

Government of Georgia

Ordinance N78

13 February 2019

Tbilisi

On establishing the Navigation Regime and Navigation Rules in the territorial sea of Georgia

Article 1. According to paragraph 1 of article 12 of the Law of Georgia on “Normative Acts” and paragraph 1 of article 19 of the Law of Georgia on “Maritime Space of Georgia”, and Ordinance of the Government of Georgia on the approval of regulations “On establishing the Navigation Regime and Navigation Rules in the territorial sea of Georgia.

Article 2. The Ordinance shall be published in the “Notice to Mariners” and other guidelines used for navigation.

Article 3. On the moment of the entry into force of this Ordinance, the Ordinance N57 “On establishing the traffic separation schemes, separation of sea corridors and maritime special areas in the territorial sea of Georgia”, shall be declared invalid.

Article 4. This Ordinance shall enter into force upon publishing.

Prime minister

Mamuka Bakhtadze

The regulation

On establishing Navigation Regime and Navigation Rules in the territorial sea of Georgia

Chapter 1.

General Provisions

Article 1. General Provisions

1. The Regulation “Navigation Regime and Navigation Rules in the territorial sea of Georgia” (hereinafter referred as – “the Regulations”) have been developed to ensure safety of navigation, on the base of Art. 22 of UN Convention “On Maritime Law” -1982 and the Law of Georgia “On Maritime Areas”.
2. The Regulation apply to all the vessels in the responsible zone of Georgia.
3. All the vessels sailing in the responsible zone of Georgia or being at anchor are obliged to perform the requirements of Regulations of International Maritime Radio Communication.
4. The information regarding changes in the regime of navigation is distributed to the vessels and all interested parties via navigational notices and navigational warnings in accordance with the existing international system - NAVAREA.
5. Sailing on roads and in the ports of Georgia Navigation Regime is regulated by “Port Rules”, the Order of the Director of the Maritime Transport Agency of the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia.
6. The geographical coordinates as mentioned in the present Regulations and on the chart enclosed are showed in the coordinate system WGS- 1984.
7. In the case of non-observance of the requirements of the present Regulations the Masters of the vessels bear the responsibility in accordance with Georgian legislation.

Article 2. Definitions.

1. Terms used in this regulation shall have the following meaning:

a) Navigation regime – **The regime, that** establishing the **traffic separation scheme and** restricted areas;

b) Traffic separation system – a system, which is established to ensure safety of navigation and is composed of a traffic separation zone or lane, traffic lane and outer limits. Traffic directions are designated by this system;

c) **Traffic separation line or zone**– is the line, separating traffic flows, in which vessels follow in the opposite, or almost opposite directions, keeping right.

d) **Traffic lane** – lane in which ships are moving in a predestined direction;

e) **Temporarily prohibited area**– is the area in the inland waters, territorial sea and exclusive economic zone, where navigation is temporarily prohibited for performing some definite actions or purposes.

f) **Navigation rules** – a defined set of rules for safety of navigation;

g) **Former minefield areas** – are the sea areas, where sweep was carried out after placing mines. In these areas anchorage and performance of works is prohibited because of the probability of mines or other explosive devices. Due diligence shall be exercised when navigating in such areas;

h) **Restricted areas** – the areas where navigation of vessels is prohibited due to different reasons;

i) **The temporarily restricted area** - are the areas in the inland waters, territorial sea and exclusive economic zone, where navigation is temporarily prohibited for performing some definite actions or purposes.

j) **Military restricted area** – separate areas of the territorial Sea, internal waters or exclusive economic zone when military readiness is ongoing.

k) **Responsibility zone** – Area of the territorial sea incorporated in the Georgia responsibility zone, where search and rescue operations are undergoing.

2. Every other terms and definitions, which are not defined, have the meaning prescribed by Georgian legislation or international law.

Article 3. Numbering of maritime zones

The numeration of maritime zones in the territorial sea of Georgia done through numeration prescribed by international maritime practice by the following:

a) Former minefield areas – 1 – 10;

b) Restricted areas– 21 – 30;

c) Recovered groundwater (Spoil ground) areas – 41 – 50;

d) Temporarily restricted areas– 31 – 40;

e) Military readiness areas – GG 001 – GG 009.

