

2<sup>nd</sup> ASCN Annual Conference, 29 – 30 June 2012

# Political Transformation and Social Change in the South Caucasus

Georgia and Armenia in Perspective

# Day 1

FRIDAY 29 JUNE 2012

## CONFERENCE OBJECTIVES

The conference aims to gather junior scholars and researchers from various disciplines of the social sciences (political science, sociology, anthropology, etc.) involved with the South Caucasus. More specifically, the conference will address the following points of interest.

- It will provide opportunities for researchers vested in Armenia and Georgia to engage, network, exchange and discuss their research projects, papers and findings;
- It will provide a forum for discussion regarding the contradictions and ambivalences of the transformation process in the South Caucasus;
- It will provide a forum for discussion regarding the challenges confronting social science researchers in the South Caucasus.

## LOCATION

Marriott Hotel, Yerevan, Armenia

## FOLLOW-UP INFORMATION

[www.ascn.ch/en/Events/Annual-Conference-2012.html](http://www.ascn.ch/en/Events/Annual-Conference-2012.html)

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**13.00 // 14.00**

**ARRIVAL AND REGISTRATION OF PARTICIPANTS**

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**14.00 // 14.15**

**NICOLAS HAYOZ** ASCN PROGRAMME DIRECTOR

Opening of the Conference

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**14.15 // 14.30**

**H.E. KONSTANTIN OBOLENSKY** SWISS AMBASSADOR TO ARMENIA

Introductory words

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**14.30 // 15.30**

**THOMAS DE WAAL** CARNEGIE ENDOWMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE

*Prisoners of the Caucasus*

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**15.30 // 16.30**

**CHRISTOPH STEFES** UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO DENVER / SOCIAL SCIENCE

RESEARCH CENTER BERLIN (WZB)

*Critical Junctures, Institution Building and Regime Survival in Armenia and Georgia*

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**16.30 // 17.00: Coffee Break**

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**17.00 // 18.30**

**ROUNDTABLE**

**THE CHALLENGES OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCES IN THE SOUTH CAUCASUS**

**MODERATOR: RICHARD GIRAGOSYAN** (Regional Studies Center, Yerevan)

**SPEAKERS: GHIA NODIA** (Ilia State University, Tbilisi); **DAVID APRASIDZE** (Ilia State University, Tbilisi); **ALEXANDER ISKANDARYAN** (Caucasus Institute, Yerevan); **ALEXANDER MARKAROV** (Yerevan State University); **TIMOTHY BLAUVELT** (American Councils for International Education)

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**18.30 // 18.45**

**DENIS DAFFLON** ASCN PROGRAMME MANAGER

# Panel Sessions 09.30 // 12.40

DAY 2 SATURDAY 30 JUNE 2012

## PANEL 1:

### MIGRATION, DIASPORAS AND SOCIAL INCLUSION

GIANNI D'AMATO AND SILVIA SERRANO

## PANEL 2:

### CIVIL SOCIETY, SOCIAL CAPITAL AND SOCIAL NETWORKS

JONATHAN WHEATLEY AND GHIA NODIA

## PANEL 3:

### MEDIA, DISCOURSES AND PUBLIC SPACE

NICOLAS HAYOZ AND ALEXANDER ISKANDARYAN

## PANEL 4:

### STATE POWER, GOVERNANCE AND DEMOCRACY

ROY ALLISON AND DAVID APRASIDZE

## PANEL 5:

### NATIONAL IDENTITY, MINORITIES, RELIGIOUS AND CULTURAL CAPITAL

TIMOTHY BLAUVELT AND ALEXANDER AGADJANIAN

## PANEL 6:

### VALUE SYSTEMS, SOCIAL CHANGE AND MEMORY POLITICS

FRANÇOIS RUEGG AND GIGA ZEDANIA

## 09.30 // 10.10

### 1.1 AGHASI TADEVOSYAN AND ALINA POGHOSYAN

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES, ARMENIA

Armenia: Migration, Everyday Life and Transition

### 2.1 ROBYN ANGLE

HARVARD UNIVERSITY

Civil Society in Competitive Authoritarian States: NGOs and Georgia's Rose Revolution

### 3.1 LIA TSULADZE AND MAMUKA ANDGULADZE

TBILISI STATE UNIVERSITY

Social Media Development Tendencies in Georgia – Power of the Real Virtual?

