



## Rally in support of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church takes place in Tbilisi

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On 1<sup>st</sup> September 2024, a rally in support of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church took place in the centre of Tbilisi, Sputnik Georgia **reports**.

As the demonstrators pointed out, the law recently adopted in Ukraine creates an opportunity for banning the canonical Church and is an infringement on religious values of the entire Orthodox world. “We have expressed support to our Orthodox brothers and sisters in Ukraine,” the rally organizer, Gulbaat Tskhiladze, said, “The Law No. 8371 is directly aimed at banning the Ukrainian Orthodox Church which is the only canonical Orthodox Church in the territory of Ukraine.”

The protestors brought placards with them calling to protect the Kyiv-Caves Lavra and release Orthodox hierarchs and clergymen subjected to judicial prosecution in Ukraine, **reports** Izvestia.

One of the demonstrators read out a message to the Ukrainian Orthodox Christians that said: “Dear brothers and sisters, we reach out to you from Georgia – one of the oldest Christian countries. We are not indifferent to the fate of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church because there is one Orthodox Church of Christ, in which we are all united regardless of our nationality and citizenship.”

As **cited** by REN TV, the participants in the rally emphasised that the Ukrainian Orthodox shrines and holy sites are of no less importance to believers in Georgia. In their message, the protesters noted that the law adopted in Kyiv caused a stir in the whole Orthodox world. According to the demonstrators, such a step taken by the Ukrainian authorities is hostile to the entire Orthodoxy, including Orthodox Christians in Georgia.