

Feb, 2018



# The Grapevine

*The Newsletter of the  
International Women's Association, Georgia*

IWA Georgia strives to: welcome and assist newcomers to Georgia; foster goodwill and friendship among association members; build relationships between women of different cultures living in Georgia; provide the opportunity to socialize with each other; and enhance our members understanding of Georgia.

Barbara Kohler – IWA President,  
Who is Barbara, you ask?

Besides guiding us through the GBM - Barbara has not only organized the two most successful IWA winter fairs she was also the driving force that IWA –Georgia became a NGO- with charity status.

Between GBM she ensures the running of the board, makes sure all committee heads are on task and represents the IWA

She is also the wife of the Swiss ambassador, the winner of the DIPSKI race 2017 and 2018 and works from home as a supervisor of a famous Swiss actor and media artist...

Short: Barbara is a busy successful woman.



Yours, Petra

# Important Message



General information about elections of the board of IWA Georgia

- The board of IWAG is reformed every year.
- After the February General Business meeting, before the March GBM, the founding member, Nana Dvali, creates the Nominating Committee, consisting of 5 members. The only condition is, that the person who is at the Nominating Committee should not be taking a position on the board.
- Current board members can also be at the committee, in case if they are not planning to stay in the board.
- At the March General Business Meeting the Nominating Committee is presented to IWA members.
- The duty of the Nominating Committee members is to receive the names of the candidates. The plenum of the Nomination Committee discusses about potential members having skills for certain board positions. Individual members of the Nomination Committee contact these persons who are in focus to inspire them to run for the board function. Of course, in the first place we ask current board members whether they would like to be nominated again or not. This doesn't prevent new candidates to apply for board positions.
- After the March General Meeting until one day before the April GBM, the members who are willing to take a certain position on the board, can send their candidature to all members of the Nominating Committee and propose themselves.
- The candidates will be announced at the April GBM.
- After that, the nominations are closed, unless the position is still open. In this case, the search continues and the first candidacy will be nominated.
- In case we have two or more candidates running for the same position against each other, the Nominating Committee has to prepare the election ballots and to plan the elections. This is really a hard work.
- In case of having one candidate for each position, we present the candidates of the new board at the May General Business Meeting to vote/approve the board.
- 
- With kindest regards,
- Nana Dvali
- Founder
- IWA Georgia
- Nana\_dvali2002@yahoo.com

# Message from the President



- Short Summery
- Nana Dvali as founding member of IWA is responsible for the elections and introduced the procedure to the GBM
- (i) March GBM – Until March GBM a nominating committee of 5 people has to be formed by IWA members
- (ii) From the GBM in March and up to 1 day prior the GBM in April candidates who would like to be part of the board should apply for the individual positions.
- (iii) In this period the nominating committee should meet 2-3 times to review the list of candidates.
- (iv) Should more than 2 persons apply for the position the election committee will prepare the ballots for the GBM in May.
- (v) If only one person will apply for the position the new board will be approved by the GBM in May.

Please become involved! Sign up if you have more time to spare think of applying for a position on the board.



## **A CLOSER LOOK AT TWO OF IWA'S CPC (COMMUNITY PROJECT COMMITTEE'S )BENEFICIARIES**

BY THERESA WEINHEIMER

As a new member of the CPC, I would like to share my impressions of the work that this important committee has done on behalf of IWA Georgia.

Since I joined the committee, I have visited two major projects, the AVNG Women's Shelter in Tbilisi and the Community Center "Jejili" in Chiatura.

In Jejili, IWAG financed installing windows in two classrooms. Also changing the floor in dining room.

### **CHIATURA PROJECT**

This is one of two renovation projects for the NGO, Child and Environment, providing day centers for children of socially unprotected and financially disadvantaged families. The other center is "Sapovnela" in Rustavi. The Chiatura center provides assistance to 45 children, aged 6-18, on a daily basis. The facility is open until 8:00 PM

