**IS TBLISI A LOST CAUSE?**
**EV482 GAOE FINAL PROJECT**

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**CINNAMOMIC SOILS,** well-drained soils formed from pyroclastic flows of volcanic ash and pumice on the foot slopes and backscree of mountains are a large part of the soil composition in this area.

**VEGETATION**
There are a variety of grassy and wooded plants as well as vines that grow throughout the city proper. The vegetation itself does not provide a great amount of concealment to the area, however, large trees are dispersed throughout. Combining this factor with the slopes of the mountains surrounding the city, Tbilisi and the surrounding area is extremely susceptible to landslides and rapid erosion caused by heavy rains.

**THE ENVIRONMENT & INFRASTRUCTURE**
Any other geological or meteorological events that could affect the mountain ranges surrounding the city would have devastating impacts on Tbilisi's infrastructure and its economic capabilities. The loss of the road network connecting the city to the rest of Georgia due to any of these occurrences would feed into any humanitarian disaster.

**HYDROLOGY & RESOURCES**
In terms of hydrology, though lacking in territory, the wide array of climate zones and landscapes provides a glaciated zone (Caucasus Mountains) down to a subtropical zone. This provides the perfect conditions for abundant minerals and ground water. This is a large piece of their industry and agricultural processes. Proper use, development, and protection of groundwater resources is an especially important topic in Georgia and has been disrupted on and off by internal political shifts.

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**TOP 3 HAZARDS:**

1. **LANDSLIDES**
Caucasus Mountains are highly susceptible to landslides and rapid erosion caused by heavy rains. Tbilisi and the surrounding area is extremely susceptible to landslides with catastrophic results.

2. **UNEMPLOYMENT, POVERTY**
A lack of jobs in the city is the number one concern for the people of Tbilisi. A quarter of the residents deemed it so. Studies show lower education levels, those without jobs, and people living in poorer households were significantly more likely to name this.

3. **SOCIAL POLITICAL UNREST**
Political opposition has arisen with human rights issues coming to light against the ruling party, Georgian Dream (GD). There is a lack of law enforcement accountability in the quelling of freedom rallies and violence against LGBT people as well as journalists and the media. Children are becoming institutionalized as well.

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**ECONOMY**
Tbilisi contributes to 30% of Georgia’s GDP. Due to its central location in the Caucasus, Tbilisi’s economy is centered around shipping and distribution. Tbilisi’s main industry is the construction of heavy manufacturing used throughout the region.

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**CULTURAL CAPABILITIES**
Tbilisi is the capital of Georgia and therefore has a large political influence on the rest of the nation. Unlike many post-soviet states, Tbilisi has very little government corruption and services are easily accessible to the population. Tbilisi also has many modern facilities to include world-class hospitals and universities. These institutions have contributed to Tbilisi’s highly educated and healthy population. These institutions additionally have major impacts outside the city as they provide the region with higher-end services.