



# GEORGIA



# ROMANIA

Saturday 12th March 2011

KO: 15:00

Tbilisi

## Key Facts

- Georgia have won the last three matches at home to Romania, whose last win at this venue came in March 2003.
- Georgia are top of the European Nations Cup after three wins out of three and have already scored 20 tries.
- Georgia have won all five test matches played under Head Coach RICHIE DIXON since he took over in July 2010.
- DAN DUMBRAVA needs seven more points to become the third player to reach 300 for his country after Petre Mitu and Ionut Tofan, whilst FLORIN VLAICU needs two points to reach 200 for Romania.

## Team news

- Georgia have made five personnel changes to the starting line up from the team that beat Portugal 13-12 in Lisbon last month. JABA BREGVADZE comes in at hooker, GRIGOL LABADZE returns at flanker and MAMUKA GORGODZE makes his first appearance for Georgia since November 2009 at number eight. MERAB KVIRIKASHVILI replaces LASHA MALAGURADZE at fly half and BESIKI KHAMASHURIDZE returns at full back.
- Romania have made six changes from the side that beat Russia 33-3 in Bucharest two weeks ago. NICOLAE NERE and DRAGOS DIMA come in at prop, VALENTIN URSACHE at lock forward, MIHAI MACOVEI at flanker, DANIEL CARPO at number eight and FLORIN SURUGIU at scrum half.

## Form Guide

- Georgia are top of the European Nations Cup after three wins out of three and have already scored 20 tries. They have won 10 out of 13 matches played since the start of 2010, with all three defeats coming in Bucharest; against Namibia and Italy A in the 2010 IRB Nations Cup and against Romania in the qualifying tournament for the 2011 Rugby World Cup.
- The Georgian starting line up have played 562 test matches between them and have won 63% of those games.
- Romania have won 11 out of 15 matches played since the start of 2010, with one of those defeats coming against Portugal last month, when they lost 24-17 in the European Nations Cup in Lisbon.
- The Romanian starting line up have played 373 test matches between them and have won 61% of those games.

## Coaches corner

- Georgia have won all five test matches played under Head Coach RICHIE DIXON since he took over in July 2010.
- ROMEO GONTINEAC, who made 75 appearances for Romania during his playing career, took over as Head Coach in 2010 and helped guide them to the Rugby World Cup Finals by beating Uruguay in November.

## On this day in history

- Georgia beat Romania 20-13 on 12 March 2005 in Tbilisi, with tries by GRIGOL LABADZE and TEDO ZIBZIBADZE. SORIN SOCOL scored Romania's only try.

## Head to Head

- Georgia have won five and lost eight against Romania, with three wins and three defeats in Tbilisi. Georgia have won the last three matches at home to Romania, whose last win at this venue came in March 2003.

## GEORGIA FACTS AND FIGURES

### Try scorers

- MAMUKA GORGODZE has scored three tries in five appearances against Romania, including a try on each of his last two appearances against them in February 2008 and March 2009.
- IRAKLI ABUSERIDZE scored a try against Romania in a 31-20 win in Bucharest in April 2001.
- GRIGOL LABADZE scored his only try in nine appearances against Romania in a 20-13 win in Tbilisi in March 2005, when TEDO ZIBZIBADZE also scored his only try in seven appearances against them.
- IRAKLI MAKHANELI scored his only try in seven appearances against Romania in a 28-23 victory in Tbilisi in March 2009.
- GIORGI CHKHAIDZE scored during Georgia's 31-23 defeat to Romania in Tbilisi in April 2002.
- GIORGI NEMSADZE scored a try on his only appearance against Romania in a 22-10 defeat in Bucharest in March 2010.

### Sole success

- BESIKI KHAMASHURIDZE has played against Romania six times but has only been on the winning side once, which came in April 2001 when Georgia won 31-20 in Bucharest.

### Century approaching

- LASHA MALAGURADZE, who starts on the replacements bench on Saturday, needs two more points to reach 100 for Georgia in test matches and would become the fifth player to reach that landmark for his country.

### Leading from the front

- IRAKLI ABUSERIDZE, who captains Georgia on Saturday, leads the way on total appearances for his country and will be making his 71st this weekend.

## ROMANIA FACTS AND FIGURES

### Try scorers

- CRISTIAN PETRE scored his one try in eight appearances against Georgia in a 20-17 defeat in February 2007.
- SORIN SOCOL, who starts on the replacements bench this weekend, has scored two tries against Georgia in eight appearances, including one in Tbilisi on 12 March 2005.
- DAN DUMBRAVA, who also starts on the replacements bench, scored a try against Georgia in a 35-10 victory in Bucharest in February 2006.

