

CAUCASUS RESEARCH RESOURCE CENTERS
THE 9TH ANNUAL CRRC CONFERENCE

**NEW FRONTIERS:
THE SOUTH CAUCASUS
AMIDST NEW CHALLENGES**

JUNE 22-23, 2023
HOTEL HILTON GARDEN INN TBILISI / ONLINE

The 9th Annual CRRC Conference

New Frontiers: The South Caucasus Amidst New Challenges

June 22-23, 2023, [Hotel Hilton Garden Inn Tbilisi](#)



ABOUT CRRC

The Caucasus Research Resource Centers (CRRC) is a network of research and research support centers in the capital cities of Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia. Established in 2003, CRRC's goal is to strengthen social science research and public policy analysis in the South Caucasus. Over the past seventeen years, CRRC offices have become a nexus of activity for the social science community in the South Caucasus by providing open access to data, scholarly literature, and professional training for social science researchers. For more information about CRRC and the upcoming conference, please visit the respective country websites at crrc.am, crrc.az and crrc.ge.

ABOUT CAUCASUS BAROMETER

The Caucasus Barometer is a bi-annual nationwide household survey conducted by CRRC offices in the South Caucasus. Since 2015, Caucasus Barometer has been administered in Armenia and Georgia only. To find more about the survey and access the dataset, please visit caucasusbarometer.org.

June 22, 2023

11:00-11:30	Registration of participants, coffee, tea
11:30-11:45	Opening remarks, Professor Julie A. George, CUNY
11:45-13:00	Parallel sessions A
13:00-15:00	Lunch break
15:00-16:15	Parallel sessions B
16:15-16:30	Break
16:30-18:00	Roundtable: Archival Access and Openness in the Caucasus and Eurasia
18:00-19:00	Dr. Claire P. Kaiser, Adjunct Professor at the Center for Eurasian, Russian, and East European Studies at Georgetown University, McLarty Associates. Keynote speech: Rethinking Soviet nation-building in the Caucasus: new frames, new legacies.

June 23, 2023

11:00-11:30	Registration of participants, coffee, tea
11:30-11:45	Opening remarks
11:45-13:30	Session C
13:30-15:00	Lunch break
15:00-16:15	Session D
16:15-16:30	Break
16:30-18:00	Workshop: Empowering Research Subjects through “Photovoice” in the South Caucasus, accompanied by photo exhibition
18:00-18:15	Closing remarks, Dr. Koba Turmanidze, CRRC-Georgia

DETAILED AGENDA

JUNE 22, 2023

PARALLEL SESSIONS A, 11:45-13:00

SESSION A1: VALUES, MOBILIZATION AND ACTIVISM IN THE SOUTH CAUCASUS

11:45-12:00	The Devastating Effects of Turkey's Withdrawal from the Istanbul Convention and the Shrinking of Civic Space in Azerbaijan	Sultan Erbaş Sadaka, Middle East Technical University
12:00-12:15	Mapping Wikipedia in the Caucasus: Micro-contributions to scholarship	Hans Gutbrod, Ilia State University
12:15-12:30	Could a Karabakh Movement Possibly Not Emerge? Comparative Process Tracing of Sociopolitical Roots of the Nagorno-Karabakh Conflict	Hayk Smbatyan, CRRC-Armenia
12:30-12:45	European Integration as Discursive Manipulation: Navigating through media discourses in Georgia	Lia Tsuladze; Center for Social Sciences; Tbilisi State University; Nino Abzianidze, Center for Social Sciences; Georgian Institute of Public Affairs (GIPA)
12:45-13:00	Exploring the Role of Media and Language in Building Resilience at the Time of Traumatic Social Distress	Narine Yegiyan; University of California Davis
13:00-13:30	Q&A	



SESSION A2: MEASURING VALUES IN THE SOUTH CAUCASUS

11:45-12:00	The Role of Safety and Security on the Subjective Well-Being of Armenians: Evidence from World Values Survey data	Sara Melkonyan, Hrachya Khlghatyan, Lilit Yezekyan, Louis-Alassane Cassaignard Viaud; CRRC-Armenia
12:00-12:15	The Political Psychology of Euro-Integration - Which Values Matter?	Elene Kvanchilashvili, Tbilisi State University
12:15-12:30	The Impact of the Ukraine-Russia and Armenia-Azerbaijan Conflicts on Azerbaijan's Own Identity Formation	Ulkar Asgarova, Azerbaijan University of Languages
12:30-12:45	Introducing the Caucasus Barometer Datasets	Louis-Alassane Cassaignard-Viaud, Hrachya Khlghatyan, Mane Gasparyan, Sona Balasanyan; CRRC-Armenia
12:45-13:15	Q&A	

