

**Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University
Faculty of Social and Political Sciences**

The 9th International Scientific Conference

“Space, Society, Politics”

PROGRAM

and

ABSTRACTS



24 - 25 June, 2021
Tbilisi

24-25 June, 2021

The 9th International Scientific Conference

“Space, Society, Politics”

Editors: Tamar Dolbaia, Teona Mataradze, Salome Dundua

Technical Group: Teona Tabuashvili, Miranda Mikadze

Speeches - 15 Minutes

Discussions - 5 Minutes

PROGRAM

24 June, Thursday

10.00 Conference Speeches and Welcomes

Giorgi Sharvashidze - Rector, Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University

Tamar Dolbaia - Dean, Faculty of Social and Political Sciences, Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University

I Session (Working Language - English)

Chairperson: Teona Mataradze, Associate Professor, Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University

10.15 Keynote Speech

Dr. Pawel Stawarz - University of Warsaw; Secretary of the Scientific Council of the Poland-East Cooperation Association; Deputy Editor-in-Chief of the scientific journal "Studia Wschodnioeuropejskie"; Member of the Scientific Editorial Board of the American Scientific Journal "Journal of Political Science and International Relations"; Member of the Polish Society for European Studies.

"Post socialist Transformation in Poland and Georgia, comparative overview"

11.00 **Revaz Gachechiladze**, Professor, **Giorgi Gogsadze**, Professor - Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University. „*Voter Turnout in Parliamentary Elections of Georgia: Dynamics and Geography*“

11.20 **Alexandre Kukhianidze** - Professor, Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University. *"Democracy and Super-Mafia"*

11.40 **Biró A. Zoltán**, Professor, **Kinga Katalin Székely**, Assistant Professor - Sapientia Hungarian University of Transilvania, Romania. „*Tourism development opportunities in an Eastern European rural area after COVID*”

12.00 **Mariam Gersamia**, Professor, **Maia Toradze**, Associate Professor - Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University, **Marina Goksadze**, MMED, Tbilisi Psychological Center - “*Gender stereotypes in Georgian media*”

12.20 **Cenay Babaoglu**, Associate Professor, Selçuk University, **Onur Kulac**, Assistant Professor, Pamukkale University - Turkey. “*Incremental Policy-Making in Public Health During the Covid-19 Pandemic in Turkey*”

12.40 **Agnieszka Tomczyk** - PhD candidate, University of Warsaw, Poland. “*How new global challenges shape political leadership?*”

13.00 **Tornike Zurabashvili** - PhD Candidate, Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University. “*The Question of Georgia’s Foreign Policy Orientation in the Parliamentary Election Manifestos of 1990 and 1992*”

13:20 **José G. Vargas-Hernández**, PhD, **César Omar Mora Pérez**, PhD, **Miguel Angel Esparza Íñiguez**, PhD - University of Guadalajara, Mexico. “*Green innovation business (GIB) as a comprehensive entrepreneurship model for the internationalization. The case of BIO-FOM in the urban area of Guadalajara*”

13.40 – 14.40 Break

II Session (Working Language - English)

Chairperson: Leo Lin

14.40 **David Matsaberidze** - Associate Professor, Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University. “*The Challenges of Post-Soviet Transformation in Georgia: Democratization and its External and Domestic Rivals*”

15.00 **Sumit Mukerji** - Professor, University of Kalyani, India. “*From Negative to Positive Peace: Meeting of two Seminal Minds*”

15.20 **Leo Lin** - Phd Candidate, The University of Southern Mississippi, USA. *“A Comparative Analysis of ASEAN Countries’ Responses to Human Trafficking during COVID-19”*

15.40 **Nino Kukhianidze** - PhD Candidate, Maria Curie-Skłodowska University, Poland. *“Peace education: the experience of Finland and the United States of America”*

16.00 **B. Alper Torun** - PhD Candidate, Ankara University, Turkey. *“The Second Karabakh War in the Context of Turkish-Russian Relations”*

16.20 **Sercan Yavan** - PhD, Research Assistant, Aydın Adnan Menderes University, Turkey. *“External Intervention against Satellite Pollution in the World Circulation: The Orbital Tax”*

16.40 **Shamal Hussein** - PhD Candidate, Political Science Institute, Poland. *“The Real Reason Behind Occupying Iraq in 2003”*

17.00 **Ved Pal Singh**, Senior Assistant Professor, **Arjun Deswal**, Student of LL.M. - Maharshi Dayanand University, India. *“Digitalisation as a Key in Rural Development: Glimpses from India”*

17.20 **Giorgi Beridze** - PhD Candidate, Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University. *“Europeanization of Georgia and Changes in Labour Relations”*

17.40 **Svetlana Akkueva**, Professor, Institute of Humanitarian Studies-Branch of the Federal Scientific Center Kabardino-Balkar Scientific Center of the Russian Academy of Sciences, **Muzhigit Ismailovich Akkiev**, Candidate of biological sciences, Kabardino-Balkar State Highland Nature Reserve, Russia. *“The relations between humans and nature: the problem of developing of tourism in the North Caucasus”*

18:00 **Samira Garayeva** - PhD Candidate, Institute of Archaeology and Ethnography, ANAS Center of Anthropology. *“Cultural attitudes and stereotypes in the family of an Azerbaijani woman”*

25 June, Friday

III Session (Working Language - Georgian)

Chairperson: Zurab Davitashvili

10.00 **Zurab Davitashvili** - Professor, Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University.
„National Identity and Foreign Policy”

10.20 **Vazha Lordkipanidze** - Professor, Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University. *“Did the conflicts in Abkhazia and the Tskhinvali region have ethnodemographic underpinnings?”*

