

GENDER EQUALITY PROGRAMME

***Gender Equality in Georgia on the  
Bases of International Indices and  
Ratings***

Nani Bendeliani  
Research Fellow

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The report - Assessing the Gender Equality in Georgia on the Bases of International Indices and Ratings is a comprehensive evaluation of gender equality in Georgia from the multiple perspectives – based on different international agencies, methodologies and themes; It is focused on methodology to make the right interpretation of the data of the indices and ratings. It reveals the most problematic areas and topics for further research and policy application and presents the country progress / drawbacks through the data available for multiple years.

## **Gender Equality Indices of UN Human Development Report<sup>1</sup>**

- **Gender and Development Index (GDI)**

GDI is a Human Development Index calculated for women; the conclusion on the gender inequality should be drawn through comparison of the GDI and HDI (Human Development Index) scores; It includes the following components: decent living standards (mean income), education (literacy and school enrolment), health (life expectancy). According to GDI the gender inequality is not detected in Georgia in 90s.

- **Gender Empowerment Measure (GEM)**

GEM Measures women's political and economic participation/decision-making and economic resources. Indicators: MPs, the high-ranked officials, managers, legislators, technical/qualified workers and income. GEM is calculated as a percentage of equivalents: in case of perfect equality the GEM score is 1 - 100%. Georgia scores among 35% and 40.8% - this is a significant gender equality gap among women and men according to specified criteria of the index.

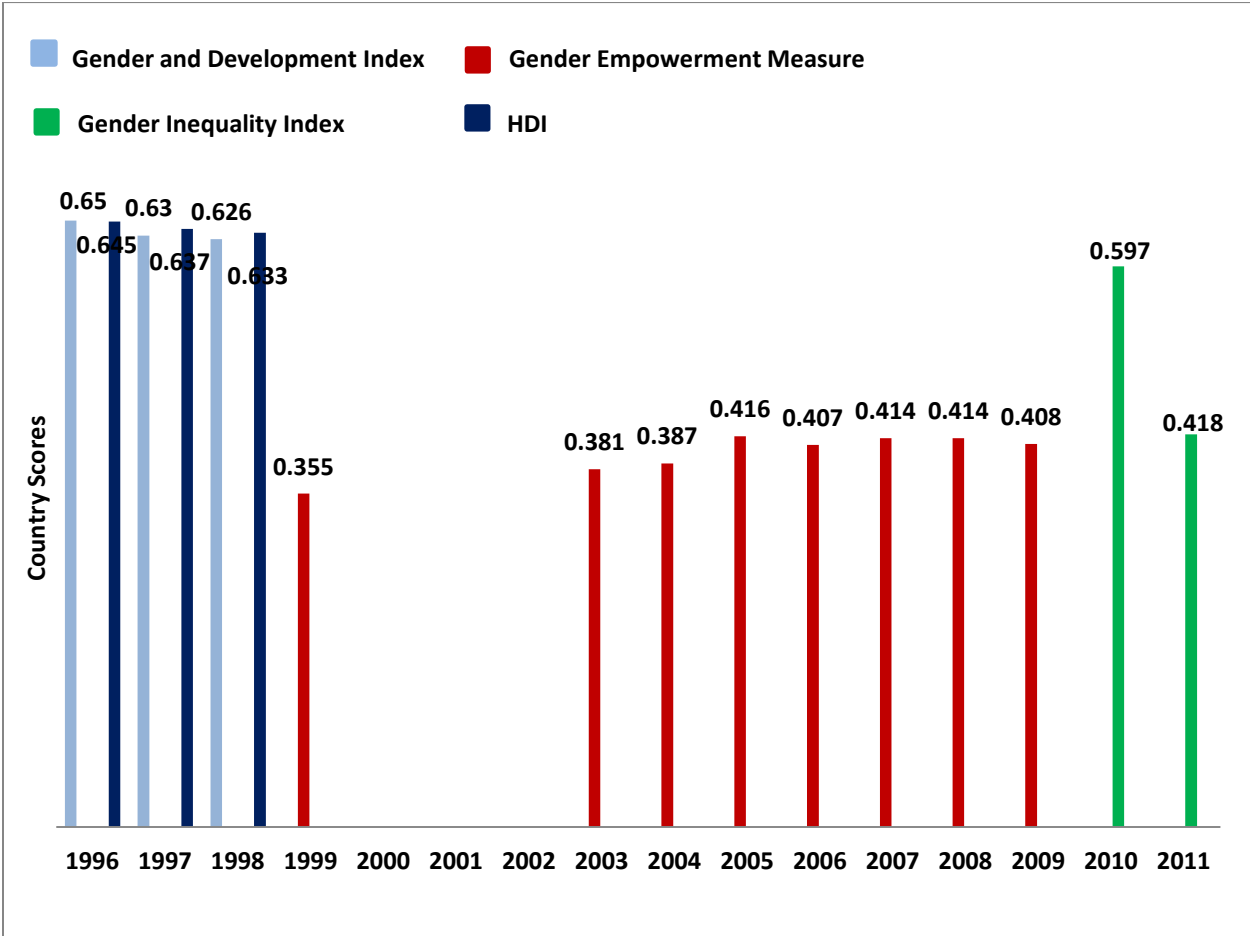
- **Gender Inequality Index (GII)**

GII Measures inequality among women and men based on reproductive health, empowerment and the labor market; It ranges from 0 (women and men fare equally) to 1 (women fare as poorly as possible in all measured dimensions). Georgia scored 0.597 according to 2010 report – this indicates the disadvantage of women according to specified criteria and is the worst score in South Caucasus region. In 2011 the score improved to 0.418.

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<sup>1</sup> The data comes from the UN Human Development Reports and World Banks' statistical data base. For Detailed references, please refer to Bibliography.

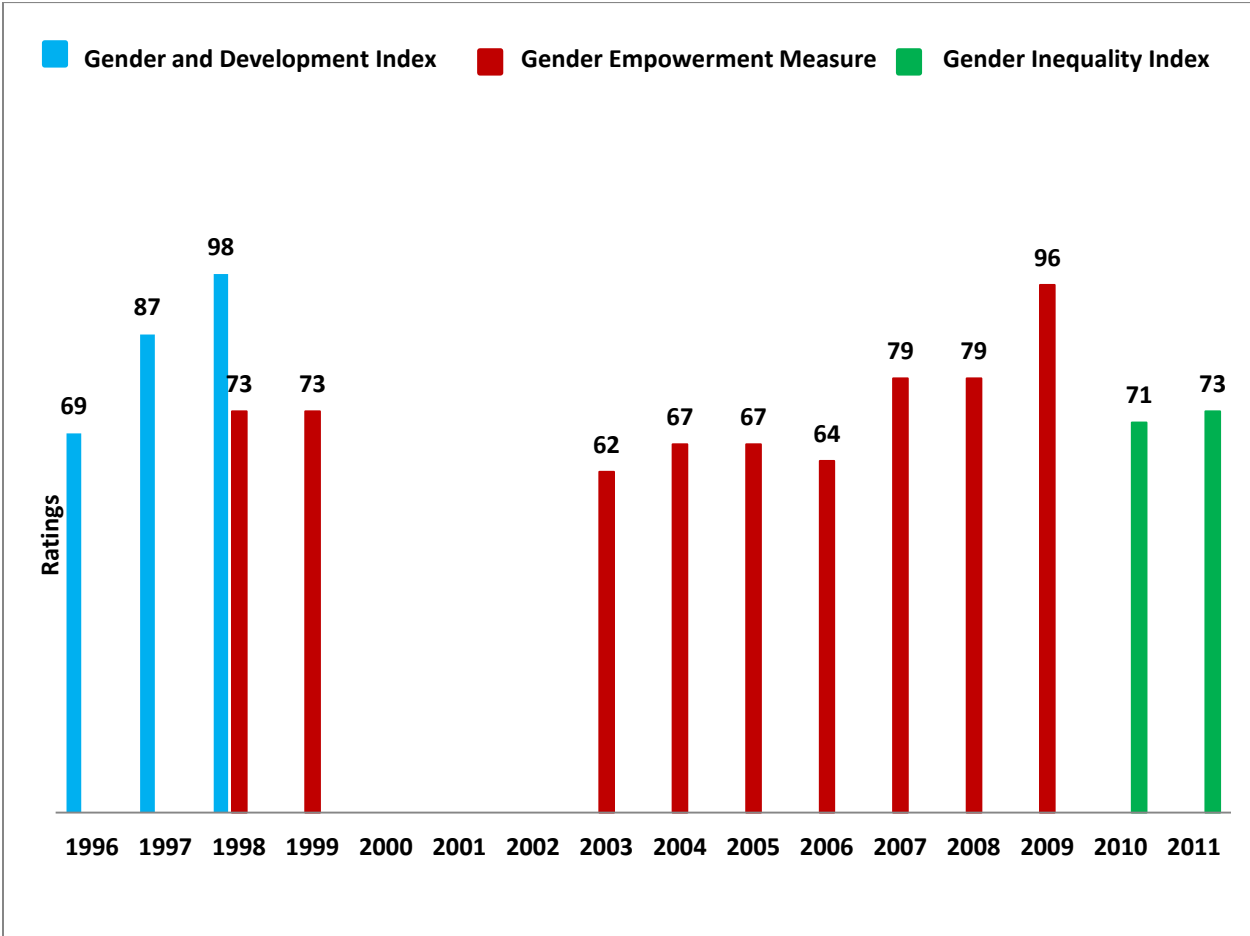
Diagram 1. Gender Equality Indices of UN Human Development Report – Georgia Country Scores



