

23 November 2022

THE PRIME MINISTER

Des Por Minor,

Thank you for your letter of congratulations dated 26 October.

Firstly, may I say how grateful I was for your visit to the British Embassy in Tbilisi to convey your condolences on the death of Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

At this challenging time and while we celebrate 30 years of renewed diplomatic relations, our close partnership on security and defence has never been more important. Please be assured that the UK stands with Georgia in the face of continued Russian aggression. The UK remains resolute in our support for Georgia's sovereignty and territorial integrity within its internationally recognised borders. We will continue to call on Russia to reverse its recognition of the so-called independence of the Georgian regions of Abkhazia and South Ossetia and press for the provision of unhindered access for humanitarian assistance to these regions.

I am pleased that in early 2023 the UK will host the next Wardrop Strategic Dialogue, covering the full range of cooperation between our two countries and further building on the Strategic Partnership and Cooperation Agreement that entered into force on 1 January 2021.

I also welcome the support that Georgia is providing to Ukraine. This illegal war has brutally reminded us of the threat that Russia poses to fundamental principles of international law, including territorial integrity. The UK's support for Ukraine, like our support for Georgia, will not falter.

I look forward to working with you to strengthen our partnership and reinforce the prosperity, peace and security of our peoples.

Yours sinush. Nish: 87

His Excellency Mr Irakli Garibashvili