



## LEPL National Wine Agency

### Report

2021

#### Introduction

The main direction of LEPL National Wine Agency activities is to promote development of viticulture and winemaking industry in Georgia. To achieve this goal, the National Wine Agency works in the following directions:

- Development of viticulture;
- Promotion of Georgian wine;
- Wine quality control;
- Vintage promotion activities;
- Research and popularization of Georgian vine culture;
- Development of the Georgian wine PDO system.

2021 was especially important for the wine industry in two directions: it was exported, the largest volume of wines in the history of independent Georgia, and in the main viticulture regions of the country, Kakheti and Racha-Lechkhumi, the viticulture cadaster program was

completed. In addition, in order to diversify the Georgian wine markets and increase their export potential, marketing activities were intensified in strategic markets: USA, UK, Germany, Poland, Baltics countries, China and Japan. In 2021, significant steps were taken towards improvement of the monitoring of the quality of Georgian wine and spirits, significant legislative changes were made for the development of the sector, an organized vintage was held during the pandemic, and all growers were given the opportunity to accommodate their crops.

### **Wine and Spirits Exports**

Georgia exported 107 million bottles of wine to 62 countries in 2021, which is a historically high figure during the period of independent Georgia.

Revenue from exported wine reached \$ 250 million, which is also a record.

The amount and the revenue from the exported wine has increased by 16% compared to the numbers in 2020.

In the strategic markets, where the National Wine Agency of Georgia is organizing the events for the popularization of Georgian wine, the dynamics of export growth is maintained: Poland - 34% (7,003,031), China - 29% (5,934,937), USA - 19% (1,084,278), Germany - 28% (892,348), Latvia - 19% (1,900,519), Lietuva - 45% (986,740), Japan- 12% (197,638) and UK- 71% (736,391).

The growth is significant in the following countries: Canada - 76% (332,182), Sweden - 76% (136,786), Czech Republic - 227% (148,002), Norway - 1047% (108,086), Israel - 50% (480,007), Kazakhstan - 47% (4,232,446), Azerbaijan - 35% (246,635), Turkey - 260% (108,570), Ukraine - 21% (12,921,321), Russia - 8% (62,115,759), Mongolia - 158% (484,902), Belarus - 33% (4,886,393) etc.

In 2021, the share of the Russian Market in the total number of the export was 57%, which is the lowest data during the years after the resumed export to Russia, as well as during the embargo.

This is the first time during the period of independent Georgia, when the export of Georgian wine to the US have exceeded 1 million bottles.

441 companies exported different volumes of wine from Georgia.

In addition, during the reporting period, 42.2 million bottles (0.5 l) of brandy were exported, which is 30% more than the same figure for 2020. Revenue from the brandy exports reached \$ 78.3 million (up 19%).

In 2021, 1 million bottles (0.5 l) of Chacha were exported, the export growth was 145%. Revenue from chacha exports reached \$ 2.6 million; The growth, compared to the same period last year, was 126%.

Exports of wine, brandy, Chacha, brandy spirits and brandy on tap generated \$ 400 million in revenue, up 18% from the same period in 2020.

### **Vineyards Cadaster Program**

In 2021, the vineyard cadaster program was completed in Kakheti and Racha-Lechkhumi regions, which is important for the development of the viticulture and winemaking sector and the promotion of quality wine production. This year, 26,540 hectares of vineyards in Kakheti and Racha-Lechkhumi regions were registered within the framework of the Vineyard Cadaster Program. During the vintage 2021, all viticulturists, a total of 23 thousand farmers, handed over the grapes to the enterprises with the extract of the vineyard cadaster.

In order to implement the program, field work was conducted to collect cadastral information about vineyards in Kakheti and Racha-Lechkhumi viticulture regions. A group of operators

was trained for this purpose, a total of 103 people. Registration of viticulturists in Kakheti and issuance of vineyard extracts started in 2019. In 2019-2020, cadastral extract of up to 15 thousand vineyards was issued; In 2021, a cadastral extract was issued to a total of 25,780 viticulturist farmers.