\*The years on diagram refer to the period the UN Human Development Report was issued, not the time period of collecting the hard data;

\*\* HDI and GDI are comparable with each other, the rest is not comparable;

Diagram 2. Gender Equality Indices of UN Human Development Report – Georgia, Country Ratings



\*The years on diagram refer to the period the UN Human Development Report was issued, not the time period of collecting the hard data;

\*\* Each Human Development Report includes the different number of countries to calculate the country ratings; therefore, the ratings are not comparable through the years;

## Gender Gap Index (GGI) – World Economic Forum<sup>2</sup>

The GGI is the most comprehensive index assessing gender equality in 135 countries worldwide (2011). The scores reflect the ratios of women/men fare according to each criteria and indicator; Score 1 stands for perfect equality, 0 – for complete inequality. It measures the gap among women and men according to four criteria:

- Economic participation and opportunity (salaries, participation and highly-skilled employment)
- Education (access to basic and higher education)
- Political empowerment (representation in decision-making structures)
- Health and survival (life expectancy and sex ratio)

According to GGI, the overall rating of Georgia has worsened from the 54th place among 115 countries in 2006 to 86th place among 135 countries in 2011. Gender Gap is almost closed according to Education Attunement and Health and Survival Criteria. Yet, according to Health and Survival sex ratio of newborn girls/boys is unfavorable, indicating the possibility of selective abortions. Economic Participation and Opportunities criteria demonstrate the considerable gender gap; yet, Georgia scores above the sample's average, but the scores have not notably improved over time. Political Empowerment is the most problematic criteria for Georgia, demonstrating that women in Georgia are scarcely represented in political decision-making structures, and the representation has decreased over time, while it increased in other countries of the world in average. The criteria of GGI and the most problematic indicators are illustrated in following diagrams:

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<sup>2</sup> World Economic Forum. Gender Gap Index, official website. Available at: <http://www.weforum.org/issues/global-gender-gap>, (Accessed on 03.05.12. 12:00)