Article 4. Reference designation system in the responsibility zone of Georgia

According to the below coordinates, ships navigating in the responsibility zone of Georgia shall provide information to the Search and Rescue coordination center of the Maritime Transport Agency as per the Reference designation system in the responsibility zone of Georgia, which is based on IMO circular № SN/circ. 230 of 20 February 2003.

Latitude N		Longitude E		Latitude N		Longitude E	
A	$\varphi = 43^{\circ}23.00'N$	$\lambda = 040^{\circ}00.50'E$		E	$\varphi = 42^{\circ}02.00'N$	$\lambda = 040^{\circ}26.00'E$	
B	$\varphi = 42^{\circ}24.00'N$	$\lambda = 038^{\circ}41.00'E$		F	$\varphi = 41^{\circ}57.00'N$	$\lambda = 040^{\circ}42.00'E$	
C	$\varphi = 42^{\circ}20.15'N$	$\lambda = 039^{\circ}00.13'E$		G	$\varphi = 41^{\circ}35.50'N$	$\lambda = 041^{\circ}16.50'E$	
D	$\varphi = 42^{\circ}08.00'N$	$\lambda = 039^{\circ}50.50'E$		H	$\varphi = 41^{\circ}31.00'N$	$\lambda = 041^{\circ}33.00'E$	

Chapter II

Navigation regime in the traffic separation system

Article 5. Navigation regime in the traffic separation system

A vessel, which is using traffic separation system, shall observe rule number 10 of International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea.

Article 6. Navigation regime of the Batumi port

1. In order to prevent collisions at sea, every ship shall observe safe distance from ships entering/leaving Batumi port and not impede their movement.
2. Traffic separation system applies in the entrance of the Batumi port. The aim of the system is to regulate movement of ships in this area, and to prevent opposite movements of ships entering and leaving ports.

Entry Lane of the Batumi port:

№	Latitude	Longitude	Width of the lane	Length of the lane	Sailing direction in the lane
1	$41^{\circ}40.25'N$	$41^{\circ}37.24'E$			
2	$41^{\circ}41.30'N$	$41^{\circ}36.22'E$	3.99 Cable	1.3 Mile	144°.

3	41°41.54'N	41°36.65'E			
4	41°40.48'N	41°37.67'E			

Exit traffic lane of the Batumi Port:

Nº	Latitude	Longitude	Width of the lane	Length of the lane	Sailing direction in the lane
1	41°41.59'N	41°36.76'E	3.99 Cable	1.3 Mile	324°.
2	41°40.54'N	41°37.78'E			
3	41°40.78'N	41°38.21'E			
4	41°41.83'N	41°37.19'E			

Traffic separation zone:

Traffic separation zone:			Traffic separation zone			
1	41°41.54'N	41°36.65'E	Width	Length	Direction	
2	41°41.59'N	41°36.76'E	1.00 Cable	1.3 Mile	144°	
3	41°40.54'N	41°37.78'E				
4	41°40.48'N	41°37.67'E				

Limits of traffic separation system:

Southern border :						
1	41°41.30'N	41°36.22'E	13.01 Cable	324°		
2	41°40.25'N	41°37.24'E				
Northern border:						
1	41°41.83'N	41°37.19'E	1.3 Mile	324 °		
2	41°40.78'N	41°38.21'E				

3. The ship, which passes from the open sea to seaway of the port of Batumi, and the ship leaving the port of the port and heading to the open sea, is obliged to move in the corresponding traffic separation lane.

4. A vessel may, in conjunction with the Vessel Traffic Monitoring and Information System Center, cross traffic separation system in exceptional cases where another vessel is not moving in traffic separation system and this movement does pose any threat to the safety of navigation. Exceptional case can be considered as follows:

- a) When maneuvering to embark or disembark a pilot;
- b) On the instruction from Vessel Traffic Monitoring and Information System or during bad weather conditions (strong waves or wave drifts) or during maneuvering to avoid collision.