The National Wine Agency has been implementing the Georgian Vineyard Cadaster Program since 2014. The program registered a total area of 40 thousand hectares of vineyards. The establishment of the Georgian National Vineyard Cadaster will ensure the simplification and transparent conduct of the vintage process, traceability and quality assurance of produced wine and other grape products.

Vineyard Cadaster is created by collection of detailed information about the identification and registration of each vineyard plot - location of the vineyard, vine varieties, date of planting, condition of the vineyard, etc.

The vineyard cadaster is available in all EU member states where the viticulture and winemaking industry is developed. Georgia will share and establish another important European experience by creating a vineyard cadaster.

In 2022, the program will be implemented in the regions of Eastern Georgia and in the future will include all viticulture regions of Georgia.

### **Georgian Wine Promotion**

Despite the difficulties caused by the world pandemic, the measures aimed at promotion and raising the awareness of Georgian wine continued actively in 2021, which, in turn, had an impact on the growth of awareness and popularity of Georgian wine, that was directly reflected in export figures.

In 2021, the following events organized and supported by the National Wine Agency should be noted:

- From March 3 to April 1, 2021, the exhibition "Georgia the Cradle of Winemaking" was held at the Korea Foundation Gallery in Seoul, the capital of South Korea. The exhibition featured archeological samples found in Georgia and a unique photo archive from the National Museum, which allowed visitors to learn about Georgia's 8,000-year-old wine-making tradition.
- On April 23, an online tasting of Georgian wine was held in the UK. The online presentation of Georgian wine was led by Sarah Abbott, a British Master of Wine and head of the "Swril Wine Group", a contractor for the National Wine Agency. The tasting was attended by wine professionals, wine traders and media representatives, who were sent samples of wines from 10 different Georgian wine companies in advance.
- On May 5, the National Wine Agency organized an online seminar "German Wine Market" for Georgian producers. About 40 Georgian wine companies participated in the seminar, which was led by experts from the National Wine Agency contractor "ff.k Public Relations" company. Wine producers were given the opportunity to get acquainted with the structure of the German wine market, major German importers, methods of finding business partners, customer priorities, to assess the strengths and weaknesses of production, export potential and barriers.
- The main concept of the tasting, which took place on May 18 in Tokyo, Japan, as part of the "Double World Heritage" event, was to combine Georgian wine with the traditional Japanese cuisine "Vashoku". The event was led by Kenichi Ohashi, Master of Wine, Director of Red Bridge, a contracting marketing company of the National Wine Agency, and Satoru Mori, a well-known Japanese sommelier. Journalists, bloggers, wine writers and professionals participated in the tasting in Tokyo. They tasted the Georgian wines that are already sold in the Japanese market.

- On May 21-24, Georgian wine was presented at the prestigious French gastronomic festival "SAVIM Printemps Salon des Vignerons et de la Gastronomie", organized by the contracting company of the National Wine Agency "Le Pont Caucasien". The festival was held in the city of Marseilles and was attended by importers of wines from different countries in the French market. The head of the company "Le Pont Caucasien", Enolomai Ilia Kakholdze introduced the wines of the festival, which are already sold in France. The festival "SAVIM Printemps Salon des Vignerons et de la Gastronomie" has been held since 1989 and is considered one of the leading gastronomic events.
- On May 28, an online tasting of Georgian wine was organized by the agency's contractor, Marq Energie Consulting company in the United States. About 60 local sommelier, wine writer and importer, as well as Georgian wine producers participated in it. The online event was hosted by the head of Marq Energie Consulting Julie Peterson and American top sommelier Taylor Parsons. Wine professionals had the opportunity to taste pre-sent Western Georgian wines that are already on the US market.
- On May 30, in the city of Krakow, Poland, a presentation of Georgian wine was organized by the contractor of the National Wine Agency, Malinova. The event was attended by sommelier, restaurateurs, wine writers and media representatives from Krakow and Katowice. The tasting mainly represented 10 wines of small cellars from Kartli, Kakheti and Imereti, which are not yet exported to the Polish market. The presentation of Georgian wine in Krakow was led by wine journalist Mariusz Kapczynski and the head of the company "Malinova" Marcin Sviatkov.
- On June 10, the agency's contractor marketing company Meiburg Wine Media, organized a Georgian wine tasting for local wine professionals in Hong Kong. The event was hosted by Debra Meiburg, Head of Meiburg Wine Media, who introduced the history of Georgian wine, modern and traditional winemaking technologies to the

participants. The attendees of the event were given the opportunity to taste up to 10 different types of wine.