Diagram 3. Gender Gap Index (World Economic Forum) – Georgia, Country Rating

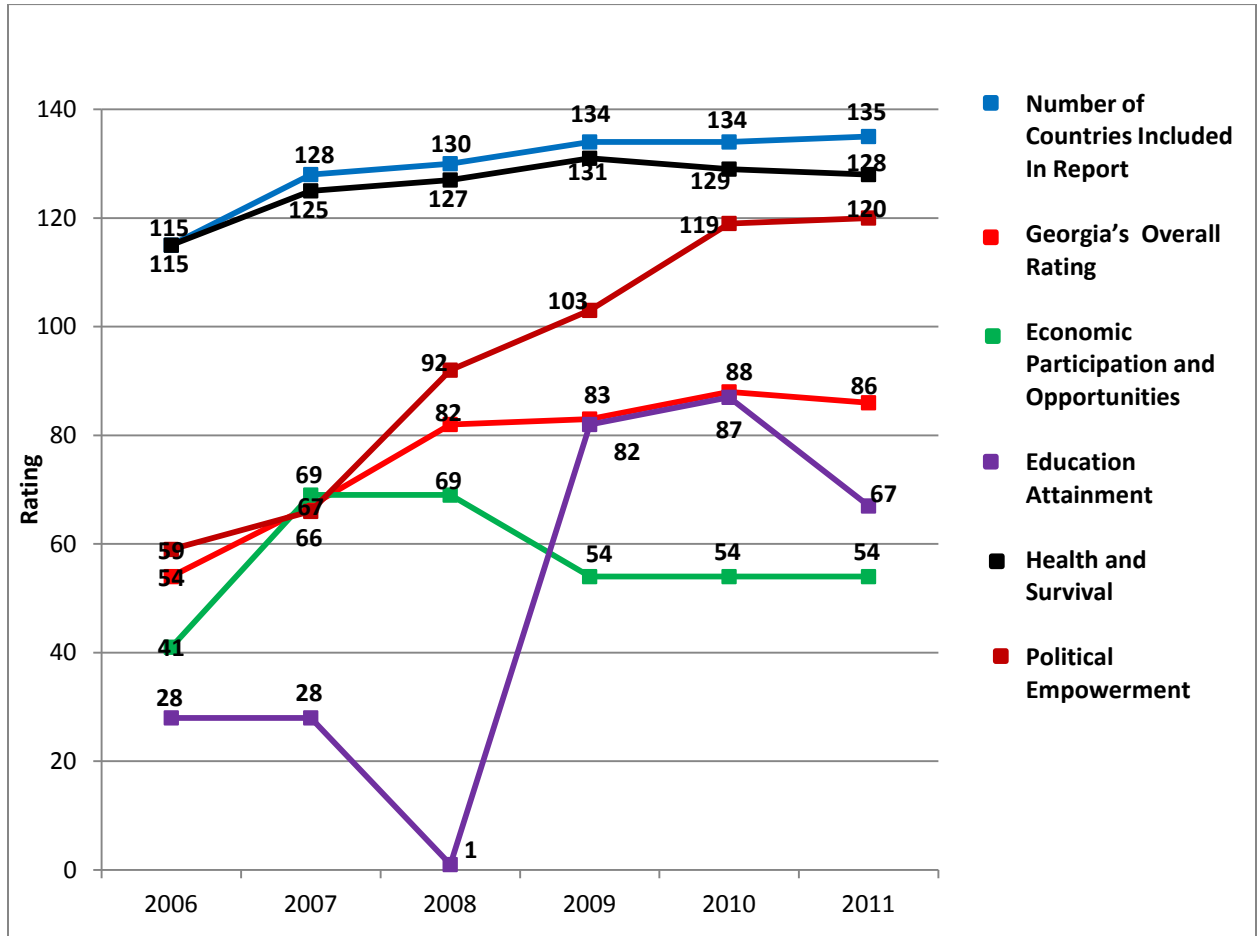


Diagram 4. WEF Gender Gap Index – Rating and Score, Georgia

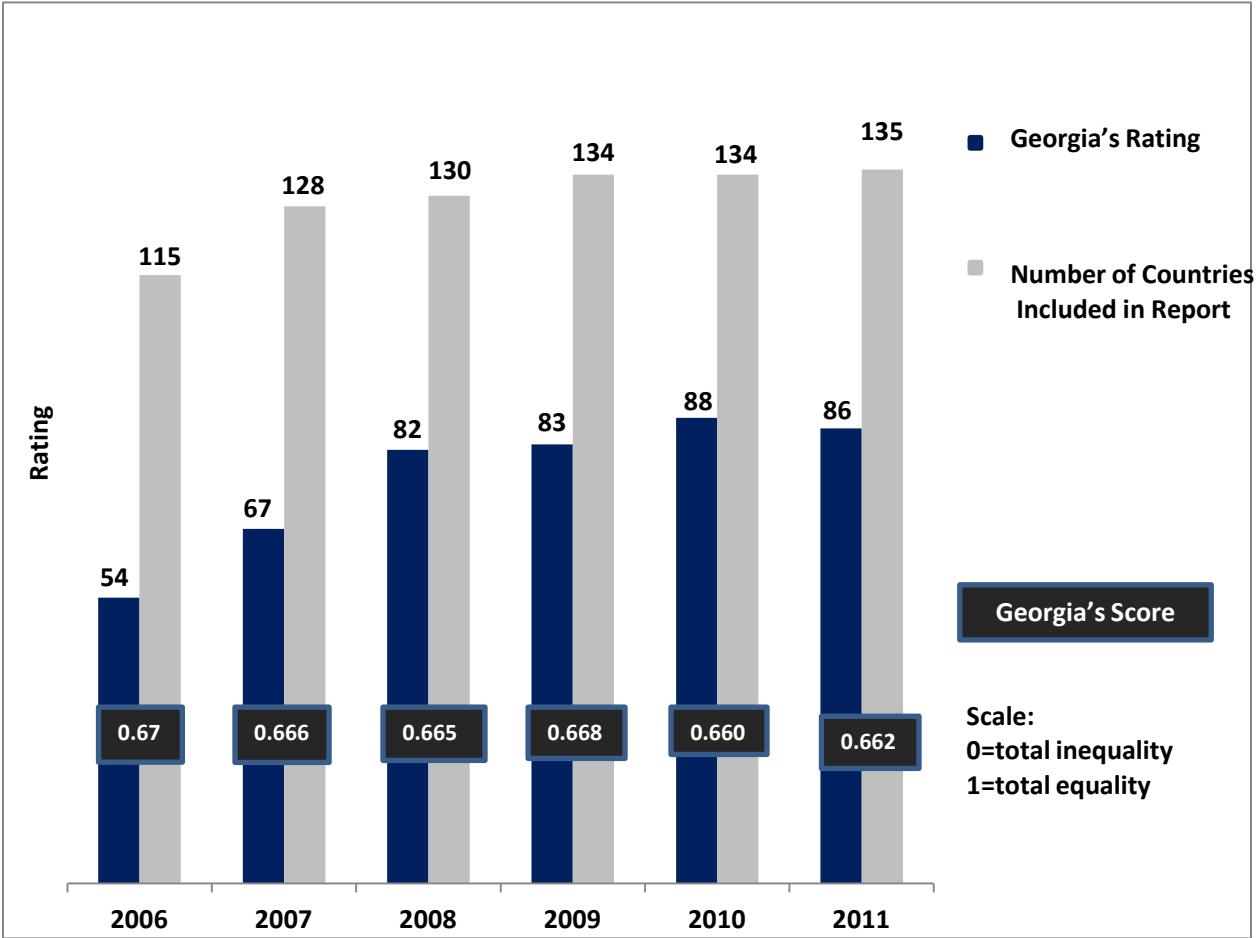




Diagram 5. Gender Gap Index – Economic Participation and Opportunities

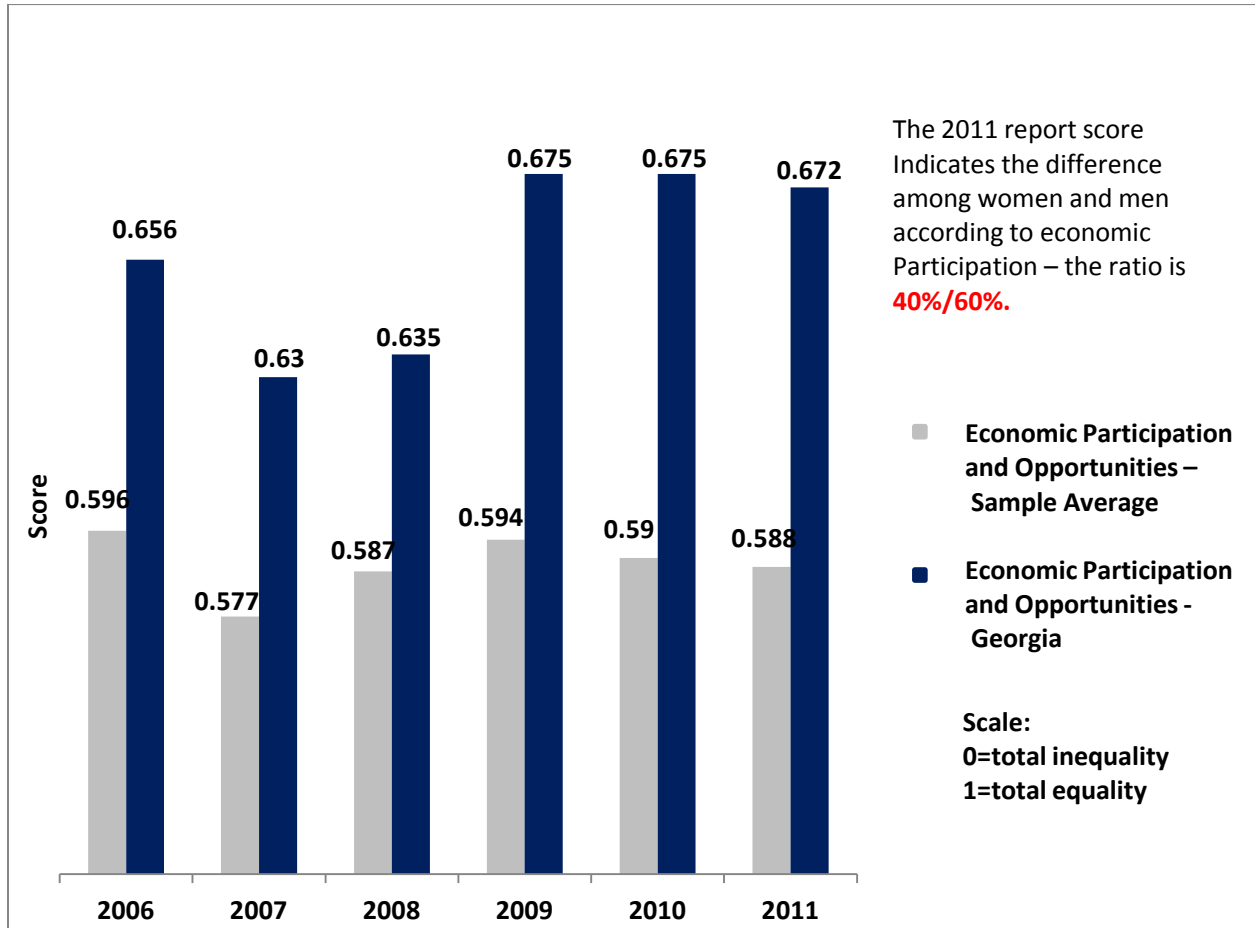


Diagram 6. Gender Gap Index – Education Attainment

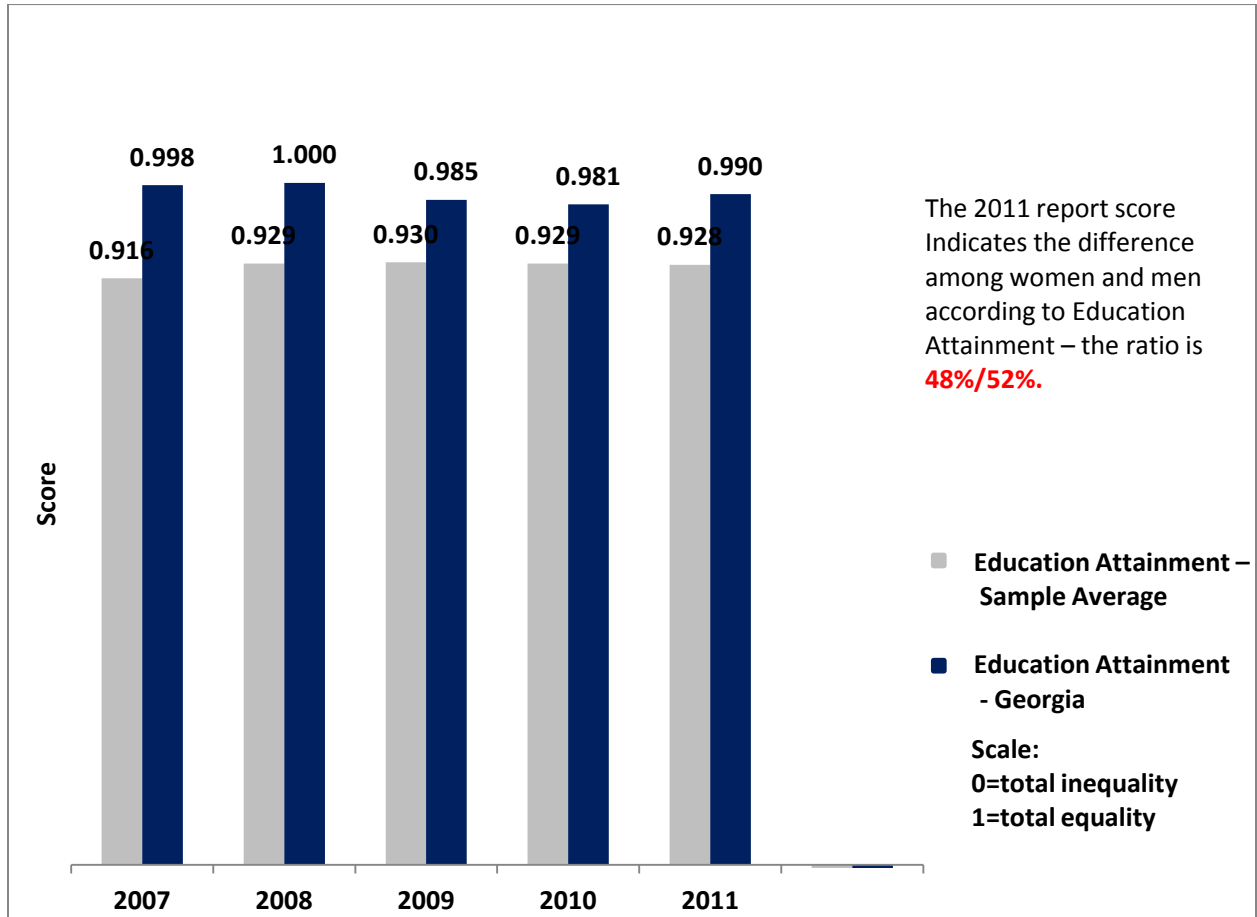


Diagram 7. Gender Gap Index – Health and Survival

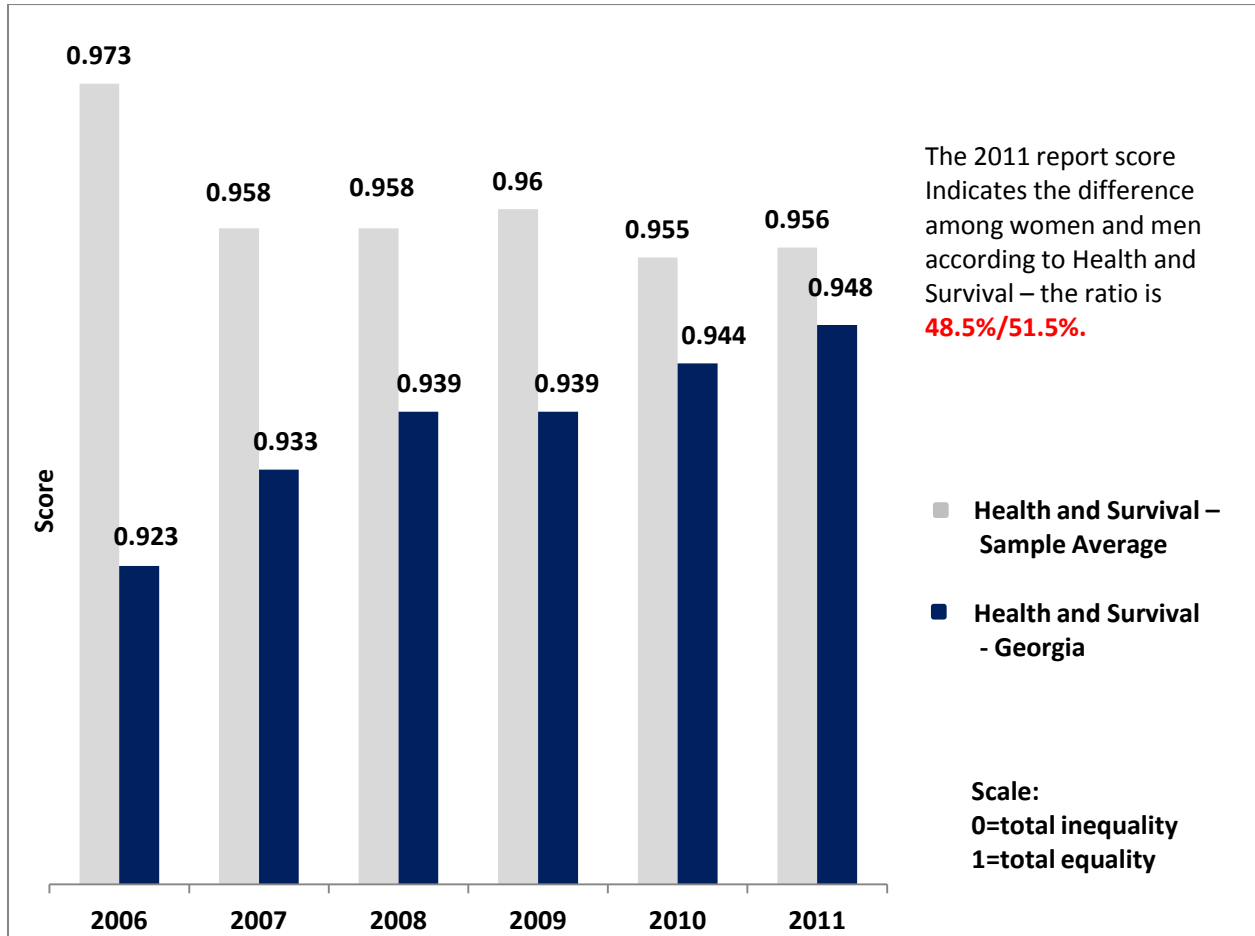


Diagram 8. GGI – Health and Survival, Sex Ratio at Birth

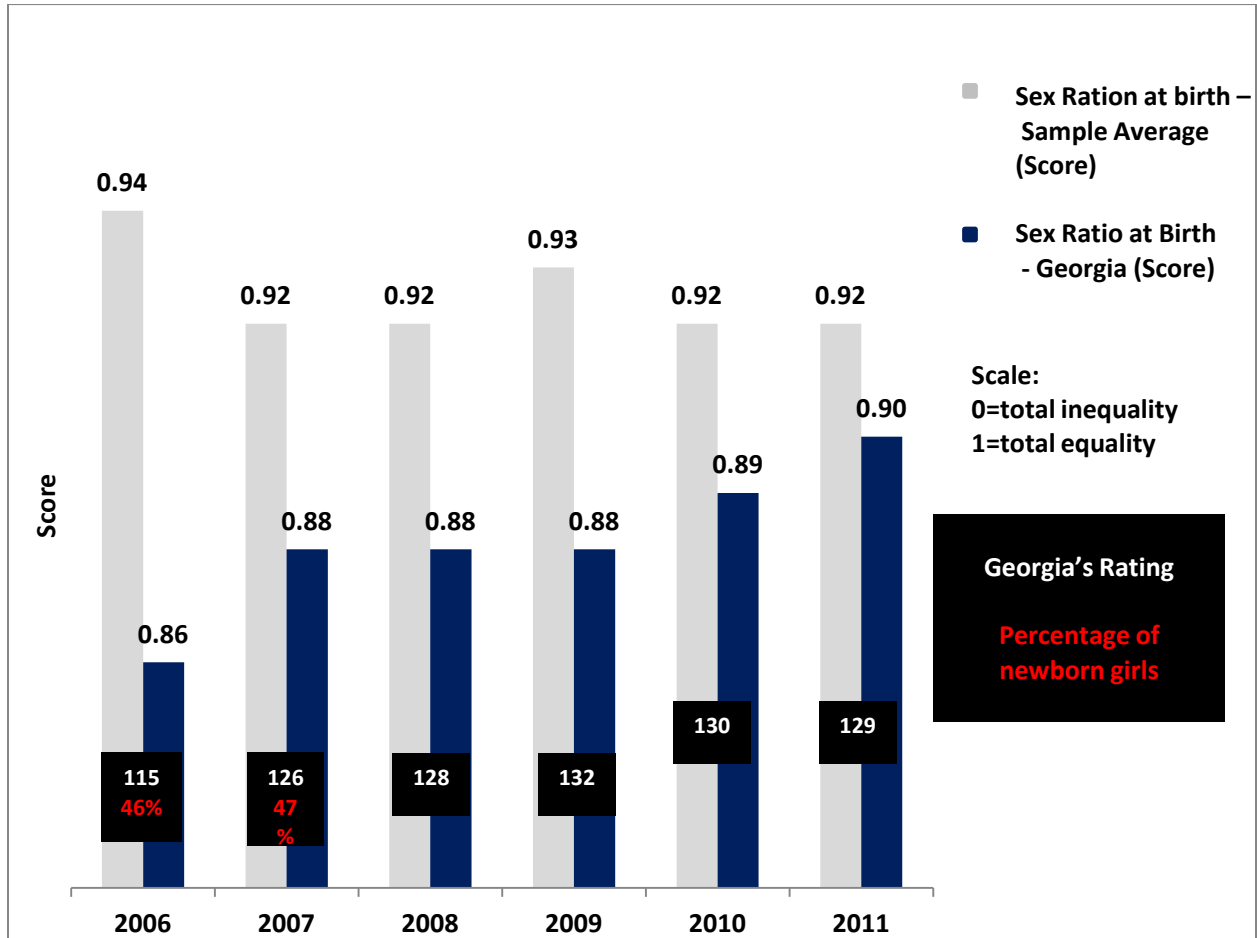