5. A vessel, navigating from the open sea to the anchorage points of the port or from the seaway of the port to anchorage points, is authorized to bypass Traffic separation system.

Article 7. Supsa port navigation regime

During the entry/exit or docking of a Tanker in the Supsa Port, other vessels, except for the ships serving the port, shall be temporarily prohibited to navigate under the procedure set forth in the Order "Port Rules" of the Director Maritime Transport.

Article 8. Poti port navigation regime

1. In order to prevent collisions at sea, every ship shall observe safe distance from ships entering/leaving Poti port and not impede their movement.

2. Traffic separation system applies between anchorage points in the port of Poti. The aim of the system is to regulate movement of ships in this area, and to prevent opposite movements of ships entering and leaving ports.

Poti port entry traffic lane:

№	Latitude	Longitude	Lane width	Lane length	Movement direction in the lane
1	42°11.02'N	41°35.23'E	4 cbl	1,5 Mile	117°
2	42°10.65'N	41°35.01'E			
3	42°09.86'N	41°37.12'E			
4	42°10.34'N	41°37.03'E			

Poti port exit traffic lane:

№	Latitude	Longitude	Lane width	Lane length	Movement direction in the lane
1	42°11.02'N	41°35.23'E		1,5 Mile	297°

2	42°11.39'N	41°35.45'E			
3	42°10.59'N	41°37.56'E	4 cbl		
4	42°10.34'N	41°37.03'E			

Borders of Northern traffic separation system:

Southern border:					
1	42°10.65'N	41°35.01'E	17.6 cbl	117 °	
2	42°09.86'N	41°37.12'E			
Northern border:					
1	42°11.39'N	41°35.45'E	17.6 cbl	117 °	
2	42°10.59'N	41°37.56'E			

Traffic separation lines:

First traffic separation line:					
1	42°11.02'N	41°35.23'E	4.1 cbl	297 °	
2	42°10.83'N	41°35.72'E			
Second traffic separation line:					
1	42°10.56'N	41°36.44'E	4.9 cbl	117 °	
2	42°10.34'N	41°37.03'E			

3. The ship, which passes from the open sea to seaway of the port of Poti, and the ship leaving the port of the port and heading to the open sea, is obliged to move in the corresponding traffic separation lane.

4. A vessel may, in conjunction with the Vessel Traffic Monitoring and Information System Center, cross traffic separation system in exceptional cases where another vessel is not moving in traffic separation system and this movement does pose any threat to the safety of navigation. Exceptional case can be considered as follows:

- a) When the vessel moves to the anchorage from the port exit or an open sea;
- b) When the vessel moves to the pilot pick up point or an open sea from the anchorage;
- c) When maneuvering to embark or disembark a pilot;

d) On the instruction from Vessel Traffic Monitoring and Information System or during bad weather conditions (strong waves or wave drifts) or during maneuvering to avoid collision.

5. A vessel, navigating from the open sea to the anchorage points of the port or from the seaway of the port to anchorage points, is authorized to bypass Traffic separation system.

Article 9. Kulevi port navigation regime

1. The entry of the vessels in the Kulevi port and the departure from the port is carried out through a special corridor. Due to the narrowness of the mentioned corridor, it is prohibited to simultaneously move in the opposite direction.

2. Coordinates of Kolkheti national park, protected areas and Northern area of Georgia's territorial Sea:

Latitude N	Longitude E
$\varphi = 42^{\circ}22.017477'N$	$\lambda = 41^{\circ}29.033443'E;$
$\varphi = 42^{\circ}21.73602'N$	$\lambda = 41^{\circ}35.472254'E;$
$\varphi = 42^{\circ}16.928513'N$	$\lambda = 41^{\circ}37.432998'E;$
$\varphi = 42^{\circ}17.590069'N$	$\lambda = 41^{\circ}35.834728'E;$
$\varphi = 42^{\circ}17.75467'N$	$\lambda = 41^{\circ}32.980097'E;$
$\varphi = 42^{\circ}17.501753'N$	$\lambda = 41^{\circ}30.977531'E$