- On June 12-13, the second Saperavi International Competition was held in Georgia. The competition, initiated and organized by the Georgian Wine Association, aims to raise awareness of Saperavi and its various wines. Up to 70 producers presented about 250 wine samples made from different Saperavi grape varieties with different technologies. This type of competitions support the improvement of the quality of wine made from Saperavi grapes, which is important for the development of the wine industry in the country, because the largest share of exports comes from wines made from Saperavi.
- On June 18, within the framework of Georgian wine promotion, Georgian wine tasting seminar was held at the Le Meridian Hotel in Monaco. Sommeliers tasted and rated different types of wines from five Georgian companies with different dishes. The event was attended by 95 invited guests, including industry experts, sommelier, potential importers and representatives of the international association "Epicure Club Monaco". The tasting-seminar was organized by the international association "Epicure Club Monaco" and the contractor of the National Wine Agency, the Georgian wine importer company "LE PONT CAUCASIEN".
- On June 22, a Georgian wine tasting was organized in London by the contractor of the National Wine Agency, the British company "Swirl Wine Group". Local importers of Georgian wine presented more than 50 different brands of Georgian wine that are already available in the UK market. In addition, more than 100 wines of about 50 Georgian wine companies were presented, which at this stage, with the support of the National Wine Agency, are trying to establish Georgian wine in the strategic, UK market.
- On June 24, Georgian wine tasting was organized by the contractor of the National Wine Agency "Malinova" company in the historical settlement of "Srebrna Gora" near

the city of Krakow. Georgian wines were presented both made by the classical method and traditional technology in Qvevri. The tasting was attended by wine professionals, restaurateurs, sommelier, wine trade and media representatives, a total of about 70 guests. The tasting featured 14 wines of different denominations, including products of companies that, with the support of the National Wine Agency, are now establishing in the Polish wine market.

- Georgian wine tasting was held on July 30 at the Georgian Wine Promotion Center in Beijing. Dr. Huang Yutong spoke about the diversity, history and culture of Georgian wine in front of professional guests, and the tasting was led by wine professional Cassidy Dart. About 50 distributors, sommelier and representatives of the food industry attended the presentation of Georgian wine. These wine samples were selected by Georgian wine importers in China.
- With the support of the National Wine Agency and the organization of the contractor company Malinova, Georgian wine tastings were held on August 17 in Krakow and on August 18 in Katowice. In these cities of Poland there were presented Georgian wines made by the classical method and traditional technology in Qvevri, including products of companies that, with the support of the National Wine Agency, are now establishing their place in the Polish wine market. The tasting was attended by wine professionals, restaurateurs, sommelier, wine trade and media representatives and was led by the head of the publishing house "Vinisfera" Mariusz Kapczynski.
- Seminar / tasting was held by the contractor of the National Wine Agency "ff.k Public Relations" with the four largest wine importing companies: Vinocentral - August 16; Weinladen – August 26 ; Belvini.de - August 27 and Pellegrini - August 27. The purpose of the event was to present Georgian wine as a strong, promising, diverse and quality brand. This type of communication ensures the connection of Georgian wine producers with potential importers and increases the interest in Georgian wine in the market.