Diagram 9. Gender Gap Index – Political Empowerment

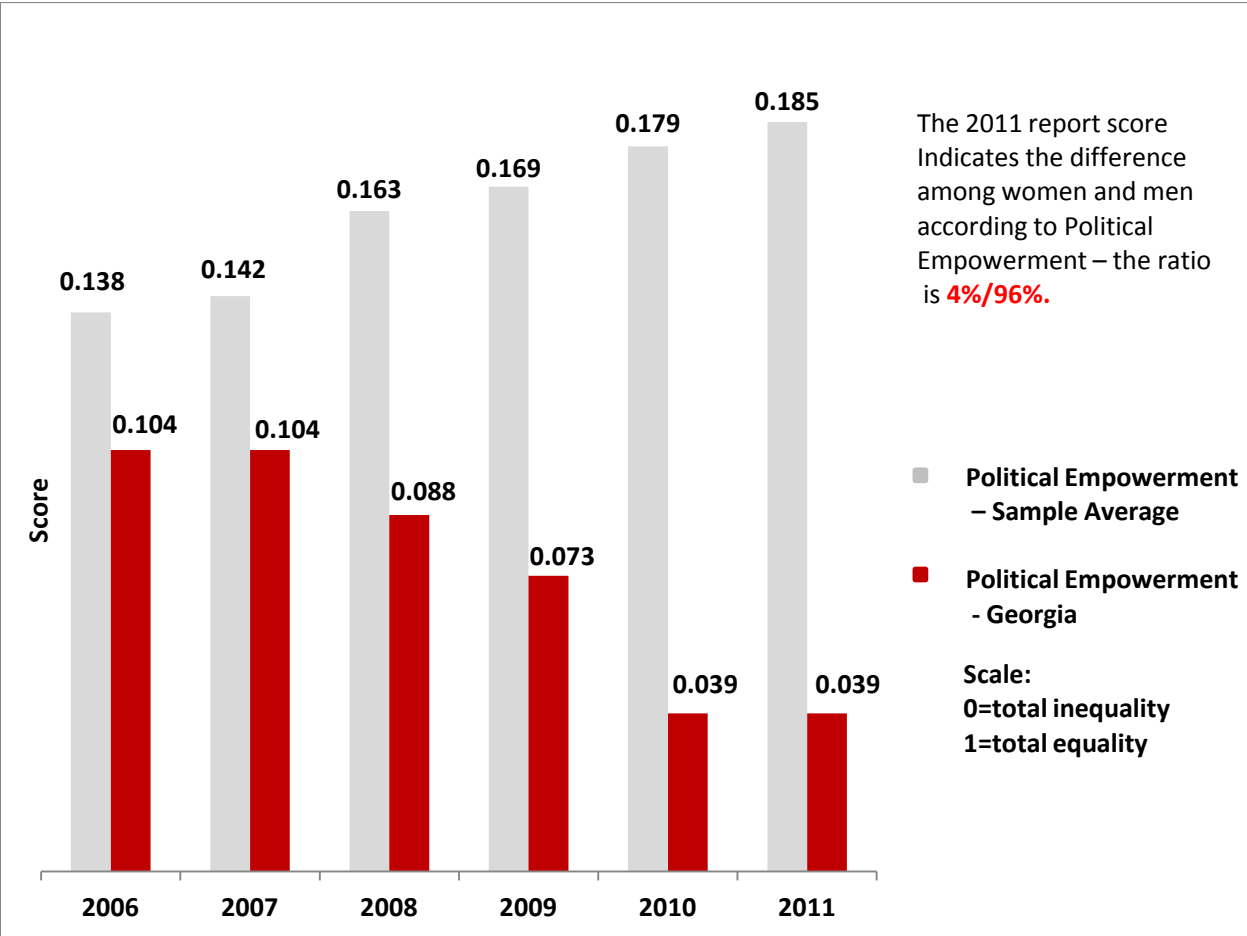


Diagram 10. GGI – Political Empowerment, Women in Parliament

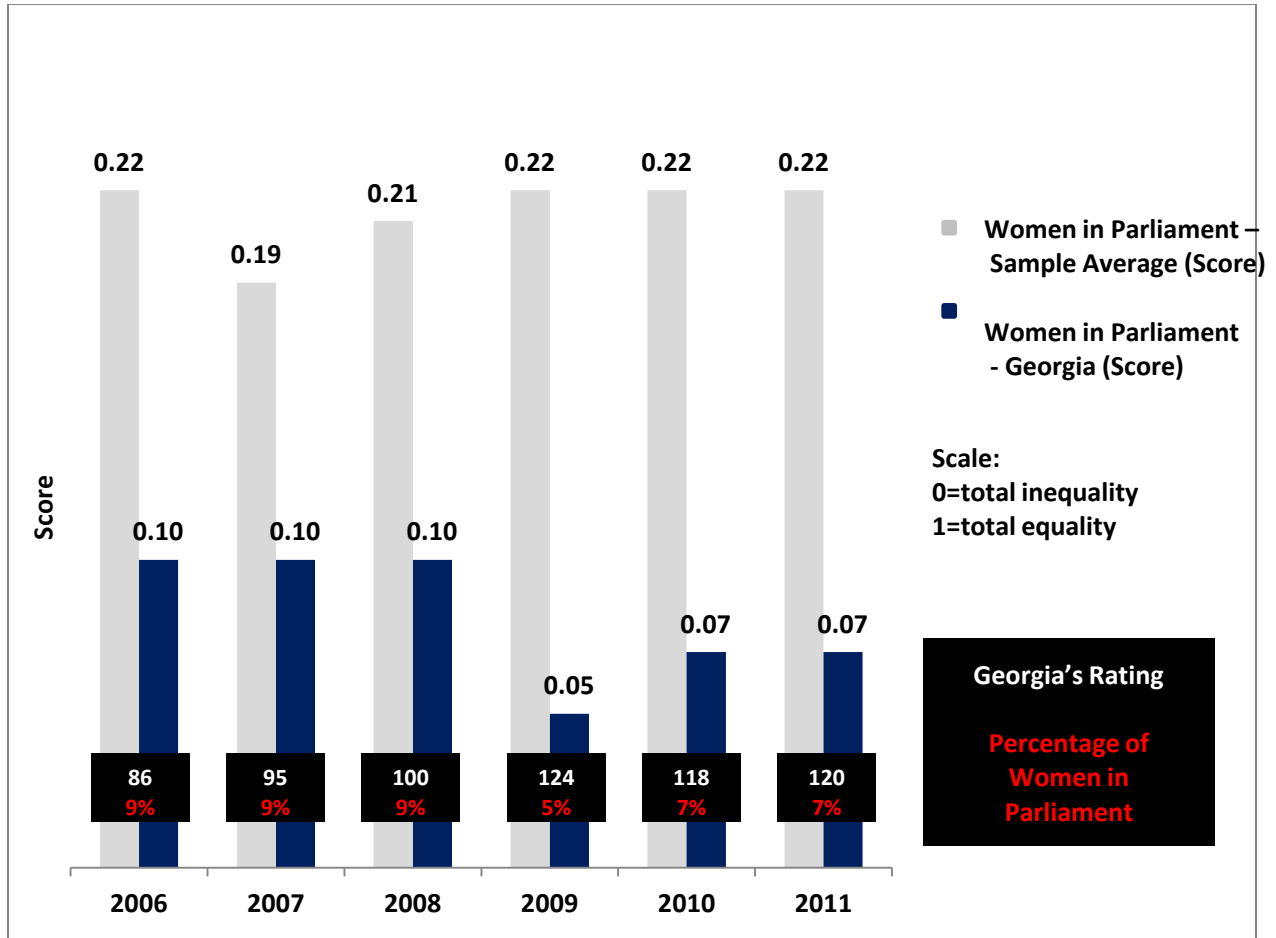
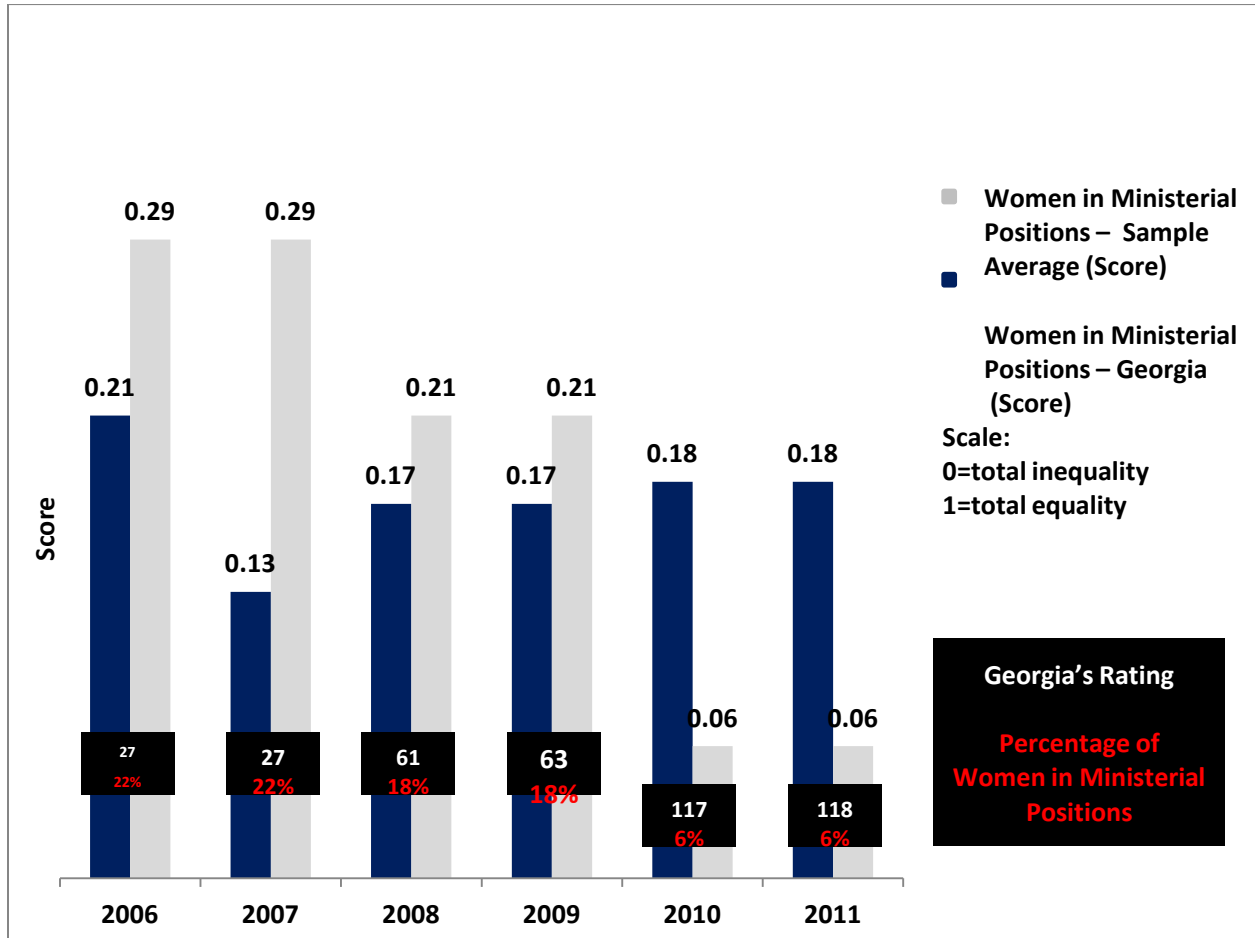


Diagram 11. GGI – Political Empowerment, Women in Ministerial Positions



## Social Institutions and Gender Index (SIGI), OECD

SIGI Measures the effect of social institutions on gender equality according to family code, civic liberties, physical integrity, son preference and ownership rights of women; the report is issued by the OECD, based on extensive qualitative and quantitative data. Georgia was rated as 33<sup>rd</sup> out of 102 countries according to 2009 report<sup>3</sup> and 60<sup>th</sup> among the 86 countries according to 2012 report<sup>4</sup>. According to 2009 SIGI report, no influence of social institutions on gender equality is detected in Georgia, except the family code (early marriage indicator) and physical integrity criteria (indicator of violence against women). On the other hand, according to 2012 report, influence of social institutions on gender equality in Georgia is detected according to all components of the index.