### Personal milestones

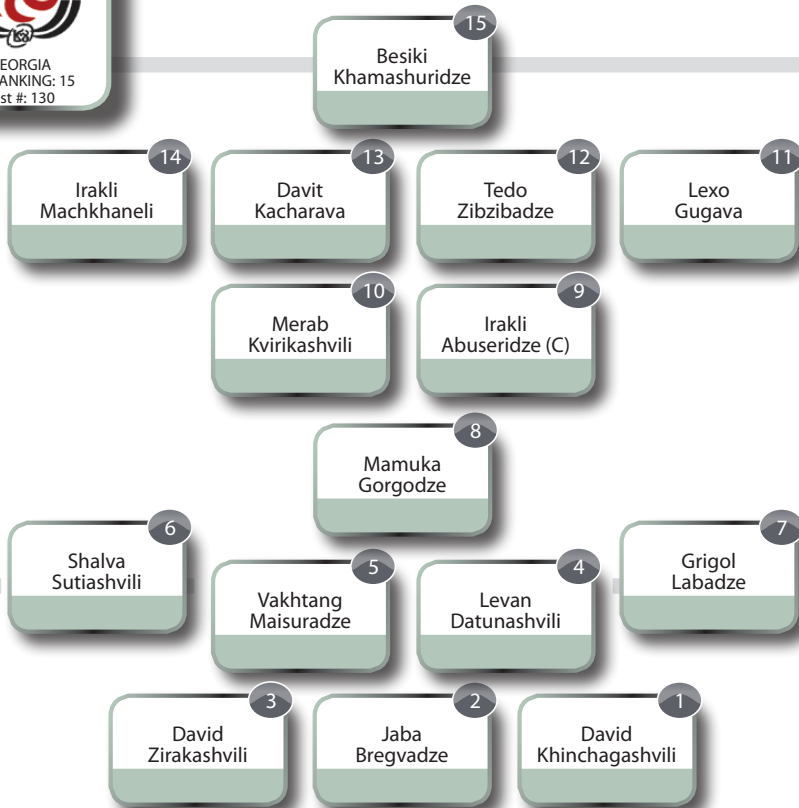
- DAN DUMBRAVA needs seven more points to become the third player to reach 300 for his country after Petre Mitu and Ionut Tofan, whilst FLORIN VLAICU needs two points to reach 200 for Romania.
- DUMBRAVA also needs five more penalty kicks to set an all time record for Romania. He is currently on 51, two behind Petre Mitu and four behind Neculai Nichitean.
- CATALIN FERCU's next try will be his 20th in test matches for Romania. He scored his first try on his debut in a 22-20 win over Canada in Bucharest in November 2005.



Team Sheets



GEORGIA  
IRB RANKING: 15  
Test #: 130



Replacements

- 16 Yuri 'Irakli' Natriashvili
- 17 Giorgi Zhghenti
- 18 Giorgi Nemsadze
- 19 Giorgi Chkhaidze
- 20 Bidzina Samkharadze
- 21 Irakli Chkhikvadze
- 22 Lasha Malaguradze

Key Stats

# Caps Starting Lineup: 562  
Avg Age Starting Lineup: 29  
Oldest Player: Grigol Labadze (37)  
Youngest Player: Irakli Chkhikvadze (23)  
Avg Weight Forwards: 106 kg

