

An Association from Vicenza look out on Georgia

The Association of the Local Democracy Agencies, which headquarters is in Vicenza, has also a cooperation office in Georgia, currently under Russian bombs.

Actually the office is located in Kutaisi, in the central part of Georgia and began after the Rose Revolution, which took to the power Mikheil Saakashvili and lead to the conclusion of the long and corrupted reign of Shervardnadze.

Kutaisi is not an area of ethnic conflict as Abkhazia, Southern Ossezia and Adjara.

That is why ALDA decided to set up there its new Agency which could therefore focus on the development of the local democracy by working with NGOs and local authorities.

Antonella Valmorbida, director of ALDA, says that the atmosphere had noticeably been wound-up and unstable for a long time, since the LDA had constantly to change stakeholders: six mayors came one after the other in three years in Kutaisi.

She also stresses her personal concern for the LDA manager in Georgia, M. Joseph Khakhaleishvili, which is not fortunately under life danger, even though the city airport has been stricken, and there was an attack to Gori which is right on the way from Kutaisi to Tbilisi. The eastern side of Georgia is somehow cut off from the coordination of the capital.

ALDA will soon inform the Georgian Ambassade within the Council of Europe about the evolution of the situation overthere, and will continue to monitor on it.

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