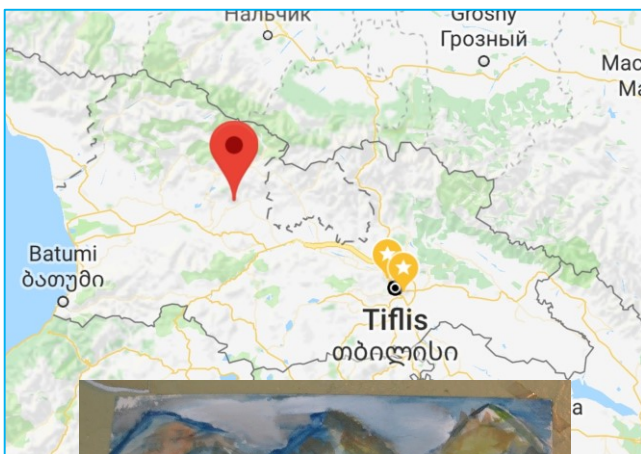
The most vulnerable children are enrolled as beneficiaries by the Agency of Social Services. The center provides 2 meals a day and supplements formal and non-formal education and provides vocational training. Even clothing and footwear are provided when necessary.

# *Community Projects Committee News*

The children get assistance with homework as well as benefiting from additional courses in English and computers. There are sports activities and classes in music, drama, painting and handcrafts.

On a snowy day, in December, Oya Atakan, Jaleh Akbari and I ventured out on our journey to Chiatura. We were bringing toys, art supplies and clothing collected from IWA members and gift bags for the children.

We arrived 4 hours, and a change of car later, to be cheerfully greeted by the children and staff of the Chiatura Center. They were fully dressed in winter attire, since the large building was barely warmer than the outside.



We were warmly greeted by the director, Nunu Kalevra, in her office heated by a primitive electric device, but surrounded by wonderful art produced by the children.





# *Community Projects Committee News*

We then visited several classrooms. One where there was a music lesson in process, preparing for the concert, another where there was a question and answer session. The children were cheerfully participating.

The younger children seemed to be seeking affection and we exchanged a lot of group hugs and blown kisses.



## *Community Projects Committee News*



We also visited the arts and crafts area where the teacher, Lamara Pkhaladze showed us the artwork and crafts the students produce and sell.

They have done great things with a limited supply of materials. Donations of art and crafts supplies would be welcome. She was especially interested in thread and needles, yarn and fabric scraps.





# *Community Projects Committee News*

We met with Nuna in the renovated canteen, where the new floor was installed and visited the two classrooms where new windows were installed. She expressed gratitude for what they were able to accomplish With the funds IWA has provided.



At the conclusion of our visit we were treated to a concert of traditional Georgian music arranged by their music teacher, Gheldu Tsimakuridze. The children played old instruments and sang classic polytonal songs. At the conclusion one of the young men performed dances and was joined enthusiastically by Lamara, the art teacher, and our own Oya.





## *Community Projects Committee News*

We concluded by handing out gift bags to all the children and wishing them a Happy Holiday. The best reward for us were the hugs, kisses and smiles on their faces.



## **AVNG WOMEN'S SHELTER IN TBILISI**

The other project we visited late last fall was the AVNG Women's Shelter in

Tbilisi run by the Anti-Violence Network of Georgia an NGO created in 2003 with the support of the Open Society Georgia Foundation Women's Program to provide legal protection and psycho social rehabilitation of domestic violence victims as well as legislative and educational activities

AVNG is the first organization to work on domestic violence, to open shelters and the only NGO to offer these services. The Ministry of economics and Sustainability has provided the building with a 15- year agreement.

This was an IWA Focus Project for the year 2017. We granted them an amount to cover purchasing furniture, equipping the kitchen to start a catering program and everyday usage items for the children.



Upon entrance to the project we were impressed with clean, bright, cheerful and welcoming environment. The use of bright colors and the display of the wonderful artwork created by the residents under the inspiration of the art therapy director creates a positive space. What she does with common cardboard and paint is amazing

## *Community Projects Committee News*



This mural was created by the children when they were asked to envision their ideal living environments



# *Community Projects Committee News*

In this shelter, AVNG has created a modern, clean and functional aesthetic, with a large conference/dining room, professional offices, a psychotherapy room, library, art therapy room, a health office, well-equipped for medical emergencies and well stocked with necessities like diapers and formula. There is also a playroom, a child care room and double rooms for residents.



