

## **Georgia**

### **Protection of Country Names**

#### **Legal basis**

Issues related to the use of the name of the country as a trademark in Georgia is regulated by the Trademark Law of Georgia.

#### **Scope of protection**

According to the Article 4.1 (i) Trademark Law of Georgia a symbol or their combination shall not be registered as a trademark if, it completely or in any of its constituent elements coincides with the national emblems or the flags, emblem or full or abbreviated names of foreign states; such a sign may be included in a trademark, as a feature not qualifying for protection.

Use of word "Georgia" in the trademark is regulated in the different way. It can be used as an included element of the trademark if the permission of the Ministry of Culture or the holder has been obtained. Word "Georgia" will be used in a trademark as a feature not qualifying for protection.

#### **Procedure**

Permission obtained from the ministry shall be submitted on the stage of substantial examination. If the permission is not submitted Sakpatenti takes the decision to leave it without consideration.