

## Excellence in what we do

The Power of Permission: Why Consent Matters in Personal Data Processing

## 25 YEARS on the Market Legacy of Excellence

The year was 2000. Georgia was a young democracy, still grappling with the aftermath of political turmoil and conflicts. Wounds were fresh, and the country's economic prospects still uncertain. Would the country manage to transform from a post-Soviet bureaucracy to a liberal economy? No one knew for sure and the future was unclear.

But in a small office in Tbilisi's historic district, a few recently graduated lawyers — armed with American legal training and a shared sense of purpose — set out to build something that would withstand political changes, legal transformations, and clan mentality. Their goal was clear: to create a law firm defined by ethics, excellence, and unwavering dedication to clients' best interests.

Fast forward to 2025. BLC now stands as Georgia's largest law firm, with 30 lawyers and seven partners. Publicly available data suggests that BLC also leads the market in revenue, generating more than twice that of the second-ranked firm.

I first walked into BLC in 2008 as a third-year university student. I had no professional connections and no ties to the business community — just a strong work ethic and desire to learn. I never imagined that ten years later, I would become a partner at the same firm. And my story is not unique. Many of my colleagues — who have become dear friends — have walked a similar path.

When asked what sets BLC apart, I always answer without hesitation: this is the only major law firm in Georgia where five of its seven partners started their careers here and rose through the ranks without any family connections to or other affiliation with the founders. That is because BLC has cultivated a culture where merit, professionalism, loyalty, and client dedication matter more than social ties or personal networks

As our founding partner Alex Bolkvadze often says, the success of BLC is largely attributed to its team and the fact that "we hire clever people." These people have worked tirelessly to bring the firm to where it is today. As we celebrate 25 years, we have every reason to be proud.

Over the last quarter century, BLC has played a leading role in some of the most significant transactions and legal disputes in Georgia. We have also contributed to critical economic and legal reforms, including in the energy sector, capital markets, finance, civil procedure, and insolvency law. These efforts have helped shape Georgia's legal landscape as it exists today.

Our drive to always innovate, challenge conventions, and explore new frontiers has secured BLC's standing

not only on the local market, but also in top international rankings — consistently in a first-tier position across directories like Legal500, Chambers & Partners, and IFLR1000.

In 2025, we took our next big step: opening our first international office in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, under the BLC trademark. This makes BLC the first Georgian legal consultancy to expand internationally. With several other country offices in the pipeline, we believe that this step will mark a new and exciting chapter in the firm's history.

BLC's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary signifies a milestone of success, impact, and enduring positive effect marked by our company. It encompasses a journey marked by dedication, perseverance, innovation and commitment to higher standards, such as strong foundation and track record, continuous innovation and growth, building lasting relationships, making a positive impact, fostering the culture of dedication and collaboration and focus on future.

## Our greatest hope?

Our greatest hope is that 75 years from now, a new generation of partners will write a tribute to the firm's 100th anniversary. We can't predict what BLC will look like then—but we are confident that it will be built on the foundational principle, which is by now strongly engraved in our DNA: belief that the idea of BLC is exceedingly more than the mathematical sum of individuals working here, that there is always something new to learn, new ground to break, and mountains (who knows, maybe by then - even planets) to conquer!

Tamta Ivanishvili

Partner

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND ADVISE PLEASE CONTACT US:

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