

International Scientific Conference
“Thirty Years in the United Nations”
May 21, 2022

Report by Natia Phiphia (TSU) and Tedo Dundua (TSU)

Thirty years have passed from the significant event in history of Georgia. On July 31, 1992 the Republic of Georgia became 179th member of the United Nations. Institute of Georgian History at the Faculty of Humanities at Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University organized an international conference dedicated to this important event. The conference was held on May 21, 2022.

Professor **Tedo Dundua**, director of the Institute of Georgian History and vice-dean of the Faculty of Humanities, opened the conference, made his welcome speech and served as a session chair for the first, English session. He also gave a talk about ***Georgia as a Part of Integrated Europe***. He pointed out that “for Georgian Christian monarchs there were the Byzantine titles to make them feel like a citizens of the Orthodox empire at the same time being ascribed to their own countries”.

Natia Phiphia, assistant-professor at Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University, spoke about ***International Recognition: from Restoration of Independence of Georgia to Membership in the UN***. She overviewed the path Georgia had passed while struggling for international recognition.

Andžej Pukšto from Vytautas Magnus University (Kaunas, Lithuania) gave a speech about ***International Recognition: from Restoration of Independence of Lithuania to Membership in the UN***. He also gave a comprehensive overview of the political processes related to international recognition of Lithuania starting from the declaration of independence on March 11, 1990.

Edgars Engīzers who represented Baltic International Academy (Riga, Latvia) and Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Latvia), talked about ***International Recognition: from Restoration of Independence of Latvia to Membership in***

the UN. He mentioned that “Baltic states restored independence, not built the new one”.

Sergei Tambi from the University of Tartu (Estonia) gave a speech about *The Admission of Estonia to the UN (1991) and the European Union (2004) and the Significance of these Events for this Country*.

Leri Tavadze from Tbilisi State University spoke about *New National Identity of Georgia*. He emphasized that “mononational and multiethnic medieval Georgia tends to be a role model for the national building of modern Georgia in the shaping of national identity”.

Niko Javakhishvili, associate professor at Tbilisi State University, served as a session chair for the second session of the conference. Session language was Georgian.

Dimitri Shvelidze, associate professor at Tbilisi State University, overviewed *Stances of Political Parties in Georgia during the Restoration of Independence (1991)*. He paid special attention to the radical attitude of some political parties towards the leaders of national government, the rhetoric they used against them and etc.

Giorgi Arkania, PhD student at Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University, spoke about *Relations of Zviad Gamsakhurdia, the First President of Georgia, with the UN*.

Akaki Chikobava from Tbilisi State University spoke about *History of Privatization in Modern Georgia*. He mentioned that “perhaps Zviad Gamsakhurdia had an intention to transfer some factories into the private hands, i.e. to privatize them, however he did not want to privatize lands as a resource. As a result, his opponents blamed him in extreme nationalism which was motivated by the desire not to transfer the lands to foreigners. However, this seems to be an absurd accusation”.

Niko Javakhishvili, associate professor at Tbilisi State University, gave the final speech about *Relations Between the Republic of Georgia and Baltic States After their Admission to the UN*.

After each session, there was an interesting debate.