## *Community Projects Committee News*

IWA's main contribution was toward equipping the kitchen enough to begin their catering program. An important goal for the shelter is to provide this training for the beneficiaries so they can leave with a marketable skill. To this end the administration has hired Chef instructor, Alex Khunjua (pictured here) and Master chef Michel. After completing their training, the beneficiaries will receive a professional certificate signed by Master Chef Michel. This will be a big help in securing work for the beneficiaries



We observed the training as they prepared puff pastry, sweet and savory hors d'oeuvres



One young man stood out. He is 13 years old, very serious and hopes to become a chef (seen here preparing our lunch)

## *Community Projects Committee News*

We had earlier met this young man's mother who has 5 children and is an amazing woman in her right. She has a very industrious personality who is always creating crafts, including clever knit hats, Christmas decorations and other items for sale. She and several other women from the shelter

Had a beautiful table at the Winter Fair with sweet goodies and Christmas Decorations.

At the end of our visit we were treated to a tasting of the dishes the catering Class had been creating. We sat with Ia Khunjua, the Administrator, Ketil Kiltava, the Director of the catering Program, Theona Tkheldze, Office Manager and Namuka, the Project Assistant.

We discussed their future goals, including expanding the Catering Program

To becoming a profit-making entity to help the shelter become more self-funding, To that end they would like to build a new kitchen exclusively

For the use of the caterers in the space outside the building and perhaps

A green house to supply fresh produce.

Chef Alex also brought up his idea of someday producing a TV food show

similar to the Master Chef Junior, a show in America that features chefs as young as 11. Of course, featuring his favorite young chef.



## *Community Projects Committee News*

IWA CPC has recently agreed to be a co-financing partner with the Estonian Embassy, which will be providing funds for building the new catering kitchen, and will be a professional kitchen slicer.



# *Community Projects Committee News*

## ANNOUNCEMENT OF BENEFIT FOR AVNG SHELTERS IN GEORGIA MARCH 1-2

### **Save the Dates! March 1-2 – Exhibition-Sale and Auction**

The Women's Fund in Georgia (WFG) kindly invites you to the charity event "Beyond the Shelter" to support women living in the Anti-Violence Network of Georgia's ([www.avng.ge](http://www.avng.ge)) Shelter for the Victims of Domestic Violence and in the Shelter/Crisis Center for Women and Children.

On March 1-2 an exhibition sale and auction "Beyond Shelter" will be held, where over 70 artists have already contributed their artworks.

With the funds mobilized through the event the kitchen of the shelter will be equipped and women will be involved in culinary course to gain professional skills necessary for employment in and beyond the shelter.

Equipping the shelter kitchen relevantly will enable the organization to launch a social enterprise – catering service that will serve as skills development opportunity for women and additional income for the shelter sustainability.

**Exhibition-Sale:** March 1 – 18:00 – 21:00;

**Auction:** March 2 – 16:30 – 21:00;

**Venue:** TBC Gallety, 7 Kote Marjanishvili St, Tbilisi;

Curator of the exhibition: Sopo Lapiashvili

Looking forward to seeing you at the events!



“The first international Women’s day was celebrated back in the 1908 when a group of 15,000 women marched on the streets of New York, demanding their rights. Since then every year on 8th March the world joins hands together to support, raise, inspire and motivate women across all fields of work. The purpose of this day is to focus on various themes such as innovation, the portrayal of women in the media, or the importance of education and career opportunities. March 8th is a holiday in many countries, while others celebrate it by holding street marches, debates discussions and through a variety of other programmes.”

**Join us for pn the 7<sup>th</sup> March GBM to celebrate our achievements!**

This year the color scheme of IWA Georgia - to show unity and have a little fun are yellow and green.



# IWA COFFEE MORNING

Hosted by

**Manana Chubinidze Oya Atakan**

**Anoush Klimczyk**

**Date:** On Friday, February 21<sup>st</sup> , 2018

**Time:** 11:00 AM

**Venue:** Conference Hall of M. Iashvili Children's Hospital

2/6 Lubljana Str. Digomi



**Program:** Coffee Morning is dedicated to Children with leukemia and their parents. Short documentary will be presented, depicting the activities of the International support Fund for Children suffering from Leukemia. Namely, since we are not given the direct access to children under treatment, the documentary will allow us to take a closer look at their activities within the art therapy extended to them throughout the long-lasting treatment at the Hospital.