3. Coordinates of Kolkheti national park, protected areas and Southern area of Georgia's territorial Sea:

Latitude N	Longitude E
$\varphi = 42^{\circ}17.246979'N$	$\lambda = 41^{\circ}31.039573'E;$
$\varphi = 42^{\circ}17.552064'N$	$\lambda = 41^{\circ}33.028029'E;$
$\varphi = 42^{\circ}17.483804'N$	$\lambda = 41^{\circ}35.779199'E$
$\varphi = 42^{\circ}16.885289'N$	$\lambda = 41^{\circ}37.149467'E;$
$\varphi = 42^{\circ}16.694587'N$	$\lambda = 41^{\circ}37.195406'E$
$\varphi = 42^{\circ}16.629473'N$	$\lambda = 41^{\circ}37.349208'E;$
$\varphi = 42^{\circ}16.694285'N$	$\lambda = 41^{\circ}37.586326'E;$
$\varphi = 42^{\circ}16.54778'N$	$\lambda = 41^{\circ}37.9665'E;$

$\varphi = 42^{\circ}16.50681'N$	$\lambda = 41^{\circ}38.056465'E$;
$\varphi = 42^{\circ}12.755779'N$	$\lambda = 41^{\circ}37.708652'E$;
$\varphi = 42^{\circ}12.152998'N$	$\lambda = 41^{\circ}30.587515'E$
$\varphi = 42^{\circ}15.19143'N$	$\lambda = 41^{\circ}31.660475'E$
$\varphi = 42^{\circ}19.192.662'N$	$\lambda = 41^{\circ}36.61905'E$
$\varphi = 42^{\circ}20.215261'N$	$\lambda = 41^{\circ}36.201171'E$
$\varphi = 42^{\circ}17.621299'N$	$\lambda = 41^{\circ}37.263455'E$

4. This regime does not apply to vessels engaged in dredging and ground flooring.

Article 10. Humanitarian corridor from Poti port to Sokhumi Port.

Ships with humanitarian cargo, which are directing to the port of Sokhumi through humanitarian corridor in accordant with authorization received from relevant authority, shall proceed from G01 point to A02 point and then from A02 point to A01 point.

№ of point or designation	Coordinates of point:		Direction between points	Navigation, Mile
	Latitude N	Longitude E		
G01	$\varphi = 42^{\circ}18.80'N$	$\lambda = 41^{\circ}19.43'E$		
			320°,5-140°,5	34,0
A02	$\varphi = 42^{\circ}45.10'N$	$\lambda = 40^{\circ}50.05'E$		
			213°,5-33°,5	12,2
A01	$\varphi = 42^{\circ}55.26'N$	$\lambda = 40^{\circ}59.22'E$		

Chapter III

Temporarily restricted areas

Article 11. Former minefield areas

Borders of Former minefield areas:

Area №	Location of area	Limits of area	
		Latitude	Longitude

1	Cape of Bichvinta South-East	1. $\varphi = 43^{\circ}05.402'N$	$\lambda = 40^{\circ}27.000'E$
		2. $\varphi = 43^{\circ}01.252'N$	$\lambda = 40^{\circ}33.250'E$
		3. $\varphi = 42^{\circ}58.902'N$	$\lambda = 40^{\circ}30.200'E$
		4. $\varphi = 43^{\circ}03.502'N$	$\lambda = 40^{\circ}23.400'E$

Article 12. Recovered groundwater (spoil ground) areas

It is prohibited to throw recovered groundwater (spoil ground) in the Sea except for the following areas:

