationers in cooperation with the National Probation Agency, improve job placement opportunities, and facilitate social adaptation.

2022 - MEMBER OF THE ADVISORY BOARD OF THE INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES UNDER THE GOVERNMENT OF GEORGIA.

AWARDS AND CERTIFICATES

- 2001 - "Special Education and Rehabilitation of Children with Disabilities" - Skrenton University, USA.
- 2002 - Inclusive Education Seminar - Mercy Corps, Horizon Foundation - Skrenton University, USA.
- 2002 - Georgia-America Partnership and Special Education for Children with Disabilities.
- 2002 - Participant in the competition "Journalists for Children and Women" supported by "RIA Society Georgia."

- 2003 - Participant in the competition "People with Disabilities and the Media."
- 2003 - Participant in the seminar "Georgian Media and the Social Sphere" supported by "RIA Society Georgia."
- 2003 - Women's Leadership Program - International Fund for Art and Education.
- 2003-2004 - "GELS" - English Language Learning Center - GRADE-B.
- 2007 - Georgian Center for Strategic Studies and Development, "Strategic Planning, Project Cycle Management."
- 2007 - Georgian Center for Strategic Studies and Development - "Project Design and Project Cycle Management Techniques."
- 2007 - Educational Organization "Didaqtika" - "Issues of Modern School Management."
- 2009 - Transcaucasian International Conference "For Persons with Disabilities, Protection of Their Rights, and Participation."
- 2010-2011 - "Social Work" - Strategic Studies and Development Center.
- 2010-2011 - "Training of Multipliers as Inclusive Education Assistants" - German Cooperation Fund.
- 2011 - "Inclusive Education" - MacLaine's Association for Children.
- 2012 - Alternative Perspectives on Education for Children with Disabilities and Hearing Impairments.
- 2012 - "Empowering Parents" Program - "Project Management" - First Step Georgia.
- 2013-2014 - Administrative and Financial Management Training Course for Day Centers Working with Adult Persons with Disabilities.
- 2013-2014 - Therapeutic Work Training Course for Day Centers Working with Adult Persons with Disabilities - "Connections for People with Special Needs."
- 2015-2016 - First Aid and Food Hygiene - "Man and Nature."
- 2016 - Development of Social Entrepreneurship - "Bilivi."
- 2017 - Tax Legislation and Income Tax Reform - Ministry of Finance Academy.
- 2017 - Strong Parents' Network for Community Service Development - MacLaine's Association.
- 2017 - IT Tools as the aid therapy and education of persons with intellectual disability leading to the employment on the open labour market - Polish.
- 2017 - IT Tools as the aid therapy and education of persons with intellectual disability leading to the employment on the open labour market - in Tbilisi.
- 2018 - Digital Marketing for Social Enterprises - CSRDG.

- 2018 - Entrepreneurship School - Brussels - Belgium.
- 2019 - "Financial Management for Social Entrepreneurs" - Strategic Studies and Development Center.
- 2018-2019 - For their contribution to the protection of the rights of persons with disabilities, the most vulnerable group, the French Embassy awarded us twice with a special prize and a diploma.
- 2020 - "Journalism for Social Change" - Civil Society Institute.
- 2020 - "Empowering Parents of Children with Disabilities through Knowledge Sharing and Social Entrepreneurship" - Asian Development Bank.
- 2021 - Laboratory for Fundraising and Increasing Opportunities for the Non-Profit Sector - Ukraine, Young Entrepreneurs Association.
- 2021 - Rights-Based Social Services for Persons with Disabilities and the Elderly - Strategic Studies and Development Center.
- 2021 - Digital Transformation of Civil Society - European Union.
- 2021-2022 - Full package of graphic programs - Corel, Illustrator, Photoshop, InDesign - "Intellect Center."
- 2022 - Training on Advocacy - NDI - National Democratic Institute, led by invited Scottish expert Blair MacDougall.
- 2023 - Women Entrepreneurship Development Program - Bank of Georgia, United Nations Development Program, within the framework of the project "UN Joint Program for Gender Equality," supported by the Government of Sweden.
- 2024 - Training - "How to Create a Strong Business Model, How to Use Marketing and Sales for Effective Business Success" - Leader Women Society, BDC Academy.
- 2024 - Training - "Quality Management and Its Role in Organizational Development" - Leader Women Society, BDC Academy, Global Certification Company.
- 2024 - Training - "Child Psychology" - "Dolphin IQ."
- 2024 - Training - IN THE EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR ORGANIZED BY "INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION ACADEMY BDC", LIDER WOMEN SOCIETY AND "TIF-HELEXPO" IN THESSALONIKI, GREECE.
- 2025 - Training-Course - "Trainers' Training" - "Key Consulting."
- 2025 - Training - "How to Create Presentations and Learning Resources Using Artificial Intelligence" - KEY CONSULTING.