

Biography

Levan Darbaidze is a judge with twelve years of judicial experience, an Affiliated Professor at the Caucasus University School of Law, Founder of the Child Rights Center, and Doctor of Law. Since 2001, he has worked in various public institutions, including as a prosecutor in the International Relations Division of the Prosecutor General's Office of Georgia for five years, and as Head of the Internal Control and Audit Service of the Civil Registry Agency of the Ministry of Justice of Georgia for six years. Since 2014, he has served as a judge in the field of criminal law, and since 2017, as a life-tenured judge in the Criminal Cases Panel of the Gori District Court. Since 2016, he has also been a specialized juvenile judge.

In addition, since 2006, he has been engaged in academic and teaching activities at various universities in the fields of criminal law, criminal procedure, juvenile justice, restorative justice, and judicial ethics. He is the author of four books and approximately thirty scholarly articles. In 2026, he co-authored the first-ever *Commentary on the Juvenile Justice Code* published in Georgia. His most recent international research project is a collected volume of articles published by Cambridge University Press in 2025.

Publications

1. *Some Legal and Practical Aspects of the Realization of Certain Procedural Rights of a Juvenile Witness (Potential Accused)*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 2024.
2. *Legal and Practical Challenges of Ensuring the Right to Protection of a Juvenile Witness*, international electronic journal *L'Europe Unie*, 2024.
3. In the collected volume published by Cambridge University Press, *Best Practices in a Child-Friendly Justice System and Child Rights: European and US Perspectives*, concept author and editor: Levan Darbaidze; article: "*The Crucial Legal and Practical Aspects of Realizing Procedural Rights for Juvenile Witnesses–Potential Accused*", Cambridge, United Kingdom, 2025.
4. *The Scope of Judicial Review in Adopting a Decision on Recognizing a Juvenile as a Victim*, online journal *Journal of Modern Education Review*, 2026.
5. *The Importance of the Institution of Recusal in the Context of Protecting the European Standard of Judicial Independence and Impartiality*, in *European Security and the Modern Constitutional State (The Example of Georgia)*, collection of articles by Georgian and European researchers, Tbilisi, 2021.
6. *Children's Rights as an Independent Academic Discipline in University and Specialization Programs*, collection of conference theses, Kutaisi, 2020.
7. Vasil Gonashvili, Levan Darbaidze, *Fundamental Human Rights and Freedoms (Georgian Legislation and Judicial Practice)*, textbook, Samshoblo Publishing, Tbilisi, 2019.
8. *Practical Aspects of the Realization of the Constitutional Right to Protection against Repeated Trial and Punishment, Justice and Law*, Tbilisi, 2016, No. 1(49).
9. *The Beginning of Georgian Parliamentarism or an Attempt to Limit State Power, Justice and Law*, Tbilisi, 2014, No. 1(40).
10. Levan Darbaidze, *The Legal Views of Alexander Amilakhvari*, monograph, Meridiani Publishing, Tbilisi, 2010.

11. *Practical Recommendations in Levan Darbaidze's Doctoral Dissertation — "The Legal Views of Alexander Amilakhvari"* (defended on 17 December 2009), in *Main Results and Perspectives of Scientific Research (2008–2010)*, Universali Publishing, Tbilisi, 2010.
12. *Religious Aspects of Alexander Amilakhvari's Legal Views*, *Kommersanti*, Tbilisi, 2009, No. 2(7).
13. *The Influence of the Ideas of the French Enlighteners on the Formation of Alexander Amilakhvari's Legal Views*, *Justice*, Tbilisi, 2009, No. 1.
14. *Alexander Amilakhvari and the European Enlightenment on the Formation of State Authority on a Contractual Basis*, *Kommersanti*, Tbilisi, 2009, No. 1(6).
15. *The Concept of Darbazi, Its Place and Significance in the State System of Medieval Georgia*, *Justice*, Tbilisi, 2007, No. 2.
16. *Several Important Georgian Historical Monuments on Crimes against the Human Person*, *Law*, Tbilisi, 2006, No. 1–2.
17. *Homicide in Old Georgian Law*, peer-reviewed electronic scientific journal, Tbilisi, 2005, No. 3.
18. *Monuments of Old Georgian Law and Major Legal Studies on Crimes against Human Life*, peer-reviewed electronic scientific journal, Tbilisi, 2005, No. 3.
19. *Comparative Legal Study on Juveniles' Access to Justice in Georgia*, official consultative body of the Council of Europe — International Association of Youth and Family Judges and Magistrates (AIMJF), Strasbourg, 2023.
20. *Legal and Practical Aspects of the Realization of the Right to Protection of a Juvenile Witness*, in *Essays on the History of Legal and Political Thought*, Book V, Tinatin Tsereteli Institute of State and Law, TSU, Tbilisi, 2024.
21. *Commentary on the Juvenile Justice Code*, first textbook of its kind, Levan Darbaidze, Renate Winter, Eka Areshidze, Meridiani Publishing, Tbilisi, 2026. The project was funded by the Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation of Georgia (Grant No. FR-23-13616).