Area №	Area location	Area limits	
		Latitude	Longitude
41	Ochamchire Area recovered groundwater (spoil ground)	1. $\varphi = 42^{\circ}44.201'N$	$\lambda = 41^{\circ}26.000'E$
		2. $\varphi = 42^{\circ}44.922'N$	$\lambda = 41^{\circ}26.200'E$
		3. $\varphi = 42^{\circ}44.332'N$	$\lambda = 41^{\circ}26.309'E$
		4. $\varphi = 42^{\circ}44.052'N$	$\lambda = 41^{\circ}26.520'E$
42	Poti port recovered groundwater (spoil ground)	1. $\varphi = 42^{\circ}08.422'N$	$\lambda = 41^{\circ}38.330'E$
		2. $\varphi = 42^{\circ}09.002'N$	$\lambda = 41^{\circ}38.330'E$
		3. $\varphi = 42^{\circ}09.002'N$	$\lambda = 41^{\circ}38.540'E$
		4. $\varphi = 42^{\circ}08.422'N$	$\lambda = 41^{\circ}38.540'E$
43	Batumi port recovered groundwater (spoil ground)	1. $\varphi = 41^{\circ}41,16'N$	$\lambda = 41^{\circ}37,80'E$
		2. $\varphi = 41^{\circ}41,30'N$	$\lambda = 41^{\circ}37,89'E$
		3. $\varphi = 41^{\circ}41,30'N$	$\lambda = 41^{\circ}38,25'E$
		4. $\varphi = 41^{\circ}40,96'N$	$\lambda = 41^{\circ}38,43'E$
		5. $\varphi = 41^{\circ}40,90'N$	$\lambda = 41^{\circ}38,33'E$
44	Kulevi port recovered groundwater (spoil ground)	1. $\varphi = 42^{\circ}16,12'N$	$\lambda = 41^{\circ}35,72'E$
		2. $\varphi = 42^{\circ}16,12'N$	$\lambda = 41^{\circ}35,12'E$
		3. $\varphi = 42^{\circ}15,52'N$	$\lambda = 41^{\circ}35,12'E$
		4. $\varphi = 42^{\circ}15,52'N$	$\lambda = 41^{\circ}35,72'E$

Article 13. Restricted areas for navigation:

1. Restricted areas and their limits:

Area №	Name of area	Limits of area	
		Latitude	Longitude
21	PSOU	1. $\varphi = 43^{\circ}23.002'N$	$\lambda = 40^{\circ}00.500'E$
		2. $\varphi = 43^{\circ}14.080'N$	$\lambda = 39^{\circ}50.325'E$
		3. $\varphi = 43^{\circ}22.948'N$	$\lambda = 40^{\circ}02.056'E$
		4. $\varphi = 43^{\circ}14.376'N$	$\lambda = 39^{\circ}48.765'E$

2. Marine protected areas.

a) Georgia's territorial sea coastline from the river Rioni in the north. In the direction of Kulevi port and river Khobistskali and in the opposite direction, using the existing corridor between the North and South regions of the marine protected area, taking into consideration the rule set out in Article 9;

b) Navigation in the Northern or Southern part of marine protected area is permitted in accordance with „a” paragraph of article 64 of Law of Georgia „on maritime space”, by informing a relevant structural unit of the Coast Guard Department of the Border Police of Georgia, only in special cases:

b. a) Dredging and ground working of Kulevi port;

b.b) For subjects of safeguarding of Georgia's State border and protection of the environment;

c) Coordinates of Kolkhети national park, protected areas and northern and southern parts of Georgia's territorial Sea:

№	X	Y	Latitude	Longitude
1	704529.80	4693509.00	42° 22.017477' N	41° 29.033443' E
2	713382.70	4693252.00	42° 21.73602' N	41° 35.472254' E
3	716348.50	4684437.00	42° 16.928513' N	41° 37.432998' E
4	714114.60	4685594.00	42° 17.590069' N	41° 35.834728' E
5	710183.00	4685780.00	42° 17.75467' N	41° 32.980097' E
6	707445.30	4685230.00	42° 17.501753' N	41° 30.977531' E