- On September 9, Georgian wine tasting was held in Poznan, Poland, with the support of the National Wine Agency and organization of publishing house Vinisfera. The tasting in Poznan is important to increase the awareness of Georgian wine in the strategic Polish market. In Poznan, mainly those wines were presented, which, with the support of the National Wine Agency, are now gaining a foothold in the Polish market.
- On September 13, the presentation of Georgian wine was held in Matsumoto, Japan. The event was hosted by Kenichi Ohashi, Master of Wine, Director of Red Bridge Contracting Marketing Company, and famous Japanese sommelier Motohiro Okoshi. Georgian wine was presented in Nagano for the first time and its goal was to increase the awareness of Georgian wine among consumers and to promote sales in the wine trade market. The tasting was attended by 35 representatives of restaurants, wine bars, hotel chains.
- On September 27, a Georgian wine presentation event was organized by the National Wine Agency and the marketing company Marq Energie Consulting in the United States. Georgian wine tasting for importers, wine professionals, representatives of media, restaurants and trade chains which was held at Maydan, one of the famous Michelin star restaurants in Washington, DC. The event featured Georgian wines that are already on sale in the US market and up to 60 samples that are not yet known to American consumers.
- Georgian wine was presented in Tokyo on October 19. The event was attended by local importers, including representatives of large Japanese companies. The presentation on the history and modernity of Georgian winemaking was made by the director of the National Wine Agency contractor marketing company "Red Bridge", the famous master of wine, Kenichi Ohashi. 13 different Georgian wines were presented at the tasting.

- On October 22, at an event in New York City, USA, 120 Georgian wines were presented by 10 local importers, which are already successfully sold in the US market. In addition, potential importers had the opportunity to get acquainted with samples of 118 wines that American consumers are not yet familiar with. The event, organized by the contractor of the National Wine Agency, marketing company "Marq Energie Consulting", was attended by over 100 representatives of the wine trade and media. In order to increase the export potential of Georgian wine, similar tastings were held in October in Washington and San Francisco.
- On October 29-30, in the capital of the Swiss Confederation, Bern, within the framework of the festival "FERNWEH", "Georgian Wine Forum" was held, which is especially important for promoting the awareness and export of Georgian wine. The Mayor of Bern, Alec von Graffenried, attended the Wine Forum and got acquainted with the history of Georgian winemaking and the wines presented by Georgian wine companies. Wine professionals and interested people had the opportunity to get acquainted with different types of wines presented by Georgian companies for two days.
- On November 5, at the international exhibition "EnoExpo 2021" in Krakow, Poland, the wines of 20 Georgian wine companies were presented, which are not currently sold in the Polish market. As part of the exhibition, tasting of Qvevri wines produced by small wineries was also held, attended by wine professionals, sommelier, wine trade and media representatives. The tasting was led by Mariusz Kapczynski, head of the publishing house "Vinisfera".
- Within the framework of the Georgian Wine Forum, a conference was held at the University of Pennsylvania on November 9 to focus on Georgian wine culture and history, new pandemic challenges in the wine sector, Georgian wine promotion and marketing strategies, and action plans. Within the framework of the forum, a tasting seminar "Amber Wine Festival in Boston" for wine professionals was held in Boston,

and in Philadelphia, a tasting of Georgian wine was held for local distributors, importers, restaurant chains and media representatives.

- On November 27, with the support of the National Wine Agency and the Georgian Wine Club, the 12th New Wine Festival was held in Mtatsminda Park. About 150 wine producers, including about 100 small family cellars from different parts of Georgia participated in the festival. The guests tasted wines of vintage 2020 from different regions of Georgia. The main goal of the festival is to popularize Georgian wine and increase consumer culture.
- On November 26, the Georgian wine tasting in Cologne, Germany was organized by the National Wine Agency contractor company "ff.k Public Relations" and was led by representatives of the German Sommelier Association. Representatives of local hotels, restaurants and trade chains attended the event to increase the awareness of Georgian wine and its export potential. Wines made by both Qvevri and classical technology were presented at the tasting by 20 Georgian wine companies.
- From November 29 to December 3, with the support of the National Wine Agency and "Interco Nouvelle-Aquitaine", a study visit of Georgian winemakers was held in France. The joint project of the National Wine Agency and the International Cooperation Agency "Interco Nouvelle-Aquitaine" aims to share experience and promote cooperation between Georgian and French wine producers; The project is especially important for the promotion of Georgian wine and culture in France. Within the framework of the project, Georgian winemakers attended the international exhibition "SITEVI" in Montpellier, France, and visited French viticulture in Bordeaux, where they got acquainted with historical wine cellars, vine care and wine making methods.
- On December 8, Georgian wine tasting was held in London. The event was hosted by Sarah Abbott, Master of Wine, head of the National Wine Agency contractor British company Swirl Wine Group. Along with the tasting of Georgian wines, the presentation of Sarah Abbott included an introduction to the culture and history of

