



Mass demonstration and civil encounter in the street of Tbilisi, 1991. From the collection of Ani Gagua

# GEORGIA

## TASK 3

### Discussion

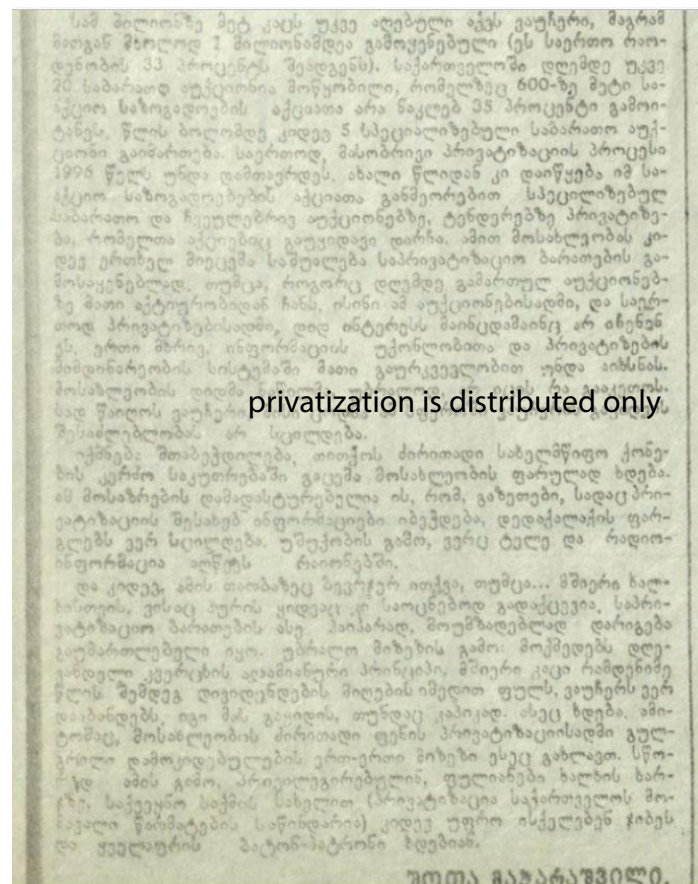
### Economy during the transition

For pupils from 7th grade onwards  
Duration: 25 minutes  
Priority - for local, Georgian audience.  
Might be used in international format

**Watch the documentary footage from 1990's Tbilisi**  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E7C8eFFjAAo&t=3s>

### Read the quote from the article about “Privatization”

Quote:  
“...More than 3 000 000 people already received Vouchers, but only 1 million managed to use it (approx. 33%). In Georgia 20 auctions have been held, where more than 600 companies offered approx. 35 % of their stock papers. Until the end of the year there must be 5 special stock auctions to be held, as mass privatization should end by 1996. From the new year there will be additional auctions of those entities, whose stock papers weren't sold yet - to let the citizens who couldn't use their Vouchers yet to do it, but as we see according to the current behaviors of citizens, they aren't too interested in auctions and privatization. On one hand it's because of the lack of information and on the other hand it's because of the majority of citizens can't understand the whole system of privatization and prefers just to sell their Vouchers.

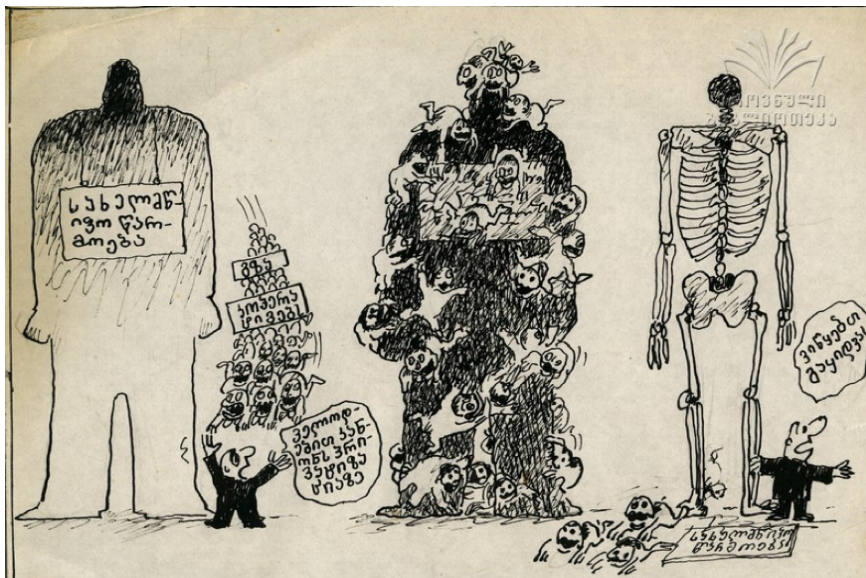


privatization is distributed only

Society has the impression that a major part of state property being transferred to the ownership of individuals is done secretly, as newspapers where information about the privatization is distributed only in the capital city and because of energy-crisis TV and radio channels couldn't cover the regional areas.

Also, it was said many times, but... People who are hungry, who dream even to buy the daily bread, when they are given Vouchers without preparation and in such a fast manner, they are acting based on their basic instincts. A hungry man couldn't wait for the dividends after several years and turned to sell his Voucher even for a penny. And it happens today. Because of this the majority of the population is absent from the privatization. Accordingly, the privileged, rich part of society uses such an opportunity and officially declares its behaviors as a patriotic step, in reality absorbing and stealing the people's property."

### Use the cartoon as an input for discussion



Inscription says: "State industry. We are waiting for the law about Privatization. We are starting a trade".

### Ask questions:

- What do you see in the video which speaks about the economic condition of citizens?
- What do you think is the best way to separate shared property?
- How would you use your "Voucher" (your symbolic share of state property) - sell or invest in industry, when you are an average citizen, with the same condition of life - demonstrated in the video?
- What do you think, who was able to buy state property in the 1990's?
- Can you identify the results of problematic "Privatization" in today's life?