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GEORGIAN INSTITUTE OF POLITICS



GEORGIA-MOLDOVA-ARMENIA FORUM:

How Will the War in Ukraine Reshape Democracy and Governance in EaP Region?

13 May 2022 | 12:00 (GMT+4)

Zoom platform

Working language: **English**

Program:

12:00-12:20

Opening Remarks:

H.E. Maaïke van Koldam, Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to Georgia

Floris van Eijk, Charge d'affaires a.i. of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to Moldova

12:20-13:10

EU integration and its effects on good governance and democratic processes in EaP

While Georgia and Moldova have applied for the EU candidacy status, the dynamics of European integration is shifting to a higher gear. What has been the impact of Europeanization and how will the new dynamics affect the democratization process in these two countries? Does it pose any challenges to Armenia and what opportunities might open up if the candidacy status is granted to Georgia and Moldova?

Speakers:

Dr. Stepan Grigoryan, Chairman of the Board, Analytical Centre on Globalization and Regional Cooperation (ACGRC)

Iulian Groza, Executive Director, Institute for European Policies and Reforms (IPRE), Moldova

Dr. Shota Kakabadze, Junior Policy Analyst, Georgian Institute of Politics (GIP)

Moderator: Anastasia Pociumbian, Research Fellow, DGAP



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13:10-13:50

The future of Eastern Partnership in the aftermath of war in Ukraine

The Eastern Partnership was created to deepen relations between the EU and the six EaP countries. It also supports increasing the stability, prosperity, and resilience of the region. What measures can ensure that these goals are preserved in the aftermath of the Russia's war in Ukraine?



Speakers:

Dr. Sergi Kapanadze, Co-Founder, GRASS

Dr. Sonja Schiffers, Director, Heinrich Böll Foundation Tbilisi Office-South Caucasus Region

Dmytro Shulga, European Programme Director, the International Renaissance Foundation

Moderator: Ana Andguladze, Université libre de Bruxelles (ULB)

13:50-14:00

Concluding Remarks



Kingdom of the Netherlands

The Forum is a part of a project “EaP Cooperation for Stronger Democracy: Georgia, Moldova and Armenia”. The project is implemented by the Georgian Institute of Politics (GIP, Georgia) in partnership with the Institute for European Policies and Reforms (IPRE, Moldova) and Analytical Center on Globalization and Regional Cooperation (ACGRC, Armenia). The project benefits from support through the Netherlands Fund for Regional Partnerships MATRA for regional cooperation in the Eastern Partnership (EaP).



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Moderators:



Anastasia Pociumbian joined DGAP in April 2022 as a research fellow and project manager of the Think Tank Network on the Eastern Partnership. Her work focuses on EU enlargement and the EU's relations with its eastern neighbors, as well as the foreign policy of the countries of the Eastern Partnership. Her expertise spans topics that include democratization and local governance and civil society in Eastern Europe and Russia.

Previously, Pociumban worked for Equal Rights & Independent Media (ERIM) in Lyon as a program manager Eurasia; for Democracy Reporting International in Berlin as a program officer Europe, covering Ukraine, Moldova, and Georgia; and for the European Endowment for Democracy in Brussels.

Additionally, she is one of the co-founders and a member of the communications team of the Brussels Binder, a platform that promotes women's voices in policy-making.



Ana Andguladze is a PhD candidate and teaching assistant at the Free University of Brussels (ULB). Her research is focused on civil society engagement with the European Union in the Eastern neighborhood. Before her academic career, she worked at the International Society for Fair Elections and Democracy (ISFED), the Office of the State Minister of Georgia for European and Euro-Atlantic Integration and elsewhere. She holds a Master's degree from the College of Europe.



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Opening Remarks:



H.E. Maaïke van Koldam is an Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to Georgia. In 1996 Ms. Maaïke van Koldam started at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands, followed by postings in St Petersburg, Almaty and Vienna (at the Permanent Representation of the Netherlands to the OSCE). At the MFA she worked at the Western Hemisphere Department, as well as at the Humanitarian Aid Division.

Further postings: 2010 - 2012- Deputy Head of Mission, Netherlands Embassy in Santiago de Chile; 2012 - 2015 - Counsellor, Netherlands Embassy in Moscow; 2015 - 2019 - Deputy Head of Mission, Netherlands Embassy in Kyiv.