Georgian wine. Unique Georgian wines made by both Qvevri and classical methods were presented at the tasting. The event was aimed at promoting the growth of Georgian wine consumers in the UK. The event was attended by about 80 guests, wine professionals and consumers, who were introduced Georgian wines by 13 local importers.

- The presentation of Georgian wine called "Georgian Wine Roadshow" was held in three cities of the People's Republic of China, Shanghai (December 15), Chengdu (December 17) and Shenzhen (December 20). The presentation of Georgian wine was led by Master of Wine Julien Boulard MW. Julien Boulari, is one of five wine professionals selected by the National Wine Agency contractor marketing company Meiburg Wine Media as part of the Georgian Wine Education Program, who lead seminars and educational events in China to promote Georgian wine. Within the framework of the events, Julien Boulard introduced the guests to the history of Georgia, Georgian wine culture, main varieties of Georgian vines, viticulture regions and important aspects of winemaking;
- Georgian wine was presented at the Krakow Christmas Festival. At the Christmas festival in Krakow, various Georgian wines were presented by the National Wine Agency contractor "Malinova" company ("Malinova spółka z ograniczoną odpowiedzialnością S.K"). Representatives of the company, along with wine tasting, introduced the history and culture of Georgian wine to the festival guests.

**In order to increase the export potential of Georgian wine, in September 2021, the Government of Georgia approved the "State Program for the Promotion of Georgian Wine".**

The program aims to increase the export potential, competitiveness and awareness of Georgian wine in international markets, to diversify strategic and priority export markets. The program will be implemented by the LEPL National Wine Agency, in coordination with the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia.

The National Wine Agency will co-finance marketing expenditures within the assignments allocated to it only for companies that export to priority markets and to countries worldwide except for the CIS countries.

The agency implementing the program is the LEPL National Wine Agency, and the potential beneficiary is an entrepreneur, natural or legal person registered in Georgia, registered in the electronic database of the LEPL National Wine Agency and exporting/will export Georgian wine and with whom a contract can be concluded on payment.

### **Vintage 2021**

In 2021, the activities of the National Wine Agency were mainly focused on the preparation and conduct of the organized vintage. The vintage coordination HQ was opened in Telavi on August 20.

About 250 large, small and medium-sized cellars were involved in the grape processing process. This allowed the grapes to be delivered without interruption.

243 thousand tons of grapes were processed in Georgia. Up to 23 thousand viticulturists earned more than 270 million GEL from the sale of grapes. 145 thousand tons of processed grapes are Rkatsiteli, 81 thousand tons - Saperavi, 4.5 thousand tons – Kakhuri Mtsvane, 1.7 thousand tons are Alexandroul-Mujuretuli and other different grapes.

According to the decision of the Government of Georgia, a subsidy program has been launched to support the 2021 vintage. Under the "Vintage Promotion Measures" sub-program, in Kakheti region, the subsidy was given only to the wine company that purchased and processed at least 100 tons of Rkatsiteli or Kakhuri Mtsvane grapes grown in Kakheti region during the 2021 vintage and played no less than 0.90 GEL for 1kg. In exchange for the purchase of 1 kg of grapes grown in Kakheti region, subsidies were issued to wine companies: a) for 1 kg of

Rkatsiteli - 0.35 GEL; B) for 1 kg of Kakhuri Mtsvane - 0.35 GEL. In Racha-Lechkhumi region, the subsidy was received by all the companies that bought and processed at least 3 tons of Alexandrouli and Mujuretuli grapes grown in the Khvanchkara micro-zone and paid at least 7 GEL to the viticulturist for 1 kg of grapes. The amount of the subsidy was 3 GEL per 1 kg of both Alexandrouli and Mujuretuli grapes.

