

Statement from The Republic of Abkhazia on Remarks Made by President Saakashvili About Berlin Wall in Abkhazia



"When Georgian President Saakashvili accuses others of thwarting normal life in this region, as he did Sunday, he needs to look in a mirror. He is the one who has used his Western-trained and equipped military to threaten our people with violence and terrorism, forcing us to bolster our borders with Russian help. He is the one who has illegally seized ships whose only crime was attempting to bring household goods and construction materials to our ports. He is the one who has imposed a political and economic embargo against us, a diplomatic 'Berlin Wall,' to persuade foreigners not to visit Abkhazia's beautiful beaches and to prevent our citizens from visiting other countries for medical care or schooling.

President Saakashvili also said Sunday that Georgia is an enlightened place where people can choose their own way of life. The world must question the moral authority he has to make such a claim. The President's emotional rhetoric is filled with falsehoods and irrational hostility. His supporters in the West should think carefully before adding more fuel to his fire."

--Nadir Bitiev, Deputy Official Representative of the President of the Republic of Abkhazia