10.40 **Giorgi Kvinikadze** - Associate Professor, Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University. *„Foreign Trade Problems in the Occupied Regions of Georgia”*

11.00 **Akaki Abzianidze**, Professor, Georgian National University SEU, **Avtandil Tukvadze**, Associate Professor, Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University. *“Political leadership in post soviet countries”*

11.20 **Aleksandre Tsurtsumia** - PhD, Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University. *“Recep Tayyip Erdogan - The role of a leader in the political process”*

11.40 **Maia Manchkhachvili** - PhD, Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University. *“The Platform of Six” - A New Model of Cooperation for the South Caucasus”*

12.00 **Phikria Asanishvili** - Associate Professor, Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University. *“Impact of Nagorno Karabakh War over the Regional Powers”*

12.20 **Lasha Tughushi**, Invited Lecturer, Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University, **Aleksandra Kalatozishvili**, Visiting Lecturer, Ilia State University, **Malkhaz Gagaa**, Invited Lecturer, International Black Sea University - *“Identity, conservatism and political views of the Kvemo Kartli population”*

12.40 **Salome Elisashvili** - PhD student, Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University. *“The Integration Problem of Ethnic Minorities in the Higher Education System of Georgia”*

13.00 **Vakhtang Maisaia**, Professor, **Miranda Mikadze**, PhD student - Caucasus International University. *“The Impact of Asymmetric War on Euro-Atlantic Security”*

13.20 **Natia Kuprashvili**, Associate Professor, **Nino Chalaganidze**, Associate Professor - Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University. *“Perception of hate speech in the of freedom of speech context - Georgian media culture example”*

13.40 **Maia Toradze**, Associate Professor, **Liana Markariani**, MA Student - Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University. *“Covid-19 Infodemic and Fake News in Georgian Social Media”*

14.00 - 15.00 Break

IV Session (Working Language - Georgian)

Chairperson: Salome Dundua

15.00 **Malkhaz Matsaberidze** - Professor, Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University. *„The War of February-March, 1921 and the Constituent Assembly of Georgia“*

15.20 **Revaz Gachechiladze** - Professor, Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University. *“Formation of Political Boundaries in the 20th century South Caucasus”*

15.40 **Nino Maisuradze** - PhD student, Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University. *“Influence of the European Conceptions on the Idea of a Nation in Georgia (1893-1917)”*

16.00 **Amiran Berdzenishvili**, Professor, **Kakha Ketsbaia**, Associate Professor - Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University. *“World Religions in the Globalization and Information Age”*

16.20 **Valerian Dolidze** - Assistant professor, Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University. *“Cumulative process of development of democracy in Georgia”*

16.40 **Salome Dundua**, Associate Professor, **Tamar Karaia**, Assistant Professor - Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University. *“Let's Defend My, Your, Our Batumi” - Social Movement to Save the Historic Look of Batumi*”

17.00 **Ketevan Jishiashvili** - PhD Student, Shota Rustaveli Theatre and Film Georgia State University. *“Modelling of postmodern urban space in contemporary Georgian painting”*

17.20 **Sandro Tabatadze** - PhD Student, Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University. *„Policy transfer: attempt for new classification and synthesis with policy change framework”*

17.40 **Goga Lobjanidze** - PhD Candidate, Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University. *“Party Cleavages in Georgia”*

18.00 **Tamar Orjonikidze** - PhD Student, Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University. *“Myths about Stalin in Modern Georgian Politics”*

Salome Dundua

Associate Professor

Tamar Karaia

Assistant Professor

Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University

“Let's Defend My, Your, Our Batumi” - Social Movement to Save the Historic Look of Batumi

In the history of independent Georgia civic activism has gone through an interesting path of development. Recently, the given activism has developed largely in the urban space. The preconditions for this have been accumulating for decades. Due to the difficult socio-economic situation, care for urban historical, cultural heritage and ecological health was less on the agenda. The re-urbanization of cities and the widespread idea of adapting to modern standards, which, among other factors, meant attracting investors and making significant investments in the development of the city, has led to the distortion of the historical monuments or entire historic districts in the urban space. These processes brought about a virtually complete depreciation of the urban fabric, which is historically, culturally and ecologically remarkable, and, on the other hand, resulted in civic activism. The cases of regional urban activism stand out, which we plan to discuss in this presentation on the example of the current civic movements in Batumi.

Civic activism is developing around three locations in Batumi. These are Technological University, Batumi Boulevard and Batumi Riviera. All three projects are accompanied by the request for approval of the historical and cultural zone of Batumi. Batumi urban space has undergone many interventions recently, but in the report, we will review three main ones, which we think can be analyzed in a single context. These projects have several common features. In all of them, the interests of the developers are reflected and the government supports the implementation of the project (the first and third of which are supported by the people in power in the country, while in the case of Batumi Boulevard, developers cannot exceed the level of support of local authorities); All of them are opposed by civil activists and specialists in the field; And, most importantly, despite periodic successes, the issue of all of them is still unclear.

All three cases selected for the study were developed in the same city, in the same period, and the actors involved were virtually the same, nevertheless, the results of these movements were different. Therefore, the research question can be formulated as follows: What were the main factors that contributed to the success/failure of the given movements?

By using qualitative research methods (namely, in 2020-2021, 16 in-depth interviews were conducted with civic activists involved in the process, representatives of local government, academia and the media) we study the issue in the context of political mediation theory. This model, acting as a mediator between 'action and outcomes' (Amenta, E. et al. 1992), focuses on both the internal characteristics of the movement and the social and political environment outside the movement, as it believes that the combination of these factors influences on the success or failure of the movement.

Keywords: Batumi, civic activism, urban development, engagement, space