This was the first vintage when farmers handed grapes over enterprises based on the viticulture cadaster extract issued by the National Wine Agency.

During the harvest, the disaster damaged crops several times. On August 26, heavy hail and wind damaged 4600 hectares of vineyards in Kakheti region, Gurjaani, Telavi and Kvareli municipalities. The "Crop Management Company" started receiving and processing the hail-damaged grapes on the second day after the disaster, on August 27. On September 2, hail repeated in Kvareli and Telavi, damaging 180 hectares of vineyards.

As of September 7, up to 15,000 tons of hail-damaged grapes were fully housed in the Kakheti region by the state-owned enterprise Crop Management Company Ltd. The income of the viticulturists reached 13 million GEL through the sale of hail-damaged grapes. Grape growers handed over 1 kg of damaged Rkatsiteli for 0.80 GEL and 1 kg of Saperavi for 1 GEL.

By the decision of the government, the viticulturists, who were 100% destroyed by the hail, received 3000 GEL per hectare area as a one-time compensation.

- It should be noted that during the vintage period, the National Wine Agency employed 150 young people living in the Kakheti region as operators. The young people were selected as a result of interviews conducted in different municipalities of Kakheti. For the selected candidates, trainings of the vintage accounting program were conducted by specialists of the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture at the Vintage Coordination HQs. The vintage accounting program has been operating in the

country since 2013. The program provides complete data collection on delivered grapes, which is important for the production of high quality wine. Some of the employees had similar working experience from the vintages of previous years.

- Coordination staff members were vaccinated - the vast majority of agency staff, including members of the vintage coordinating staff, had already been vaccinated twice. In order to maximize the health of the members of the Coordination Staff and to ensure the smooth running of the vintage process, the staff members were tested twice a week.

### **Georgian Wine Quality**

One of the main goals of the National Wine Agency is to promote high quality Georgian wine. The agency is actively working to ensure that tens of millions of bottles of Georgian wine are produced to meet international standards. Due to the above, since June, international audit companies have been involved in the process of monitoring the quality of Georgian export wine. According to the new regulation, the inspection of certified export Georgian wine is carried out by the international audit companies "SGS" and "Bureau Veritas" in the Customs Clearance Zone. The involvement of the independent, authoritative international companies SGS (Switzerland) and Bureau Veritas (France) is important for the monitoring process in order to export the wine that has already been certified. The initiative came from the private wine sector and aims to ensure greater transparency in the quality of export wine. Until now, inspections have been carried out by the company in the process of submitting an export certification application. With the involvement of international auditing companies, it became possible to inspect a certified wine for export in the Customs Clearance Zone.

## **Inspection control**

In order to control the quality of wine and spirits, in 2021, 50 state controls and state supervision were carried out, 700 samples were taken, the number of violations was 6. 41 inspections were carried out, 116 samples were taken, 3 of which were refused certification. International auditing companies SGS and Bureau Veritas carried out 166 inspections in the Customs Clearance Zone, 324 samples were taken, and 20 certificates were canceled.

## **Tastings**

For organoleptic testing of alcohols, 275 tastings were conducted, 12,527 samples were entered, 688 were evaluated negatively and the rest were evaluated positively.

## **Certification**

A total of 11,956 applications were submitted for certification to obtain export documentation. Based on the submitted applications, various documents were issued:

Form VI-1 certificate / for EU countries / - 8389 pieces; Certificate of Conformity - 10244 pieces; A total of 18,633 certificates have been issued by the Certification Division of the National Wine Agency to various alcoholic beverage companies.

## **PDO wines**

### **Qyevri Receives Status of Protected Geographical Indication**



Qvevri became the first non-food product to be added to the State Register of Appellations of Origin and Geographical Indications.

Qvevri standards have been established, The Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture has detailed the registration criteria of Qvevri , including raw materials, shape, description, size and capacity, production technology etc. Adherence to these characteristics will be another step towards improving the quality of Georgian wine.

