

HEINRICH BÖLL STIFTUNG
TBILISI
South Caucasus Region



საქართველოს პოლიტიკის ინსტიტუტი
GEORGIAN INSTITUTE OF POLITICS

JULY
28-30
2021

SUMMER ACADEMY
PROGRAM



SUMMER ACADEMY 2021

Georgian Institute of Politics (GIP) together with the Heinrich Boell Foundation Tbilisi Office – South Caucasus Region organizes a Summer Academy under the framework of the project “Analyzing Geopolitical Shift in the South Caucasus.” The aim of the project is to encourage young researchers from Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia to develop their skills and networks. It also aims to assess the changing geopolitical and security environment in the South Caucasus, including the role of regional actors, such as Turkey, Russia and Iran. The project purpose is also to contribute in developing an informed policy approach towards Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan and its consequences for EU’s impact in the region as well as to increase the quality of research and the debate on the geopolitical changes. The final goal of this project is to empower younger researchers in working on geopolitical shifts in the region and its consequences for the SC states and the EU.

The Summer Academy will take place between 28-30th of July in Tbilisi. The purpose of the Summer Academy is to provide support and consultation to the researchers to finalize their policy briefs and papers. At the Summer Academy, the young researchers are expected to present their works in progress, engage in wider discussions with the local experts and attend seminars corresponding to the topics of their papers.

Wednesday, July 28, 2021

12:00 - 17:00h (GMT+4)

GIP Office

JULY 27-28, 2021
ARRIVALS

12:00-12:30

Greeting participants/Coffee

12:30-13:00

Opening remarks

13:00-14:00

Introductory remark & discussion

“Geopolitical perspective of the South Caucasus region after Karabakh War”

Gathering on the GIP Rooftop

Dr. Kornely KAKACHIA, Director, Georgian Institute of Politics (GIP), Tbilisi - Georgia

Ms. Lilia CHIKHLADZE, Program Coordinator, Democratization Program, Heinrich Boell Foundation Tbilisi Office – South Caucasus Region

Dr. Ghia NODIA, Professor, Director, International School of Caucasus Studies, Iliia State University

14:00-15:00

LUNCH BREAK

15:00-16:30

Thematic session 1: EU's policy towards South Caucasus region

15:00-15:20

EU's role in the crisis situations in the South Caucasus region

15:20-15:40

How infinite is the EU's support?

Dr. Eka AKOBIA, Dean, Caucasus School of Governance, Caucasus University

Mr. Ivane CHKHIKVADZE, Manager, EU Integration Program, Open Society Georgia Foundation

15:40-16:00

COFFEE BREAK

Wednesday, July 28, 2021

12:00 - 17:00h (GMT+4)

GIP Office

Presentations of the participants under the thematic session 1

16:00-16:05

To what extent is it realistic to expect the EU's enrollment in the South Caucasus as a geopolitical/security actor?

Hasmik KHACHATRYAN, Former Research Fellow, Institute of European Democrats (Brussels, Belgium)

16:05-16:10

How did the Second Karabakh War change the geopolitical order of the South Caucasus and the EU's role in regional politics?

Vasif HUSEYNOV, Senior Advisor, Center of Analysis of International Relations (Baku, Azerbaijan)

16:10-16:15

How can the passivity of Berlin and Brussels during the Nagorno-Karabakh war be explained and what should the EU do to defend its interests and act as a geopolitical actor?

Dr. Mikheil SARJVELADZE, Visiting Scholar, German Institute for International and Security Affairs (SWP)

16:15-16:30

Feedback from experts

Dr. Eka AKOBIA, Dean, Caucasus School of Governance, Caucasus University

Mr. Ivane CHKHIKVADZE, Manager, EU Integration Program, Open Society Georgia Foundation

16:15-16:30

Feedback from experts

Dr. Eka AKOBIA, Dean, Caucasus School of Governance, Caucasus University

Mr. Ivane CHKHIKVADZE, Manager, EU Integration Program, Open Society Georgia Foundation

16:30-17:00

Concluding remarks

All participants

FREE TIME

Thursday, July 29, 2021

11:00 - 16:30h (GMT+4)