Expressing solidarity, our dearest Mrs. Francesca Kelly will be performing "Erbarne dich", stunningly beautiful piece of music from J.S. Bach's "St Matthew Passion", accompanied by the famous Tbilisi State Chamber Orchestra "Georgian Sinfonietta". Orchestra will be performing short program from its repertoire .

**Logistics:** the Conference Hall is located on a third floor of a separate, three-floor building (seat of the administration of the Hospital), on the left side of the Central Building of M. Iashvili Children's Hospital.

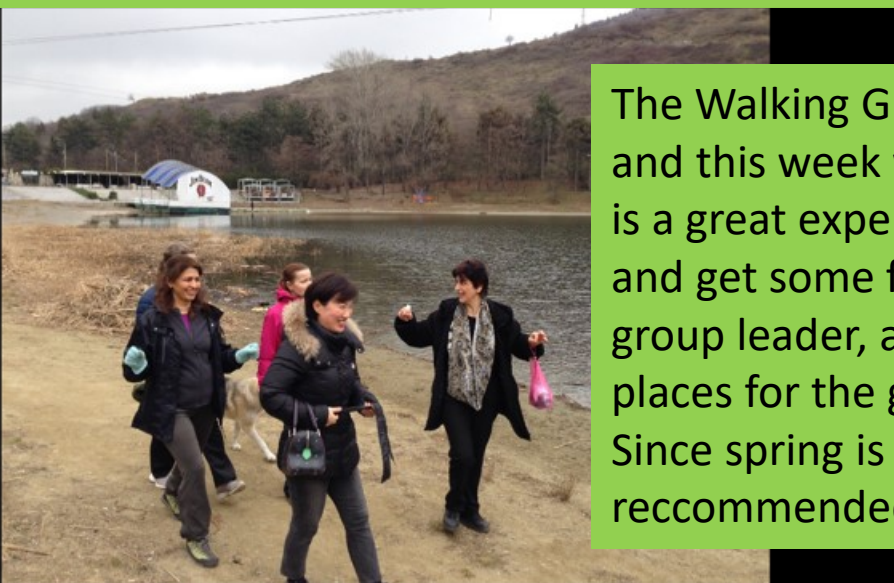
Parking is possible in front of the central building of the Hospital.

In order to avoid any confusion, relevant signs will be provided in front of and inside the building.

**Please rsvp by February 15<sup>th</sup>** at: [mananachubinidze@yahoo.com](mailto:mananachubinidze@yahoo.com)

# Interest Groups

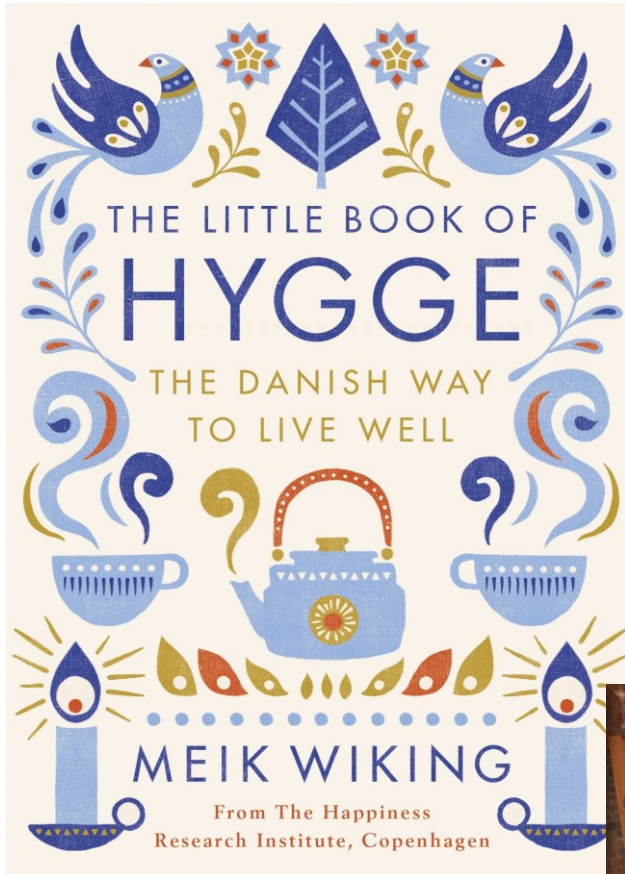
## Walking group



The Walking Group meets weekly, and this week was at Vake Park. It is a great experience to have fun and get some fresh air. Shirin, the group leader, always picks great places for the group to meet. Since spring is coming, it is highly recommended to join the group!