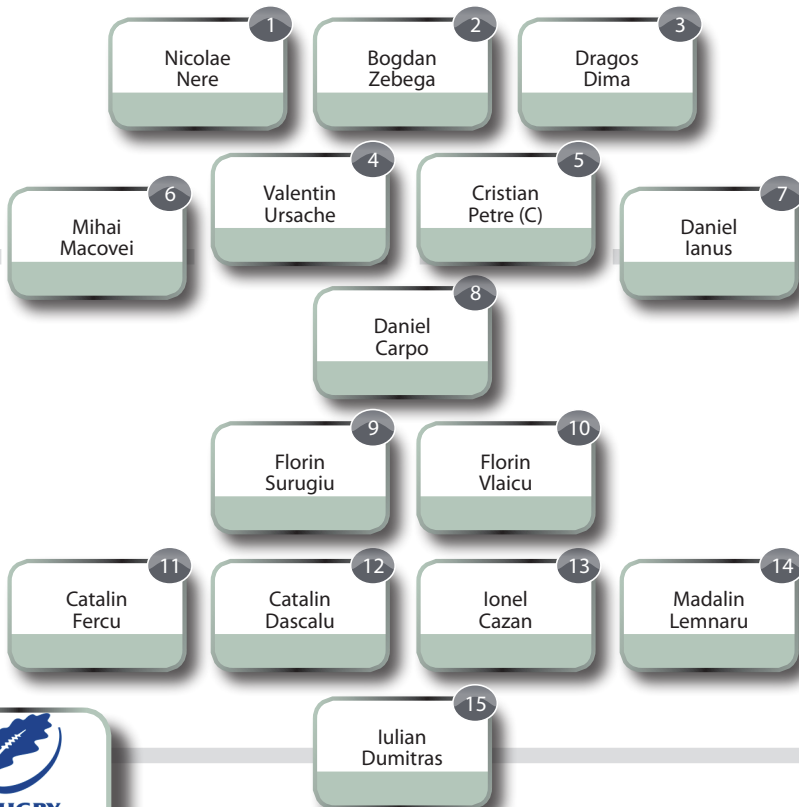
Officials

Referee:  
David Wilkinson (Ireland) - 0 Tests

Tests at Venue: 0 Tests  
Georgia: 0 Tests  
Romania: 0 Tests  
Test Debut: -

Assistant Referee:  
Olly Hodges (Ireland)

Assistant Referee:  
Michael Black (Ireland)



Replacements

- 16 Andrei Radoi
- 17 Vasile Mariscaru
- 18 Sorin Socol
- 19 Valentin Poparlan
- 20 Valentin Calafeteanu
- 21 Csaba Gal
- 22 Dan Dumbrava

Key Stats

# Caps Starting Lineup: 373  
Avg Age Starting Lineup: 26  
Oldest Player: Sorin Socol (33)  
Youngest Player: Madalin Lemnaru (21)  
Avg Weight Forwards: 111 kg



RUGBY ROMANIA  
ROMANIA  
IRB RANKING: 18  
Test #: 361



Head to Head

Recent Results

Date	Team A	Result	Team B	Venue
13/03/2010	Romania	22 - 10	Georgia	Bucharest
14/03/2009	Georgia	28 - 23	Romania	Tbilisi
09/02/2008	Georgia	22 - 7	Romania	Tbilisi
03/02/2007	Romania	17 - 20	Georgia	Bucharest
07/10/2006	Romania	20 - 8	Georgia	Bucharest

Summary

Georgia		13 Matches (0 Draw)	Romania	
5	Won			8
239	Points			282
22	Tries			27
18	Conversions			18
30	Penalties			32
1	Drop Goals			5

Player Records

For Georgia against Romania		For Romania against Georgia	
Irakli Abuseridze - 11	Appearances		10 - Romeo Gontineac
Pavle Jimsheladze - 44	Points		45 - 2 Players
Mamuka Gorgodze - 3	Tries		3 - 2 Players
Pavle Jimsheladze - 7	Conversions		7 - Petre Mitu
Pavle Jimsheladze - 10	Penalties		8 - Florin Vlaicu
Lasha Malaguradze - 1	Drop Goals		4 - Ionut Tofan

Player Records in a Match

For Georgia against Romania		For Romania against Georgia	
Malkhaz Urjukashvili on 06/04/2002 - 18	Points		18 - Petre Mitu on 25/02/2006
On 22 Occasions - 1	Tries		2 - On 2 Occasions
On 5 Occasions - 2	Conversions		3 - Petre Mitu on 18/11/1998
Otar Barkalaia on 09/02/2008 - 4	Penalties		5 - Florin Vlaicu on 07/10/2006
Lasha Malaguradze on 09/02/2008 - 1	Drop Goals		2 - Ionut Tofan on 06/04/2002

Team Records in a Match

For Georgia against Romania		For Romania against Georgia	
On 07/04/2001 - 31	Points		35 - On 25/02/2006
On 2 Occasions - 3	Tries		4 - On 25/02/2006
On 7 Occasions - 2	Conversions		3 - On 2 Occasions
On 2 Occasions - 4	Penalties		5 - On 2 Occasions
On 09/02/2008 - 1	Drop Goals		2 - On 06/04/2002



## Head Coach: Richie Dixon

Debut: 20/11/2010 v Canada (W 22-15)  
Winning Ratio: 100.00%  
Average Tries per Match: 4.80

