



Training on document fraud detection in Tbilisi

From Training to Practice: Strengthening Georgia's Knowledge of Border Control

Effective border management depends on the ability of officers to make informed decisions quickly and accurately. Border control officers must identify forged documents, recognise suspicious behaviour, collect and share data for investigation, detect potential victims of trafficking and cooperate across borders. As migration patterns and document fraud techniques evolve, these tasks require practical, up-to-date skills. Between 2022 and 2025, Prometheus II helped Georgian authorities strengthen these capacities through specialised training, expert exchanges, operational cooperation with EU Member States, deployment opportunities for Georgian officers and the delivery of equipment. Together, these activities helped **turn cooperation into practical expertise that Georgian officers could apply at border crossing points, share with colleagues and embed within their institutions.**

Stronger skills for detecting fraud and risks

Participants of training on document fraud detection



Through 14 training sessions, European police officers from France, Italy, Latvia and Spain brought up-to-date operational practices directly to Georgian officers. The sessions focused on the latest trends in document fraud and behavioural analysis. Through practical exercises and real-life examples, Prometheus II helped officers strengthen skills they use every day, from spotting forged documents to identifying potential trafficking risks. **More than 90% of the 225 officers trained said the training helped them perform their duties more effectively.**

A key contribution of the project was its **practical approach to learning, with trainers using real-life examples and simulations.** In the words of one participant *"The most valuable part of these trainings for me was the practical part, where experts showed seized forged documents. Working on these provided the most significant information about the new trends in forgery we see today."*

Interviewed participants reported greater confidence in identifying irregularities and applying new skills at border crossing points.

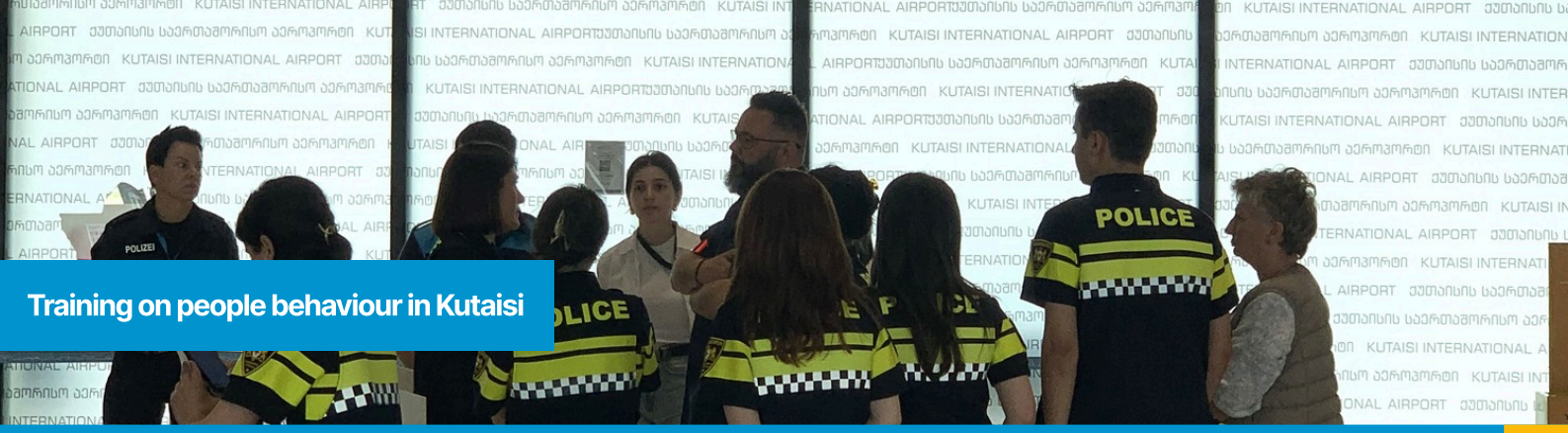
Taking expertise closer to the border

Prometheus II took training beyond the capital Tbilisi to reach officers in several locations across Georgia, including Kutaisi and Sarpi. By covering both airports and land borders, the project included key border crossing points and reflected different regional migration patterns. As one representative of Georgian authorities explained, *“Migration flows differ across regions. In Adjara and at the Sarpi border crossing, officers face specific migration patterns, so the training was adapted to reflect the realities of each location.”* This made specialised training more accessible to officers working outside Tbilisi and **helped ensure that knowledge reached the locations where it was needed most.**



Learning through exchange

Training was complemented by hands-on exchanges with European counterparts. Through deployments at French airports, two Georgian officers gained direct exposure to European practices in passenger profiling and information exchange. Working alongside European colleagues allowed them to compare procedures, observe different approaches and strengthen professional networks. As one officer noted: *“This deployment in France gives me the opportunity to enhance my proficiency and refine my skillset, which will be valuable when I return and share my experience with colleagues.”* The exchange also brought practical benefits for European counterparts. Having Georgian officers on site helped them verify Georgian travel and identity documents more accurately, including when checking for possible fraud. **In this way, the deployments supported mutual learning and made cooperation more useful for both Georgian and EU officials.**



Training on people behaviour in Kutaisi

Knowledge that lasts

Prometheus II supported learning at both individual and institutional levels. Participants used the new methods in their own work, while also sharing them with colleagues within their organisations. This helped the knowledge move beyond individual trainees. In addition, some participants came from key Ministry of Internal Affairs institutions, including the MIA Academy, creating potential for new methods to be reflected in future training and institutional practice. As one participating trainer explained: *“By teaching others using these new methods, I can pass the knowledge on to future officers. This means the benefits of the training extend beyond my own work and become part of the system.”*

About the MPF

This grant project is part of the EU-funded Migration Partnership Facility (MPF), managed by the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) to support the external dimension of the EU's migration policy. MPF funds projects that promote dialogue and cooperation on migration and mobility between EU Member States and partner countries outside the EU.

About the project

PROMETHEUS II was implemented under the EU-funded Migration Partnership Facility (MPF) and aimed to strengthen the capacity of Georgian authorities to manage migratory flows and respond to irregular migration. It supported the Georgian Border and Patrol Police, specialised investigators and relevant Ministry of Internal Affairs structures through training, expert exchanges, equipment delivery, institutional support and cooperation with EU counterparts from France, Italy, Latvia and Spain. The project also contributed to improving investigative capacities to detect and dismantle organised criminal networks linked to migration-related crime.

About the evaluation

This Impact Note draws on findings from the final evaluation of the Prometheus II project, conducted between August 2025 and February 2026. The evaluation combined desk review and interviews online and in Georgia. The evaluation was led by Policy Impact Lab, which forms part of a consortium of six consultancies and NGOs: Blomeyer & Sanz, Diversity Development Group, Migration Policy Group, Policy Impact Lab, Samuel Hall and Tandans.