2009 report falls short to reflect the effect of institutions over Gender equality in Georgia - it measures formal, legislative indicators, not so relevant to the reality existing in Georgia, in 2012 report the indicators measuring the informal institutions were included in the index. In addition, the indicators focused on legal environment in 2009 report, take into account the existing reality – for example, Freedom of Movement.

The 2009 report includes the components and indicators as follows: Family Code (Parental authority, Inheritance, Early marriage), Civil Liberties (Polygamy (acceptance / legality), Freedom of movement, Dress code in public), Physical Integrity (Female genital mutilation, Violence against women - legal indicator), Son Preference, Ownership Rights (Women's access to land, Women's access to loans, Women's access to other property than land).

The components and indicators of SIGI 2012 report are: Discriminatory family code (Legal age of marriage, Parental authority, Inheritance, Early marriage), Restricted civil liberties (public space, political participation, political quotas), Restricted physical integrity (violence against women(laws), female genital mutilation, reproductive integrity, attitudes towards domestic violence, prevalence of domestic violence), Son Bias (fertility preferences, missing women), Restricted resources and entitlements (Access to land, Access to property other than land, Access to bank loans and credit).

Scale includes 0=no influence of social institutions detected; 1=social institutions influence the majority of women. It should be mentioned, that Diagram 12 and Diagram 13 reflect the index component names according to 2012 report.

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<sup>3</sup> OECD (2009). Social Institutions and Gender Index. Available at:

<http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/49/39/42296064.pdf> (accessed on 11.04.12. 14:15)

<sup>4</sup> OECD (2012). Social Institutions and Gender Index 2012: Understanding the drivers of gender inequality. Available at: <http://genderindex.org/sites/default/files/2012SIGISummaryresults.pdf>, (accessed on 18.06.12. 16:00)



Diagram 12. Social Institutions and Gender Index (OECD), Georgia, Index scores

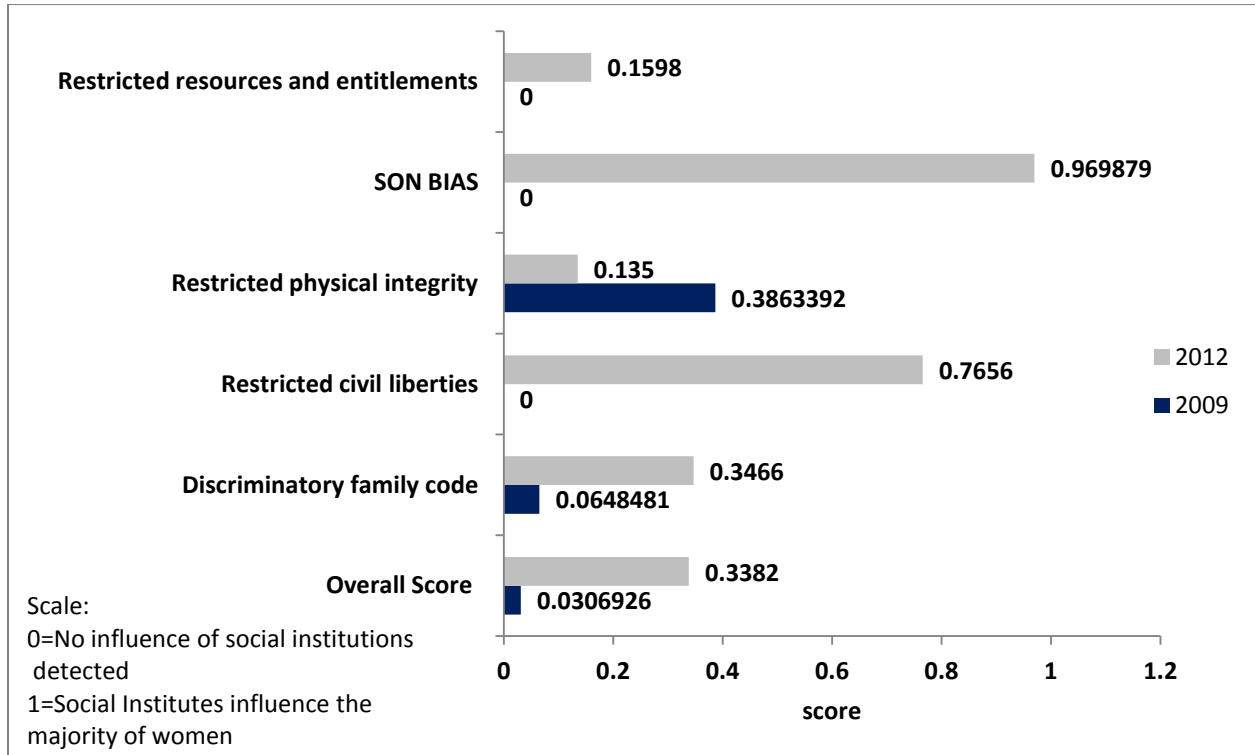


Diagram 13. Social Institutions and Gender Index (OECD), Georgia, Ratings

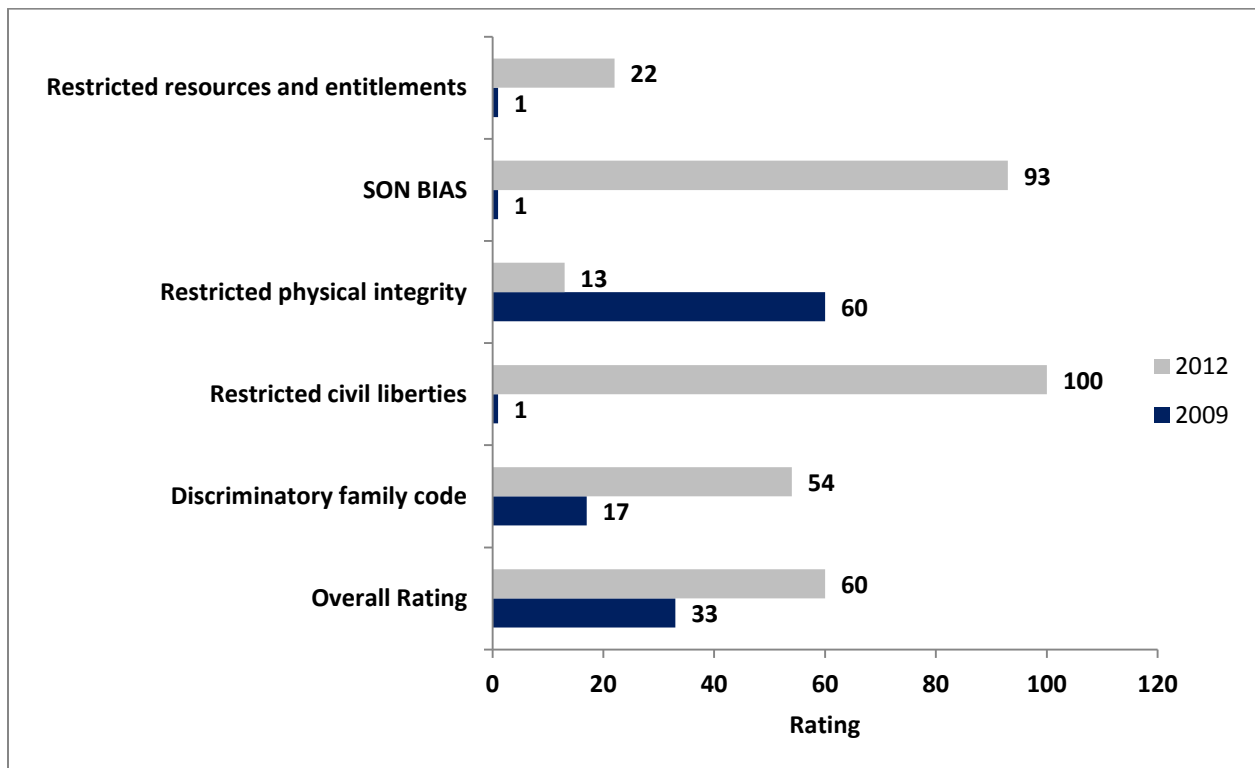


Diagram 14. Social Institutions and Gender Index, 2009 – Georgia’s Scores According to Specific Indicators