### 4.1 BIDZINA LEBANIDZE

FREIE UNIVERSITÄT BERLIN

Why is There no Liberal Democracy in the Post-Soviet World? External Influences and the Failure of Democratic Consolidation in Post-Soviet States

### 5.1 TATIA MEBAGISHVILI

ILIA STATE UNIVERSITY

The Role of the Orthodox Church in the Formation of Georgian National Identity

### 6.1 NARINE KHACHATRYAN AND SONA MANUSYAN

YEREVAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Values, Beliefs and Social Behavior: Dynamics and Specifics in Modern Armenian Society

## 10.10 // 10.50

### 1.2 ASTGHIK CHALOYAN

YEREVAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Approach to Methodological Basis of Studying Migrant Networks

### 2.2 ABEL POLESE

TALLINN UNIVERSITY

Revolutions and Failed (Colour) Revolutions in the Former USSR: an Assessment of the Impact of External Factors on Civil Society in the Georgian and Armenian Cases

### 3.2 KOBA TURMANIDZE

TBILISI STATE UNIVERSITY

Opinion Formation and Dynamics in Georgia: a Look through the Blogosphere and Social Networks

### 4.2 NOZIMA AKHRARKHOD-JAEVA

UNIVERSITY OF BREMEN

Change and Stability in Hybrid Regimes (with a Focus on Post-Soviet Eurasia)

### 5.2 EVA FUCHSLOCHER

HUMBOLDT-UNIVERSITY BERLIN

The Influence of the Georgian Orthodox Church on the Georgian National Identity

### 6.2 TIGRAN MATOSYAN AND LUSINE SAGHUMYAN

"HAZARASHEN" ARMENIAN CENTRE FOR ETHNOLOGICAL STUDIES

The Value of Grit in Formal and Informal Education of Armenia

## 10.50 // 11.20: Coffee Break

## 11.20 // 12.00

### 1.3 ARTHUR ATANESYAN AND ARTHUR MKRTCHYAN

DEPARTMENT OF APPLIED SOCIOLOGY, YEREVAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Towards New Armenian Social Networks

### 2.3 NANA SUMBADZE

INSTITUTE FOR POLICY STUDIES, TBILISI

Civic Participation in a Transforming Society: Motivational Forces, Social Capital and Trust

### 3.3 NELLI BABAYAN

FREIE UNIVERSITÄT BERLIN

Media in Armenia: the Watchdog that Rarely Barks and Never Bites

### 4.3 TALINE PAPA ZIAN

SCIENCES-PO PARIS

Acts of Birth of the Post-Soviet South-Caucasus Republics: a Comparison of Founding Texts in Georgia, Armenia & Azerbaijan

### 5.3 IAGO KACHKACHISHVILI AND GIORGI NIZHARADZE

TBILISI STATE UNIVERSITY

Labor Culture and Religious Discourse in Different Communities of Georgia

### 6.3 ALEXI GUGUSHVILI

EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE

Why Parents Matter? Social Background and Life Chances in Transitional Societies

## 12.00 // 12.40

### 1.4 ANNETT FLEISCHER

EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE

The Role of Social Networks for Return Migration and Reintegration

### 2.4 KORNELY KAKACHIA AND TAMAR PATARAIA

TBILISI STATE UNIVERSITY

The Role of Social Networking in Georgian Party Politics

### 3.4 YEVGENYA PATURYAN

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF ARMENIA

Not Quite Online Yet: Media Consumption Patterns of the Armenian Public

### 4.4 DAVID SIROKY

ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

International Dimensions of Secessionist Insurgency: Sub-National Evidence from Georgia

### 5.4 MILENA OGANESYAN

UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA

Imperfect Peace? Intermarriage and Ethnicity in the Republic of Georgia

### 6.4 NINO JAVAKHISHVILI AND NINO SKHIRTLADZE

ILIA STATE UNIVERSITY

Adolescent Identity Formation: Globalization Versus Localization

## 12.40 // 14.00: Lunch

# Panel Sessions 14.00 // 17.00

## PANEL 1:

14.00 // 14.40

**1.5 JOSEPH SALUKVADZE AND DAVID SICHINAVA**  
TBILISI STATE UNIVERSITY

Coping with Marginality and Exclusion: Can IDP Communities Successfully Integrate into Mainstream Urban Societies in Georgia?