PARALLEL SESSIONS B, 15:00-16:15

SESSION B1: PATTERNS OF MIGRATION FROM AND TO THE SOUTH CAUCASUS

15:00-15:15	Georgian Migrants in Peniche, Portugal: The Covid-19 Pandemic and the war in Ukraine	António Eduardo Mendonça; IGOT - Universidade de Lisboa
15:15-15:30	Russian Dissidents in Georgia: The New White Russians?	Josiah Marineau, Brandon Hicks; University of North Carolina at Pembroke
15:30-15:45	Challenges and Support for Ukrainian Refugees in Georgia	Ana Kharshiladze, Anna Dolidze; Center for Progress
15:45-16:00	Unravelling the Epistemic Community: A review on Russian scientists caught up in unprecedented sanctions	Yasemin Necmiye Tutar; Recep Tayyip Erdoğan University
16:00-16:15	Q&A	

SESSION B2: PEACE, SECURITY, AND DEMOCRACY IN THE CAUCASUS

15:00-15:15	Russia's Information War Strategy Against Georgia	Irina Mamulashvili; International Society for Fair Elections and Democracy (ISFED) and Chatham House
15:15-15:30	Shifts in Personnel Deployment Throughout the Southern Military District Since February 2022	Justin Tomczyk; Stanford University
15:30-15:45	From Conflict to Cooperation: The European Union's role in the Armenia-Azerbaijan peace talks	Mehraj Aliyev; Russian, East European, and Eurasian Center University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
15:45-16:00	Democracy and Corruption: Benefits of an intersectional approach	Tigran Melikian, Seda Ananyan; CRRC-Armenia
16:00-16:15	Q&A	

16:30-18:00 Roundtable Discussion: Archival Access and Openness in the Caucasus and Eurasia

Timothy Blauvelt, Ilia State University / American Councils

Anton Vacharadze, Institute for the Development of Freedom of Information (IDFI.ge)

Catriona Kelly, University of Cambridge

Evgeniya Prusskaya, Institute of Oriental Studies, Ilia State University

Harrison King, UC Berkeley

Aram Ghoogasian, Princeton University

16:30-18:00

**KEYNOTE SPEECH: RETHINKING SOVIET NATION-BUILDING IN THE CAUCASUS:
NEW FRAMES, NEW LEGACIES**

**Dr. Claire P. Kaiser, Adjunct Professor at the Center for Eurasian, Russian, and East European
Studies at Georgetown University, McLarty Associates**

JUNE 23, 2023

SESSION C: NEW ECONOMIC GEOGRAPHIES OF THE SOUTH CAUCASUS

11:45-12:00	Affordable Housing and Access to Higher Education: Where and how do students from the regions live in Tbilisi?	Rati Shubladze, Zakaria Tavberidze; Georgian Institute of Public Affairs (GIPA)
12:00-12:15	Localizing Smart Cities in the Post-Soviet Context: Case of Azerbaijan	Fidan Namazova, Anar Valiyev; ADA University
12:15-12:30	Pipeline Geopolitics -- Cross-border Energy pipelines in the South Caucasus and Three Countries' Diplomatic Positions toward Russia (2003-2020)	Ruikai Xue, Jilin University and Hokkaido University
12:30-12:45	Precarious Work and the Reproduction of Social Injustice in the Retail and Catering Sector: An illustration of the Armenian retail and catering sector Catering Sector:	Srbuhi Michikyan, CRRC-Armenia
12:45-13:00	Q&A	

SESSION D: INTERCOMMUNAL RELATIONS IN THE SOUTH CAUCASUS

15:00-15:15	The Nagorno-Karabakh Conflict in the post-2020 War Period: Dominant attitudes and factors shaping public opinion in conflict-affected societies	Nazrin Gadimova, Friedrich Schiller University of Jena, Institute for Caucasus Studies
15:15-15:30	Proximity and Public Opinion: The effect of mosques on tolerance for religious minorities in Georgia	Kathryn Webb, Kennan Butcher, Daniella Marx; William & Mary
15:30-15:45	Dialog and the Shadows of Empire in the Russophone Literary Collection: A Time to Live	Benjamin Sutcliffe, Miami University
15:45-16:00	Analyzing young people's attitudes towards different cultures, sub-cultures and sexual orientations	Anano Kipiani, CRRC-Georgia; Tamar Khoshtaria, CRRC-Georgia, Ilia State University
16:00-16:15	Q&A	

16:30-18:30 Methods Workshop: Empowering Research Subjects with Photovoice in the South Caucasus

Ariel Otruba, InFocus War and Peace Scholar-in-Residence, Moravian University

Nino Dzotsenidze, Independent researcher

Mariam Orjonikidze, Ilia State University

Natia Kekenadze, Tbilisi State University