Floris van Eijk is Charge d'affaires a.i. of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to Moldova. 2014 - 2019 was head of Political Department, Embassy in Bogotá. Joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 2006 and worked in San José, Kampala, Washington and Paramaribo and at the Department of the Directorate of Personnel, Asylum and Migration Affairs.

Course: 2004 - Postgraduate course in Development Studies, Radboud University Nijmegen (MA). 2002 - Human Geography, University of Utrecht. 1996 - Gymnasium (Velsen-South).



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About the speakers:



Dr. Stepan Grigoryan is currently Chairman of the Board of the Yerevan-based Analytical Centre on Globalization and Regional Cooperation (ACGRC).

Previous roles included: 1998-2000 Advisor to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Armenia; 1996-1999 Permanent Representative of the Republic of Armenia in the Collective Security Agreement of CIS; 1995-1998 Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Minister of the Republic of the Republic of Armenia in the Russia Federation; Member of the Armenian Parliament (1990-1995). Holds diplomatic class of Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Minister.



Iulian Groza is an expert on foreign policy, European affairs and good governance. He is a former Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Moldova responsible for European Integration (June 2013 to February 2015). Before that, he served in different capacities at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration, including as Director General at the Directorate for European integration. He was posted as well to Brussels at the Moldovan Mission to the EU. Mr. Groza was a member of the Moldovan negotiation team of the EU-Moldova Association Agreement and led the Moldovan Task Force in the EU-Moldova Visa Liberalization Dialogue. Currently he is the Executive Director of the Institute for European Policies and Reforms (IPRE). Mr. Groza is a PhD candidate at the Moldovan State University and holds a degree in law. He also did postgraduate European Studies at Birmingham University and NATO Security Studies at National School of Political Studies and Public Administration (SNSPA) in Bucharest.



Dr. Shota Kakabadze is a Junior Policy Analyst at the Georgian Institute of Politics. He is a Doctor of Philosophy in Political Science from the University of Tartu (Estonia). Shota has obtained his Masters degree in the European Union – Russia Studies from the same university. During his doctoral studies he has been a Swedish Institute Research Fellow at Uppsala University Institute of Russia and Eurasian Studies, as well as a Junior Researcher of International Relations at the Johan Skytte Institute of Political Studies at the University of Tartu. His main research interest includes discourses on national identity, foreign policy, Eastern Partnership. He has published several academic articles and a book chapter on Georgian national identity/foreign policy relationship.



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Dr. Sergi Kapanadze is a Professor at Ilia State University. He is also a member of Parliament from European Georgia party (2016-2020). He has an experience of working for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2005-2012). At various times he has served as Dean at the Tbilisi State University and Caucasus University. Is married and has two children.



Dr. Sonja Schiffers has been serving as the Director of the Heinrich Böll Foundation Tbilisi Office-South Caucasus Region since August 2021. She is a member of the Advisory Board to the German Government for Civilian Crisis Prevention and Peacebuilding and an election observer with the Center for International Peace Operations, having observed for OSCE/ODIHR in Georgia, Turkey, and North Macedonia. Schiffers received her Ph.D. from Freie Universität Berlin with a dissertation on Russian and Turkish illiberal external influence in Bosnia and Georgia.

Previously, Dr. Sonja Schiffers worked at the German Bundestag, first as senior advisor for Eastern European affairs with the Alliance 90/The Greens Parliamentary Group and most recently as scientific associate/foreign policy advisor to Cem Özdemir MdB. From May 2017 until December 2019, Schiffers was a visiting fellow at the German Institute for International and Security Affairs (SWP). As voluntary president (2017-2019) and head of program Gender and International Politics (2016-2020), Schiffers contributed to building up Polis180, a Berlin-based Grassroots Think Tank for Foreign and European Affairs, where she also led several civil society projects with Georgian, Ukrainian and French partners. In 2015 and 2013, Schiffers spent a semester each teaching international relations at the Moscow State Institute for International Relations (MGIMO) and studying at Saint Petersburg State University.



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Dmytro Shulga is the European Programme Director at the International Renaissance Foundation. He joined IRF in 2005. He mainly focuses on the topics of Ukraine-EU-Russia relations and the Black Sea region.