7	707544.50	4684761.00	42° 17.246979' N	41° 31.039573' E
8	710260.10	4685407.00	42° 17.552064' N	41° 33.028029' E
9	714044.30	4685395.00	42° 17.483804' N	41° 35.779199' E
10	715961.30	4684345.00	42° 16.885289' N	41° 37.149467' E
11	716035.30	4683994.00	42° 16.694587' N	41° 37.195406' E
12	716250.40	4683880.00	42° 16.629473' N	41° 37.349208' E
13	716572.60	4684010.00	42° 16.694285' N	41° 37.586326' E
14	717103.50	4683755.00	42° 16.54778' N	41° 37.9665' E
15	717229.50	4683683.00	42° 16.50681' N	41° 38.056465' E
16	716965.70	4676726.00	42° 12.755779' N	41° 37.708652' E
17	707063.50	4675311.00	42° 12.152998' N	41° 30.487515' E
18	708510.70	4680982.00	42° 15.19143' N	41° 31.660475' E
19	715101.30	4688593.00	42° 19.192662' N	41° 36.61905' E
20	714469.40	4690468.00	42° 20.215261' N	41° 36.201171' E
21	716076.00	4685712.00	42° 17.621299' N	41° 37.263455' E

3. Safe marine zones defined by order of the Director of the Maritime Transport Agency on "Port rules", shall be deemed as prohibited marine areas for navigation, within the regime of the same order.

4. Vessels owned by the authorities of government of Georgia shall, on the basis of informing the relevant structural unit of the Coast Guard Department of the Border Police of Georgia, can enter without restraint and stay in restricted areas in the territorial waters of Georgia.

Article 14. Temporarily restricted areas

1. In accordance with law of Georgia on „Occupied Territories of Georgia” temporarily restricted area is the inland waters and the territorial sea of Georgia, their bed and subsoil falling within the water area along the state border with the Russian Federation, to the South of the Psou River up to the administrative border at the influx of the Enguri River into the Black Sea. Navigation in this area is prohibited except for cases provided in 1982 UN convention on the Law of the Sea.

Area №	Location of Area	Limits of the Area	
		Latitude	Longitude
34	Northern part of Georgia's Territorial Sea	1. $\varphi=43^{\circ}23.08'N$	$\lambda=40^{\circ}00.36'E$
		2. $\varphi=43^{\circ}14.42'N$	$\lambda=39^{\circ}48.54'E$
		3. $\varphi=43^{\circ}12.002'N$	$\lambda=40^{\circ}00.240'E$
		4. $\varphi=43^{\circ}05.422'N$	$\lambda=40^{\circ}04.240'E$
		5. $\varphi=43^{\circ}02.002'N$	$\lambda=40^{\circ}09.000'E$
		6. $\varphi=42^{\circ}59.062'N$	$\lambda=40^{\circ}14.480'E$
		7. $\varphi=42^{\circ}58.062'N$	$\lambda=40^{\circ}23.360'E$
		8. $\varphi=42^{\circ}55.302'N$	$\lambda=40^{\circ}28.480'E$
		9. $\varphi=42^{\circ}54.362'N$	$\lambda=40^{\circ}35.120'E$
		10. $\varphi=42^{\circ}54.002'N$	$\lambda=40^{\circ}43.480'E$
		11. $\varphi=42^{\circ}52.242'N$	$\lambda=40^{\circ}46.000'E$
		12. $\varphi=42^{\circ}49.002'N$	$\lambda=40^{\circ}51.300'E$
		13. $\varphi=42^{\circ}43.242'N$	$\lambda=40^{\circ}55.000'E$
		14. $\varphi=42^{\circ}39.242'N$	$\lambda=40^{\circ}59.360'E$
		15. $\varphi=42^{\circ}37.242'N$	$\lambda=41^{\circ}05.240'E$
		16. $\varphi=42^{\circ}36.242'N$	$\lambda=41^{\circ}13.000'E$
		17. $\varphi=42^{\circ}35.242'N$	$\lambda=41^{\circ}15.180'E$
		18. $\varphi=42^{\circ}31.062'N$	$\lambda=41^{\circ}17.000'E$
		19. $\varphi=42^{\circ}23.069'N$	$\lambda=41^{\circ}18.233'E$
		20. $\varphi=42^{\circ}24.298'N$	$\lambda=41^{\circ}33.229'E$