## PANEL 2:

**2.5 MARIELLA FALKENHAIN**  
HERTIE SCHOOL OF GOVERNANCE, BERLIN

The Politics of Co-optation: Civil Society and the 'Cooperative' State in the South Caucasus

## PANEL 3:

**3.5 ALEXIANDR NOVIKAU**  
NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY

A Comparative Study of Public Discourse on Corruption in Armenia and Belarus

## PANEL 4:

**4.5 HAMAZASP DANIELYAN AND ARMEN GRIGORYAN**

AREG SCIENTIFIC CULTURAL YOUTH ASSOCIATION  
Patterns of Political Elite Formation in Post-Soviet Armenia

## PANEL 5:

**5.5 NINO AIVAZISHVILI**

MARTIN-LUTHER-UNIVERSITY  
Ingiloyis and Public Ceremonies in Azerbaijan

## PANEL 6:

**6.5 MAIA MESTVIRISHVILI AND KHATUNA MARTSKHVLISHVILI**

TBILISI STATE UNIVERSITY  
Dispositional and Attitudinal Predictors of National Identity

14.40 // 15.20

**1.6 LELA REKHVIASHVILI**  
CENTRAL EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY

Second Transition in Georgia and the Survival of Poor and Marginalized Groups: the Case of IDPs

**2.6 ARON BUZOGANY**

GERMAN RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION SPEYER  
Society Organizations as Agents of Europeanization in the Southern Caucasus

**3.6 NINO ABZIANIDZE**  
UNIVERSITY OF ZURICH

The Media-based Mechanism of Identity Formation: Confrontational vs. Non-confrontational Identities

**4.6 TETIANA KOSTYUCHENKO**  
NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF KYIV-MOHYLA ACADEMY, UKRAINE

Political Elites in Armenia, Georgia and Ukraine: the Role of Social Capital for Continuity and Circulation

**5.6 ARUS HARUTYUNYAN**  
WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

Imagining National Identity through Territorial Politics: War in Nagorny Karabagh, Elites and Citizens

**6.6 SHOTA KHINCHAGASHVILI**

ILIA STATE UNIVERSITY  
Policing the Past: Memory as Security in Post-Socialist Georgia

15.20 // 15.40: Coffee Break

15.40 // 16.20

**1.7 MILENA BAGHDASARYAN**  
MARTIN-LUTHER UNIVERSITY

Entanglements of Citizenship and Nationhood in the Process of Naturalization of Refugees from Azerbaijan in Armenia

**2.7 AKBAR VALADBIGI**  
YEREVAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Studying the Peculiarities of Social Capital Among the Yezidi Rural Population of Armenia and Northern Iraq

**3.7 ARSHAK BALAYAN**  
HARVARD UNIVERSITY / YEREVAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Power Shifts in Contemporary Armenian Society

**4.7 HRANT KOSTANYAN**  
GHENT UNIVERSITY

Wide-Ranging and Gradual Yet Unassertive: The Substance of EU Democracy Promotion in Armenia & Georgia

**5.7 LELA CHAKHAIA AND NATIA ANDGHULADZE**

ILIA STATE UNIVERSITY  
Identities, Cultural Capital and Educational Choice of Georgian Youth – an Ethnographic Study

**6.7 PETER KABACHNIK**  
CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

The Performative Power of the Memorialized Landscape: Contested Practices and Competing National Narratives of the Stalin Monument in Gori, Georgia

16.20 // 17.00

**1.8 HAYKANUSH CHOBANYAN**  
YEREVAN STATE UNIVERSITY

The Socio-Political Impact of Labour Migration on Armenia

**2.8 MARINA MUSKHELISHVILI**  
CENTRE FOR SOCIAL STUDIES

The Role of Social Capital in Rural Community Development in Georgia

**3.8 OLEKSANDR SVYETLOV**  
HEINRICH HEINE UNIVERSITY

The Role of Opportunity Structure and Media in Framing the Rose Revolution

**4.8 ELENE JIBLADZE**  
CENTRAL EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY

Politics and Policies of Higher Education Reform in Georgia

**5.8 TAMAR KHOSHTARIA**

TBILISI STATE UNIVERSITY  
Social, Cultural and Political Values of Young People in Georgia

**6.8 ANA KIRVALIDZE**

ILIA STATE UNIVERSITY  
The (Re) Creation of Collective Memory and National Identity in Post-Soviet Georgia

17.00 // 17.30: Coffee Break

17.30 // 18.00: Concluding Remarks

20.00: Conference Dinner



## ABOUT ASCN

ASCN is a programme aimed at promoting the social sciences and humanities in the South Caucasus (primarily Georgia and Armenia). Its different activities foster the emergence of a new generation of talented scholars. Promising junior researchers receive support through research projects, capacity-building trainings and scholarships. The programme emphasizes the advancement of individuals who, thanks to their ASCN experience, become better integrated in international academic networks. The ASCN programme is coordinated and operated by the Interfaculty Institute for Central and Eastern Europe (IICEE) at the University of Fribourg (Switzerland). It is initiated and supported by Gebert Rűf Stiftung.

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