Guja Babunashvili

Tech Lead & Software Architect · Laravel / PHP

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PROFILE

Hands-on Tech Lead with 10+ years in Laravel and PHP, building and rescuing large web platforms. Owns architecture, leads senior engineers, and has built team delivery around AI-assisted development with human review of every change. Strongest in backend performance, security and getting stuck projects moving.

SELECTED ACHIEVEMENTS

- Rewrote a legacy daily data job from 33 hours to about 9 minutes, with configurable load limits on a shared server.
- Led backend and infrastructure for the Parliament of Georgia website rebuild, which passed independent penetration testing.
- Re-architected an overdue project that was incurring daily penalties and delivered it in under a week.
- Built an AI-assisted development workflow as CTO: system design up front, AI-generated code, and review of every change before release.

SKILLS

Backend	Laravel, PHP, Node.js, REST APIs, SQL databases, Elasticsearch
Infra	Docker, AWS
Frontend	Next.js, React, Vue.js
Leadership	Architecture and system design, code review, AI-assisted development, security hardening

EXPERIENCE

Founder & CTO — DevAll · Tbilisi — Feb 2025 – Oct 2026

- Owned architecture, delivery and product decisions for startup client projects.
- Designed and ran an AI-assisted development workflow and reviewed every change.
- Led client relationships end to end and coordinated QA and research.

Tech Lead & Backend Engineer — Stealth Startup · Contract, remote — Feb 2024 – Mar 2026

- Led the core team (backend, frontend, PM, QA) on sprint-based delivery.
- Architected real-time chat and an asynchronous media pipeline on Laravel, Next.js and AWS, built for horizontal scaling.

Frontend Tech Lead — FlyFish (fintech) — May 2024 – Oct 2024

- Led frontend development and worked with the backend team on security hardening.

Career break — Jan 2023 – Jan 2024

Senior Software Engineer — Magpie · Contract, remote — Nov 2021 – Dec 2022

- Built multi-region scraping and a role-based dashboard with revertible activity logs for a Fortune 100 client.
- Brought in to unblock a struggling team; diagnosed ownership and communication gaps.

Senior Backend Engineer — GG Group (formerly ZEG) · Tbilisi — Jan 2020 – Dec 2022

- Cut a daily job from 33 hours to about 9 minutes; built Elasticsearch logging and analytics; optimized for peak traffic.

Freelance Software Engineer — Area (Bank of Georgia Group) Jul 2019 – Dec 2019

- Security audit and stabilization of a legacy PHP e-commerce platform while shipping new features.

Senior Web Developer → Full-Stack Developer — Leavingstone · Tbilisi Nov 2016 – Jan 2020

- Backend lead on the Parliament of Georgia website (Laravel, Vue.js); passed independent penetration testing.
- Fraud and quality scoring system for a major mobile operator; cross-border e-commerce with bank loan APIs.
- Go-to person for unblocking other developers across projects.

EDUCATION & LANGUAGES

Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University — Computer Science, undergraduate studies 2014 – 2020

Georgian (native), English (professional)