## Recent Matches

Date	Opponent	Result	Venue
26/02/2011	Portugal	W 13 12	Lisbon
12/02/2011	Spain	W 60 0	Tbilisi
05/02/2011	Ukraine	W 62 3	Tbilisi
27/11/2010	USA	W 19 17	Tbilisi
20/11/2010	Canada	W 22 15	Tbilisi
Points For		176	
Points Ag		47	
Tries For		24	
Tries Ag		3	

### Georgia Record Under Richie Dixon

5 Wins	0 Drawn	0 Lost
176 For	Points	47 Against
24 For	Tries	3 Against
16 For	Conversions	1 Against
8 For	Penalties	8 Against
0 For	Drop Goals	2 Against

## Player Info For Georgia

Player	Pos	Age	Debut	Caps	Caps as Sub	Caps v Opponent	Won	Drawn	Lost	Points	Tries	Cons	Pens	DGs
David Khinchagashvili	1	28	22/02/2003	32	9	3	22	3	7	15	3	0	0	0
Jaba Bregvadze	2	23	11/06/2008	10	8	1	5	0	5	0	0	0	0	0
David Zirakashvili	3	27	30/10/2004	26	3	5	19	1	6	35	7	0	0	0
Levan Datunashvili	4	28	22/02/2004	40	18	5	28	2	10	10	2	0	0	0
Vakhtang Maisuradze	5		05/02/2011	3	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Shalva Sutiashvili	6	27	12/11/2005	18	5	1	14	0	4	5	1	0	0	0
Grigol Labadze	7	37	22/09/1996	64	3	9	38	3	23	60	12	0	0	0
Mamuka Gorgodze	8	26	22/02/2003	35	5	5	23	3	9	85	17	0	0	0
Irakli Abuseridze (C)	9	33	26/01/2000	70	9	11	45	3	22	35	7	0	0	0
Merab Kvirikashvili	10	27	16/02/2003	50	16	4	29	1	20	247	5	63	30	2
Lexo Gugava	11	28	22/02/2004	17	4	0	10	1	6	20	4	0	0	0
Tedo Zibzivadze	12	30	26/01/2000	54	4	7	34	3	17	75	15	0	0	0
Davit Kacharava	13	26	29/04/2006	41	10	5	29	1	11	55	11	0	0	0
Irakli Machkhaneli	14	29	03/02/2002	46	5	7	25	2	19	80	16	0	0	0
Besiki Khamashuridze	15	33	11/04/1998	56	7	7	30	2	24	65	13	0	0	0
Total				562	107	70	354	25	183	787	113	63	30	2
Yuri 'Irakli' Natriashvili	16	27	29/04/2006	31	12	3	20	1	10	20	4	0	0	0
Giorgi Zhghenti	17			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Giorgi Nemsadze	18	26	12/11/2005	17	4	1	11	0	6	25	5	0	0	0
Giorgi Chkhaidze	19	29	03/02/2002	46	5	6	31	1	14	20	4	0	0	0
Bidzina Samkharadze	20	27	14/02/2004	52	31	7	32	2	18	25	5	0	0	0
Irakli Chkhikvadze	21	23	12/11/2005	21	5	1	15	0	6	20	4	0	0	0
Lasha Malaguradze	22	25	02/02/2008	30	5	3	22	1	7	98	3	16	14	3

## Records For Georgia

### Caps

70 - Irakli Abuseridze
65 - Malkhaz Urjukashvili
64 - Grigol Labadze

### Tries

18 - Malkhaz Urjukashvili
17 - Mamuka Gorgodze
16 - Irakli Machkhaneli

### Points

320 - Pavle Jimsheladze
295 - Malkhaz Urjukashvili
247 - Merab Kvirikashvili

### Player Records (In a Match)

Points: 32 - Merab Kvirikashvili v Germany on 06/02/2010
Tries: 3 - 6 players
Conversions: 11 - Merab Kvirikashvili v Germany on 06/02/2010
Penalties: 6 - Pavle Jimsheladze v Russia on 08/03/2003
Drop Goals: 2 - Davit Chavleishvili v Ukraine on 15/07/1992

### Team Records (In a Match)

Points: 98 v Czech Republic on 07/04/2007
Tries: 16 v Czech Republic on 07/04/2007
Conversions: 11 v Germany on 06/02/2010
Penalties: 6 v Russia on 08/03/2003
Drop Goals: 2 on 4 Occasions