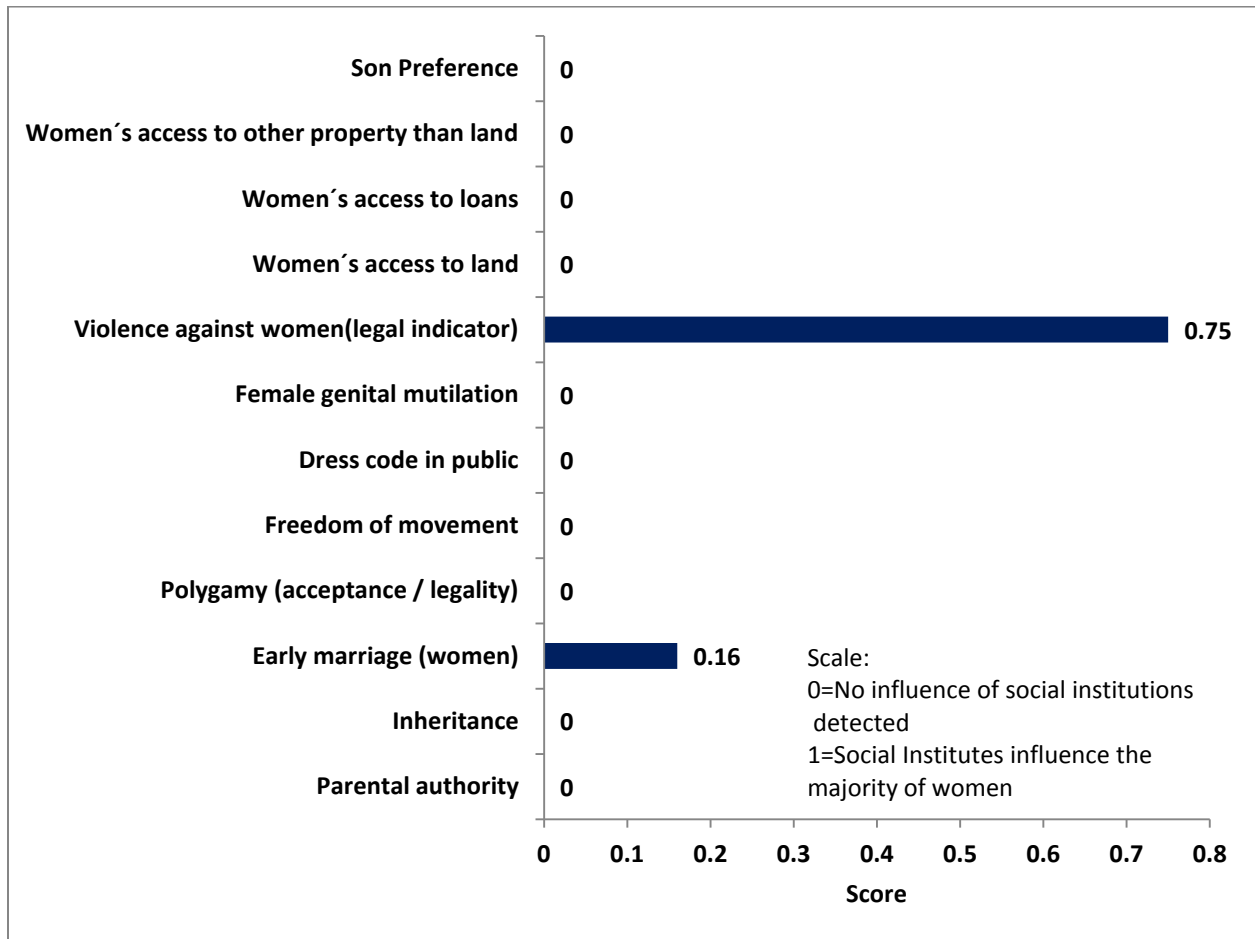
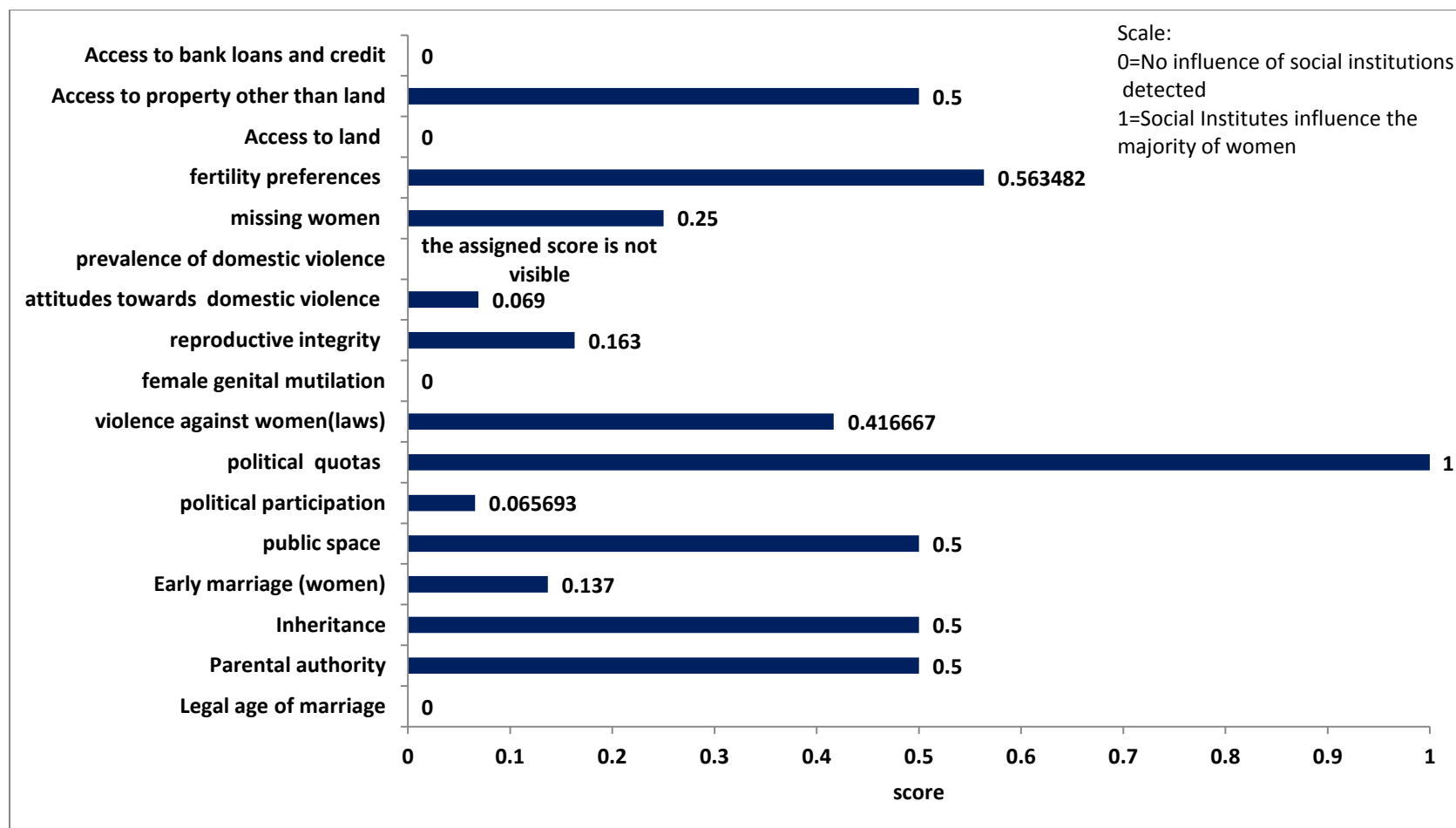


Diagram 15. Social Institutions and Gender Index, 2012 – Georgia’s Scores According to Specific Indicators



## **Women's Economic Opportunity Index, Economist Intelligence Unit <sup>5</sup>**

Women's economic opportunity is defined as a set of laws, regulations, practices, customs and attitudes that allow women to participate in the workforce under conditions equal to those of men, as employees or as business owners. Index is composed of following determinants: General Business Environment, Women's Legal and Social Status, Education and Training, Access to Finance, Labor Policy and Practice. 0 stands for completely unfavorable environment and 100 stands for completely favorable environment. Georgia has scored 54.5 according to 2012 report and 49.2 according to 2010 report and was rated as 59<sup>th</sup> in 2012 – the scores and ratings indicate the average, but improving situation according to the specified determinants of the index. The argument of the legislative environment VS existing reality is relevant for this index, similar to SIGI: according to 2010 data, the legislation-related determinants score highest (legal and social status, labor policy), while practice falls short (access to finance, labor practice).