The protection of Qvevri as a geographical indication is especially important for Georgia, with the oldest 8000-year tradition of winemaking.

Making wine by the Georgian traditional method is connected to the national clay wine vessel - Qvevri. Qvevri-making is another result of the intellect of the Georgian people. Traceability system is coordinated by Qvevri PGI or other authorized organization. The product should include the marking of the authorized organization.

### **The 25<sup>th</sup> PDO wine “Maghraani Kisi” is registered**

“Maghraani Kisi” has been added to the protected designations of origin registered in Georgia. "Maghraani Kisi" should be: white dry and amber dry. Maghraani micro-zone includes the villages: Maghraani, Pichkhovani, Argokhi and Babaneuri. Grapes intended for the production of wine "Maghraani Kisi" should be harvested only from vineyards cultivated in the Maghraani microzone.

"Maghraani Kisi" can be made only from Kisi grapes (synonym - "Maghraanuli Kisi").

## Georgian Vine and Wine Culture Research Project

• The final version of the manuscript and the project proposal for the publication of a bilingual (Georgian and English) book "Climate Analysis for Modern Georgian Viticulture: A Practical Guide for Viticulturists" were prepared. The book will be published in the first quarter of 2022.

The final scientific article was published:

Bouby L., Wales N., Jalabadze M., Rusishvili N., Bonhomme V., Ramos-Madriral J., Evin A., Ivorra S., Lacombe T., Pagnoux C., Boaretto E., Gilbert M.T.P., Bacilieri R., Lordkipanidze D., Maghradze D. 2021. Tracing the history of grapevine cultivation in Georgia by combining geometric morphometric and ancient DNA. *Vegetation History and Archaeology* 30 (1): 63-71 DOI:10.1007/s00334-020-00803-0

Articles were also published during the reporting period:

- 1) Vine and wine culture in Georgia: a scientific project of the National Wine Agency. *Museum and Cultural Heritage*, VI-VII, 998 - 1023.
- 2) d. Maghradze, L. Marian, r. Chipashvili, 2021. One Unknown Picture of a Colchian Wild Vine. *wild nature*. 13 (38) Winter, p. 72-75.

The following scientific articles were published:

- 1) Bonhomme V., Ivorra S., Lacombe T., Evin A., Figueiral I., Maghradze D., Marchal C., Pagnoux C., Pastor T., Pomarèdes H., Bacilieri R., Terral J-F. & Bouby L. 2021. Pip shape echoes grapevine domestication history. *Scientific Reports* (2021) 11:21381. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-021-00877-4>
- 2) Maghradze D., Bacilieri R., Failla O., Laucou V., Lacombe T., Rustioni L., S. Imazio, P. This, G. De Lorenzis, F. Quaglino, P. Bianco, N. Bitsadze, Mdinaradze I., Chipashvili R., Ujmajuridze L., Melyan G., Salimov V., Maul E., Ocete R., Troshin L. *Authoethnous Grapevine*

Biodiversity of the Caucasus Region. Materials of the First International Conference on Vranac and other Montenegrin autochthonous grapevine varieties. 20th – 22nd of November 2017, Podgorica, Montenegro. Vol. 22: p. 65-79.

3) Sargolzaei M., Rustioni L., Cola G., Ricciardi V., Bioanco P.A., Maghradze D., Failla O., Quaglino F., Toffolatti S.L., De Lorenzis G. 2021. Georgian Grapevine Cultivars: Ancient Biodiversity for Future Viticulture. *Frontiers in Plant Science* 12. 05 February 2021.

<https://doi.org/10.3389/fpls.2021.630122>

- The activities of the National Wine Agency are actively covered in printed, electronic, social and television media

(<http://wine.gov.ge/>, <https://www.facebook.com/nationalwineagency/>,  
<https://www.facebook.com/Wines.of.Georgia/> , [https://twitter.com/Georgian\\_wine](https://twitter.com/Georgian_wine) ,  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0CPwXo8f7-QA329kmicFwQ>)