# Interest Groups



## Book Club

Next month Kafka is  
on ...

Join for a lively  
discussion.  
Because 'no two  
persons ever read  
the same book'  
Edmund Wilson







## /// PEACE CORPS GEORGIAN COURSE - FREE

### Georgian Phrases 6

*es !* – ეს – This

*is!* – ის – That

*ra ghirs?* – რა ღირს? – What is it worth?

*mometsit...* – მომეცით... – Give it to me! (polite)

*erti k'ilo* – ერთი კილო – One kilo

*Erti tsali* – ერთი ცალი – One piece

*aighet...* – აიღეთ... – Take it/pick up...

*ai tqveni khurda!* – ხურდა! – Here is your change!

by Nana Shavtvaladze

www.lsgeorgia.com

Want to learn more check out IWA  
Member, Nana Shavtvaladze's  
Language School  
<http://www.lsgeorgia.com/>



# *Language*

Dear Ladies,

Greetings to you all, hope all is well with you, your families, and our big IWA family!

I would like to recommend this course and its instructor Marika Tsitskishvili, I have had an extremely positive working relationship with Marika, she taught Georgian to our international students at Summer Academy and she has an extended experience in working with internationals through Peace Corps program. She has also co-authored a book written especially for this purpose.

As for the Saturday Academy programs itself, I am a co-director and take full responsibility for its organization and administration part. It is a full fledged program offering various programs and courses to Children and Adults. Georgian as a Foreign Language course is a new addition to our Saturday Academy programs and I hope it will be interesting to our ladies and their families. Please see more detailed information below.

Georgian as a Foreign language (GFL)

- Course Description – At the end of the course, students will be able to read and write in Georgian, talk about specific topics at the basic level.
- The course itself is very intensive, based on fun activities, dialogs, games.
- Course Duration – 8 lessons (Duration of each lesson - 2 hours) 8 Saturdays, 16 hours of instruction
- Age group – students/adults

Minimum Number of Students- 4

Maximum Number of Students- 10

# *Language*

GFL Classes will be held on the following dates: March: 17th, 24th, 31st / April: 14th, 21st, 28th / May: 5th, 12th

Price: 200 Gel

Read more about Marika's Experience Here:

Working with Peace Corps Volunteers as Language and Cross Culture Facilitator (2009-2011)

6 groups of Teach and Learn with Georgia (TLG) volunteers as a language instructor

Language and Cross Culture Coordinator's assistant and mentor teacher at PC Georgia 2011

Co-author of Georgian Language Handbook in PC Georgia 2010

For registration please follow this link <https://goo.gl/PQvGDW> or email [mtsitkishvili@aat.ge](mailto:mtsitkishvili@aat.ge)

Sincerely,

Gvantsa Zhuruli



## Notices & Special Offers

Photo Exhibition: "We Are 10 Years Old"  
Through March 5th  
International Photo Exhibition on Art For the Sake of Peace. Venue: Zurab Tsereteli Museum of Modern Art.

AMERICAN  
MEDICAL CENTERS

### CHILDREN'S PSYCHOLOGY WORKSHOP

FREE WORKSHOP with Dr. Nata Dzadzamia

**Date: February 21, Wednesday, 5 PM**

Venue: 11 Dimitri Arakishvili Str, AMC Tbilisi

Price: Free

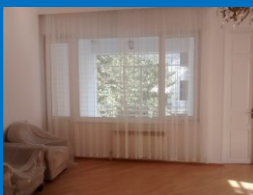
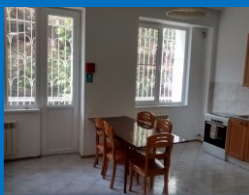
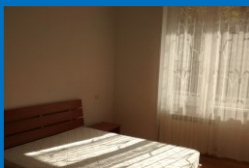
**Please RSVP till February 20**

[tbilisi@amcenters.com](mailto:tbilisi@amcenters.com)