2. The territorial sea of Georgia, which is used for entrepreneurial activity, may be considered as a temporarily prohibited zone for navigation, and in which industrial equipment is discharged or built up:

a) The coordinates of the mentioned area shall be agreed with the LEPL - Maritime Transport Agency of the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia and State Hydrographic Service, which, in turn, duly publishes it;

b) The temporary ban on navigation in the mentioned area shall be extended throughout the entire business activity, except for vessels of carrying out state environment supervision and control;

c) The boundaries of the mentioned area must be secured by an appropriate number of tweets equipped with lights in nighttime, the number of tweets shall be calculated in conformity to the size of the mentioned area.

3. Supsa port water area shall also be considered a temporarily prohibited area for navigation in accordance with the order of Director of the Maritime Transport Agency on "Port rules".

Article 15. Military readiness areas

1. Military readiness areas and their borders:

2. Navigation in military readiness areas shall be prohibited only for a certain period, based on a statement made by the Ministry of Defense of Georgia or the Ministry of Internal Affairs on the basis of the application made 5 days prior to the preparation of the combat training. All vessels and aircraft shall avoid entry, crossing and overturning in these areas, shall not prevent the actions of military personnel who are engaged in military readiness. Special signs are the signals of military ships that carry the red flags by day, and at night they use the sharp red or orange periodic shimmering, and vessels shall observe and perform their orders/instructions.

Chapter IV

Navigation rules

Article 16. Navigation rules during innocent passage in the territorial sea of Georgia

1. Ships exercising innocent passage in the territorial Sea of Georgia are prohibited to:

a) Stopping, anchoring and drifting;

- b) The launching or taking on board of any aircraft;
- c) Loading/unloading cargo, embarking or disembarking persons;
- d) Fishing and having fish gear in operational state;
- e) Engaging in maritime scientific research, search and hydrographic operations;
- f) Putting small sized vessels;
- g) Approaching other vessels;
- h) Navigating without raising Georgia's State flag;

2. The requirements set forth in Paragraph 1 of this Article shall not apply to vessels participating in rescue operations.

Article 17. Navigation rules in Georgia's territorial Sea, internal waters, ports and during anchorage on roadsteads

1. Ships in Georgia's territorial Sea, internal waters, port and during anchorage on roadsteads shall observe the navigation regime.
2. Ships in Georgia's territorial Sea, internal waters, ports and during anchorage on roadsteads shall be prohibited:
 - a) Exercise underwater works, except when it is directly related to the activity under which the ship is entrusted in accordance with Georgian legislation;
 - b) Actions that damage the underwater cables and pipelines, navigational signs, hydraulic structures and other equipment;
 - c) Putting small vessels in the sea, except when it is directly related to the activities the ship is empowered by Georgian legislation;
 - d) Navigation and entry in restricted or temporarily restricted areas;
 - e) Standing in former minefield areas, fishing by surface fishing equipment, as well as performing other activities on the seabed
 - f) Ignoring Port's navigation regime;
 - g) Navigating or acting that creates a threat to other ships or to the safety of navigation over other vessels enjoying advantage;
 - h) Throwing recovered groundwater (spoil ground) into the Sea, except for case prescribed by Article 12;

i) Violation of those provisions by Ships of 100 GT or less, shall be governed by navigation rules of the Ordinance of the Government of Georgia on approval of „State Border Regime and Safeguarding”.

3. Obligations prescribed by paragraph 2 of this article does not apply on vessels participating in the search and rescue operation of ships and human life.

Chapter V

Control

Article 18. Control

1. Control on the fulfillment of navigation regime and navigation rules prescribed by these provisions shall be exercised by LEPL Maritime Transport Agency and Coast Guard Department of the Border police.

2. In case of necessity and urgency, a vessel may temporarily abstain from the observance of these rules by the joint decision of LEPL - Maritime Transport Agency and the relevant structural units of the Coast Guard Department of the Border Police of Georgia.