## Head Coach: Romeo Gontineac

Debut: 22/05/2010 v Ukraine (W 33-3)  
 Winning Ratio: 62.50%  
 Average Tries per Match: 4.38

## Recent Matches

Date	Opponent	Result	Venue
26/02/2011	Russia	W 33 3	Bucharest
05/02/2011	Portugal	L 17 24	Lisbon
27/11/2010	Uruguay	W 39 12	Bucharest
13/11/2010	Uruguay	D 21 21	Montevideo
17/07/2010	Tunisia	W 56 13	Buzau
Points For		166	
Points Ag		73	
Tries For		19	
Tries Ag		8	

## Romania Record Under Romeo Gontineac

5 Wins	1 Drawn	2 Lost
277 For	Points	104 Against
35 For	Tries	11 Against
27 For	Conversions	8 Against
16 For	Penalties	11 Against
0 For	Drop Goals	0 Against

## Player Info For Romania

Player	Pos	Age	Debut	Caps	Caps as Sub	Caps v Opponent	Won	Drawn	Lost	Points	Tries	Cons	Pens	DGs
Nicolae Nere	1	29	11/03/2006	14	4	1	8	0	6	5	1	0	0	0
Bogdan Zebega	2	27	14/02/2004	27	15	2	18	0	9	15	3	0	0	0
Dragos Dima	3	31	03/10/1999	31	9	4	19	1	11	10	2	0	0	0
Valentin Ursache	4	25	26/06/2004	35	18	3	21	2	12	10	2	0	0	0
Cristian Petre (C)	5	31	17/11/2001	73	7	8	42	2	29	25	5	0	0	0
Mihai Macovei	6	24	03/06/2006	17	8	4	9	0	8	10	2	0	0	0
Daniel Ianus	7	24	07/02/2009	5	1	0	4	0	1	10	2	0	0	0
Daniel Carpo	8	26	23/02/2008	22	11	2	15	2	5	20	4	0	0	0
Florin Surugiu	9	26	11/06/2008	7	6	0	5	0	2	5	1	0	0	0
Florin Vlaicu	10	24	03/06/2006	36	11	5	21	2	13	198	4	44	28	2
Catalin Fercu	11	24	19/11/2005	42	1	5	28	2	12	95	19	0	0	0
Catalin Dascalu	12	26	03/06/2006	28	4	4	16	1	11	20	4	0	0	0
Ionel Cazan	13	22	17/07/2010	4	3	0	3	0	1	5	1	0	0	0
Madalin Lemnaru	14	21	07/02/2009	5	1	0	3	1	1	5	1	0	0	0
Iulian Dumitras	15	28	03/03/2002	27	5	3	16	2	9	50	6	4	4	0
Total				373	104	41	228	15	130	483	57	48	32	2
Andrei Radoi	16	24	22/03/2008	7	5	0	5	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Vasile Mariscaru	17		26/02/2011	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sorin Socol	18	33	18/02/2001	56	4	8	34	2	20	40	8	0	0	0
Valentin Poparlan	19	23	16/06/2007	13	5	2	9	0	4	20	4	0	0	0
Valentin Calafeteanu	20	26	20/11/2004	33	19	3	19	2	12	95	5	14	13	1
Csaba Gal	21	26	26/11/2005	32	9	4	17	1	14	7	1	1	0	0
Dan Dumbrava	22	29	01/11/2002	52	14	5	35	1	16	293	3	61	51	1

## Records For Romania

## Caps

77 - Adrian Lungu  
 75 - Romeo Gontineac  
 73 - Cristian Petre

## Tries

33 - Petre Motrescu  
 28 - Gabriel Brezoianu  
 27 - Florica Murariu

## Points

335 - Petre Mitu  
 315 - Ionut Tofan  
 293 - Dan Dumbrava

## Player Records (In a Match)

Points: 30 - Ionut Tofan v Spain on 05/10/2002  
 Tries: 5 - 3 players  
 Conversions: 12 - Virgil Popisteanu v Portugal on 13/04/1996  
 Penalties: 6 - 2 players  
 Drop Goals: 3 - 2 players

## Team Records (In a Match)

Points: 100 v Bulgaria on 21/09/1976  
 Tries: 17 v Morocco on 17/11/1976  
 Conversions: 12 v Portugal on 13/04/1996  
 Penalties: 6 on 2 Occasions  
 Drop Goals: 4 v West Germany on 29/10/1967