

# **The relationship between law and ethics to impact on the rule of law culture in Georgian Public Administration**

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## **Abstract**

This paper examines the complex relationship between law and ethics in public administration, focusing on the Georgian civil service. While both frameworks regulate the conduct of public servants, the law functions as an external set of obligations, whereas ethics guide internal values and decision-making. The paper highlights the challenge of balancing these two forces, avoiding the overregulation of ethics and the moralization of law. Through analytical and descriptive methods, including case studies from Georgia, the paper explores how ethics can complement legal norms and reinforce the values underpinning the rule of law. It also investigates reform efforts such as implementing codes of conduct and ethics training to foster a more human-centered, values-driven, and individualistic culture in the public sector. The findings contribute to broader debates about ethical governance and provide practical insights for institutions and practitioners seeking to strengthen ethical infrastructure in public administration.

## **Keywords**

Public administration, law and ethics, civil service, ethical infrastructure, Integrity

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