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<sup>5</sup> Economic Intelligence Unit. Women's Economic Opportunity Index. New study spotlights opportunities and barriers for working women worldwide. Available at: [http://www.eiu.com/site\\_info.asp?info\\_name=womens\\_economic\\_opportunity&page=noads](http://www.eiu.com/site_info.asp?info_name=womens_economic_opportunity&page=noads) (accessed on 22.06.12. 12:30)

Diagram 16. Women's Economic Opportunity Index (EIU), Rating and Score of Georgia

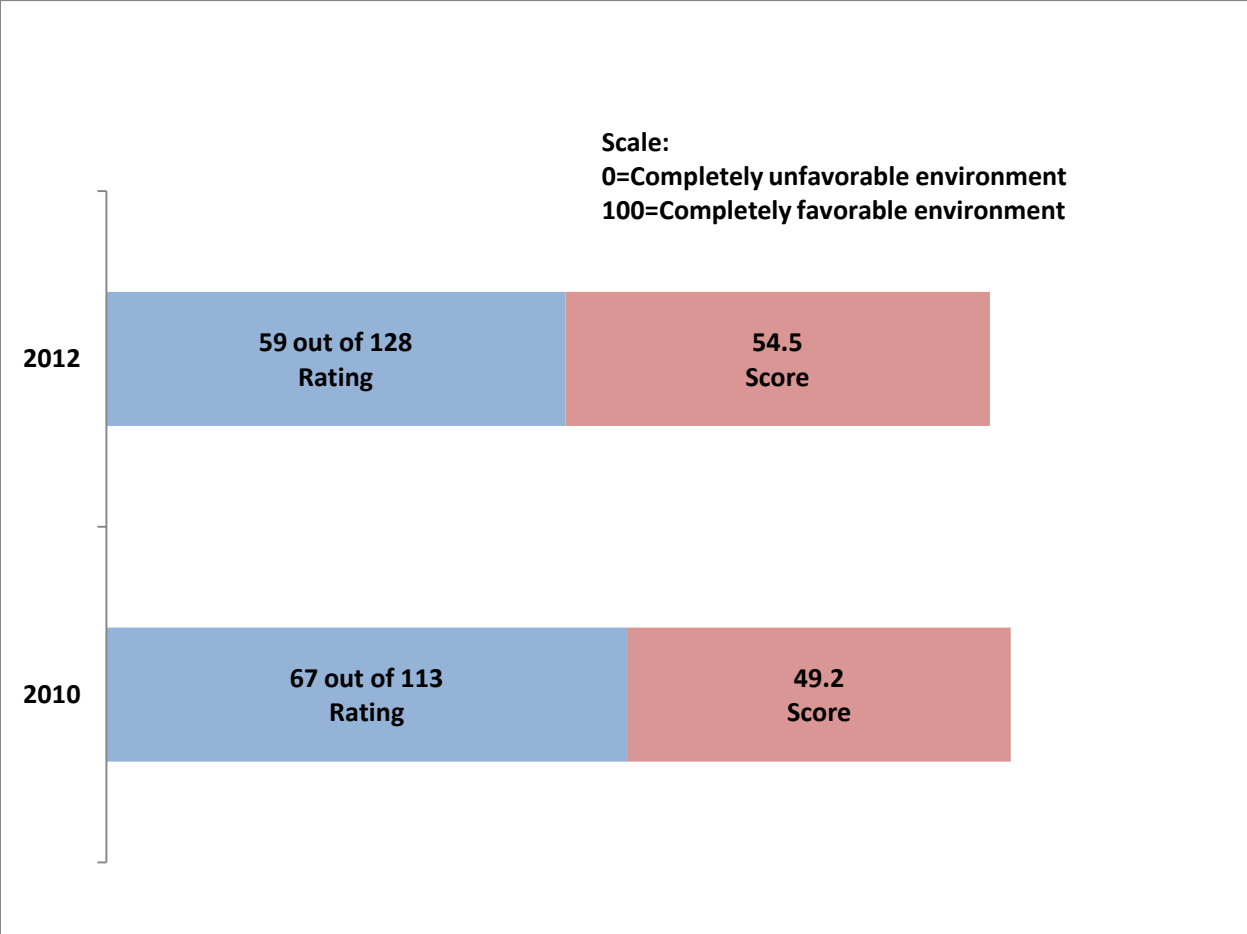
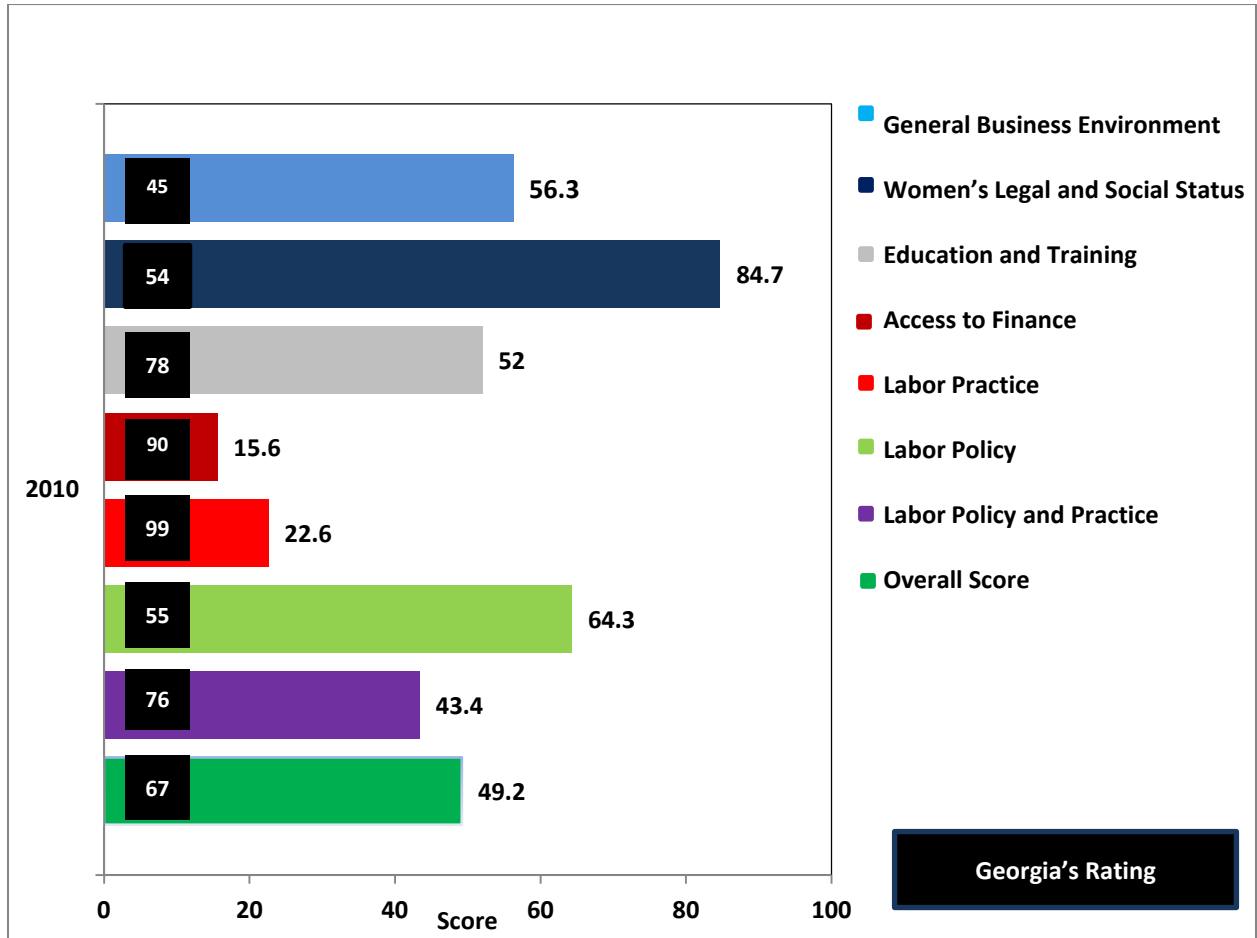


Diagram 17. Woman’s Economic Opportunity Index (EIU) – Scores and Ratings of Georgia, 2010



## Conclusion

**Access to basic capabilities VS political and economic participation and decision-making:** Gender inequality is irrelevant in terms of literacy, enrolment rates and life expectancy among women and men in Georgia; however, if variables related to the political and economic empowerment are included in the analysis, the gender inequality is significant.

**Legislative environment VS practice:** Indices/indicators measuring the formal, legislative environment score higher, than ones measuring the practice.

### Potential research areas:

- missing women (unfavorable sex ratio at birth);
- structural violence: women's physical integrity in Georgia;
- causes of very low level of women's political empowerment;
- diverse results on woman's economic empowerment – improvements / drawbacks;
- correlation among economic and political empowerment – is it happening?

## About the Author

Nani Bendeliani cooperates with CSS since 2007. She is a CSS alumnus, graduate of MA programme in International Relations in 2005. She obtained the MA degree in Development Studies specialized on economics of development from the Institute of Social Studies of Erasmus University Rotterdam in 2011. Currently she is a research fellow at the Education and Development program at the Center for Social Sciences.

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