

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

**The 9<sup>th</sup> International Scientific Conference**

**“Space, Society, Politics”**

**PROGRAM**

**and**

**ABSTRACTS**



24 - 25 June, 2021  
Tbilisi

24-25 June, 2021

The 9<sup>th</sup> 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 Gagua**, 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 20<sup>th</sup> 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”*



**Lasha Tughushi**

Invited Lecturer

Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University

**Aleksandra Kalatozishvili**

Visiting Lecturer

Ilia State University

**Malkhaz Gagua**

Invited Lecturer

International Black Sea University

**Identity, conservatism and political views of the Kvemo Kartli population**

The report reflects the results of a complex research of the attitudes of the population of Kvemo Kartli (excluding the city of Rustavi). It includes both a quantitative component - a survey of ethnic Azerbaijani and ethnic Georgians, as well as a qualitative part - focus group sessions, interviews, case studies, media analysis and content analysis. The research showed that the Georgian and Azerbaijani communities of the region differ significantly not only in terms of identity, but also in terms of issues related to values and political views. The ethnic Azerbaijani population of Kvemo Kartli is more connected to Azerbaijan and Turkey than to Georgia in terms of ethnic identity, language skills and information sources. Although both Georgian and Azerbaijani populations assess the economic situation of their own families, settlements, and the region as generally average, the dynamics between ethnic groups in the region need attention.

The research showed that the identity of ethnic Azerbaijanis living in Kvemo Kartli is currently in a dynamic, fluid state, which is mainly related to the change or strengthening of their ethnic and religious self-identification. The latter refers to various aspects of religious life, which, compared to the Georgian community, has a more intense nature. At the same time, within the Azerbaijani community itself, there is a kind of competition between the two main denominations of Islam - Shiites and Sunnis. As it turned out, representatives of both (Shiite and Sunni) denominations are engaged in proselytizing, especially active are Shiite clerics, a significant portion of whom have been educated in the religious centers of Iran and enjoy the support of this country.

Apart from the religious factor, the fluidity of the Azerbaijani community in Kvemo Kartli also has a serious ethnic component. The strengthening of the pan-Turkish identity is noticeable, which was given a special impetus by the Karabakh war of 2020. In addition to Azerbaijani and pan-Turkish self-identification, much of this community considers itself to be Borchalo and/or Qarapapakh. The share of Georgian identity in them is insignificant. The rate of fluidity in both religious and ethnic contexts is more evident in the younger generation.

The research showed that the attitude and expectations of Azerbaijanis towards Georgians are more positive than vice versa. At the same time, Azerbaijanis perceive the rights of religious and ethnic minorities as less protected than the rights of other groups, and are more likely to feel unjustly restricted during the spread of the Covid 19. This is not surprising, since the Georgian population of Kvemo Kartli is less willing to accept the right of religious minorities to participate in religious rituals as legitimate and thinks that this hinders the unity of Georgians.

The Azerbaijani community is more conservative in matters of child rearing and other issues related to family, more inclined on restricting individual liberty and adhering to traditional social norms. However, Georgians are much more conservative about the right of a aliens to buy real estate in Georgia. The Azerbaijani community of Kvemo Kartli is significantly detached from the Georgian context in the field of information and culture. Instead they prefer Azerbaijani, Turkish and even Russian media. However, in recent years there has been an augmentation of several local media outlets, which have started to occupy dominant positions in this community and are also disconnected from the Georgian context.

At the same time, the views of the Azerbaijani community on foreign policy orientations show that their views differ from those of the Georgians in Kvemo Kartli, as well as from the majority of the Georgian population in general, and are definitely less pro-Western. The views of Azerbaijanis about enemy and friendly countries show that they think primarily on the basis of ethnic and religious identity and see little state perspective.

**Keywords:** Identity, conservatism, political views, Kvemo Kartli, ethnic Azerbaijanis