Parliament & Shota Rustaveli Boutique Hotel

10:15-12:30

Visiting the Parliament of Georgia

- Excursion in the parliament building;
- Meeting the representatives of the parliamentary committees of the Foreign Affairs and European Integration

12:30-13:00

COFFEE BREAK

Venue: Shota Rustaveli Boutique Hotel

13:00-14:15

Round-table discussion participated by the project researchers and the representatives of the think tank organizations

- Introduction of the project participants;
- Introduction of the work of the Georgian think tanks
- Q&A

- Georgia's Reforms Associates (GRASS)
- Rondeli Foundation, Georgian Foundation for Strategic and International Studies (GFSIS)
- Caucasus Institute for Peace, Democracy and Development (CIPDD)
- Voice of America, Georgia
- The Caucasus Research Resource Centers (CRRC)
- Civil Council on Defense and Security

14:15-15:15

LUNCH

15:15-16:00

Reflection/Exercise

- What is your impression after the round-table discussion?
- Would you use their resources?
- Would you change something in your research?

From 16:00

COFFEE & FREE TIME (WALKING IN OLD TBILISI)

Friday, July 30, 2021

09:30 - 16:00h (GMT+4)

Digital museum & GIP office

09:30-10:30

Participants doing PCR tests - GIP Office

10:30-13:30

Visiting Digital Space

10:30-11:00

Departure from GIP office

Mini-bus

Participants & GIP representatives

11:00-12:00

Excursion in Digital Space

Digital Space

Participants & GIP representatives

12:00-12:30

Departure

Mini-bus

Participants & GIP representatives

12:30-13:00

Coffee

GIP office

Participants & GIP representatives

13:00-14:00

Thematic Session 2: Strategic Communication between the South Caucasus States

13:00-13:20

Prospects of the strategic partnership between the South Caucasus states after Karabakh War

Ms. Shorena LORTKIPANIDZE, Co-founder and board member, Civil Council on Defense and Security

13:20-13:40

Security dilemma and soft power in South Caucasus region

Dr. Lasha DZEBISASHVILI, Chairman, Political Science Department, University of Georgia

Friday, July 30, 2021

09:30 - 16:00h (GMT+4)

Digital museum & GIP office

Presentations of the participants under the thematic session 2

13:40-13:45

How the re-opening of Yerevan-Nakhijevan-Baku railway will impact the prime costs of the export of staple goods of Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia?

Albert HAYRAPETYAN, Senior Researcher, "Amberd" Research Center of Armenian State University of Economics, Yerevan, Armenia

13:45-13:50

Why and how the Russian and Chinese vaccine diplomacy's "soft power" means influence the public discourse in the South Caucasus? And if these are not only "soft power" means, then what tactics impact the discourse in the region?

Mariam GAMDLISHVILI, Edmund S. Muskie Fellow/Graduate Research Assistant, Institute for Public Diplomacy and Global Communication, George Washington University

13:50-14:10

Feedback from experts

Ms. Shorena LORTKIPANIDZE, Co-founder and board member, Civil Council on Defense and Security

Dr. Lasha DZEBISASHVILI, Chairman, Political Science Department, University of Georgia

14:10-15:10

LUNCH

Thematic session 3: Political Discourses of the South Caucasus States

15:10-15:30

Trends and Changes in Political Discourse in the South Caucasus

Giorgi TARKHAN-MOURAVI, President, Georgian Political Science Association

Friday, July 30, 2021

09:30 - 16:00h (GMT+4)

Digital museum & GIP office

Presentation of the participant under the thematic session 3

15:30-15:35

How does the end of the war in Nagorno-Karabakh change the political discourses in Azerbaijan?

Bahruz SAMADOV, PhD Candidate in Political Science, Charles University

15:35-15:50

Feedback from the expert

Giorgi TARKHAN-MOURAVI, President, Georgian Political Science Association

15:50-16:00

Concluding remarks and further instructions

Summer University participants and hosts

COFFEE & FREE TIME

30-31 JULY, 2021
DEPARTURE