+995 32 250 00 20



NEW: Welcome to Georgia: The Musical (\*CLO will review this new musical in the March 2nd Satave\*)  
March 13th, 20th, 27th (and Tuesdays thereafter)  
A theatrical play and romantic comedy in English telling the story of a young French girl who comes to Kakheti to meet her Georgian boyfriend's grandmother and extended family. In the course of events, learn about Georgia and enjoy more than 10 song and dance numbers. In English with subtitles. Venue: Vaso Abashidze Music and Drama State Theater. (Near Dinamo stadium). Tickets are 60, 70, or 80 GEL



Flat for rent, Vake, Marukhis gmirebi, 6 175sq.m clean, sunny, very helpful owner, price 750 USD

Call

George Tel: 599 924 870 or

Irena Tel: 557 777 5506 (En. Ge. Ru)

# *Restaurant Tips*

## Seoul

7, Budapesti street in Saburtalo (easy parking)

They opened at the end of last year and are frequented by Koreans, ex pats.

Original Korean food from Korean rolls, Bibimpap to stone grill steak. Waitresses are friendly and speak English.

The restaurant is smoke free.



## **Indian Express**

Alexander Kazbegi 2 in Saburtalo  
They have been in town for nearly two years but have now moved to a better location.

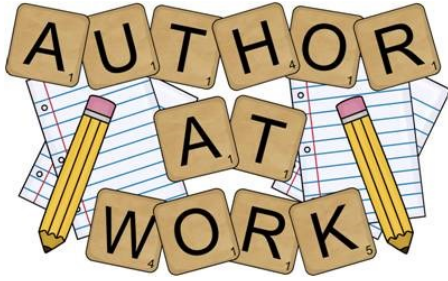
They are mainly frequented by Indian medical students and ex-pats.

The food is freshly made, you can chose your spice level.

Waitresses are friendly and speak English

The restaurant is smoke free





***The Grapevine*** earnestly seeks your participation. Help make this a publications which reflects all the talents, interests, and abilities of our membership. Deadlines are **the fifteenth (15<sup>th</sup>)** of the month. If that deadline is missed, the submission will appear in the next regularly scheduled issue.



Essays  
Articles  
Photographs  
Painting & Drawing  
Favorite Recipes



**ed·i·tor**  
'edədər/  
*noun*

noun: **editor**; plural noun: **editors**  
a person who is in charge of and determines the final content of a text, particularly a newspaper or magazine.  
"the editor of *The New York Times*"

**writ·er**  
'rīdər/  
*noun*

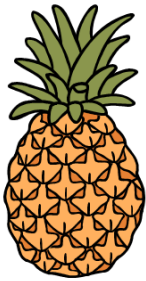
noun: **writer**; plural noun: **writers**  
a person who has written a particular text.  
"the writer of the letter"  
a person who writes books, stories, or articles as a job or regular occupation.

**re·port·er**  
rə'pôrdər/  
*noun*

noun: **reporter**; plural noun: **reporters**  
a person who reports, especially one employed to report news or conduct interviews for newspapers or broadcasts.



Tako Megrelishvili Johnson, this year's Hospitality Chair requests that if you have any ideas, comments, or complaints about our events that you give them to her in a formal written document.



In Europe, any guest who was invited to a party where a whole **pineapple** was displayed, knew that no expense had been spared in guaranteeing the guests' enjoyment. It was this that made the crowned fruit the high **symbol** of social events and became the meaning of **welcome**, friendship, and **hospitality**.

<http://www.apartmenttherapy.com/a-brief-history-of-the-hospitality-pineapple-200667>

**Reminder:** Members in good standing are allowed to place appropriate ads in the newsletter for free. Having a moving sale, crafts to sell, an apartment to rent, an event to announce send it in with text and photos and the ad will be placed as you have written it. As above, deadlines are the **15<sup>th</sup>**.

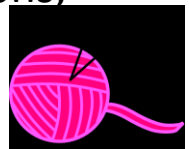
You can advertise:  
Houses or apartments  
for rent,



Household goods or cars  
for sale,



Your own creations, such  
as art, photographs,  
crafts, etc.,



Events that you think may  
be of interest to our  
Membership.

# Sponsors

Thank you to our IWA Sponsors for their support!

## GOLD



**ENKA**



# Sponsors

**Thank you to our IWA Sponsors for their support!**

## SILVER



## BRONZE

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[406044659](#)

Account number: GE14PC00536001000190:

Sender's bank

სს "პროკრედიტ ბანკი" Code MIBGGE22



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