



BLACK SEA SUMMER UNIVERSITY

co-funded by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)

NATO Public
Diplomacy Programmes



and with support of the Embassy of the Republic of Lithuania to Georgia



Embassy of the Republic
of Lithuania to Georgia

« GEOPOLITICS OF THE BLACK SEA REGION »



CONSOLIDATED FINAL REPORT

TBILISI, (Georgia)

July 19th to 25th, 2018

As it is usual now, the Black Sea Summer University was organized in Georgia, Tbilisi, in partnership with Georgian Institute of Politics (GIP). For the first time, this programme was co-founded by the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) and with the support of the Embassy of the Republic of Lithuania in Georgia. Thanks to this extra budget, the programme was organised with a great success, with a lot of candidates, and providing a lot of extra activities for the great pleasure of the group.

The program took place from July 19th to 25th on the topic “Geopolitics of the Black sea Region”. The foreign students were accommodated together with the lecturers in a hotel very close to Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University where the courses took place, with only a few minutes walking between the hotel and the location of the academic program. Even if the hotel was located in the up area of the city, it was also very close to the famous commercial Rustaveli Avenue and during the long evenings, together with their Georgian new friends, everybody had good opportunities to visit Tbilisi and test its specific gastronomy.



The academic program was structured around a lot of topics about the geopolitical context of the Black sea Region and specially the role of NATO and EU in this region. All the topics were warmly discussed in formal conferences, but with debates and interactive sessions too. The programme contained approximately 30 hours of lectures and discussions. They were conducted in English by international experts from European Union and from Georgia. In addition, one of the session was organised in the building of the Information Center on NATO and EU with the exceptional participation of the Head of the NATO Liaison Office in Georgia.

The participants represented 11 different nationalities with a very large part of Georgian candidates. The Georgian candidates immediately were very involved in the organisation of the free time and have facilitated the cultural integration of their foreign new friends. Probably because they were for the first time in a very new country for them, they immediately formed a little family, taking benefit of every free time proposed.

In addition, the participants enjoyed a rich full day excursion out of Tbilisi in the region of Kakheti and were surprised, and excited, to take part, during the visit of a famous Monastery, in a live concert of traditional music organized during a wedding. This excursion helped them to savour another identity of the country and the very beautiful view to the landscapes of Georgia.



All the candidates completed the program successfully and received a certificate of participation. Additionally, those students who presented some supplementary work after the session acquired ECTS Credits. We also asked our students at the end of the session to fill out the evaluation questionnaire and comment upon our programme. Their observations, which can be found further on in this report have been of immense value for us, organisers, and showed a great satisfaction.

This new experience in Georgia was considered as a great success and Cife warmly thanks GIP for its involvement in the preparation and organisation of the program and specially the sponsors (NATO and Lithuanian Embassy) for the financial support that has permitted the organisation of a very appreciated programme.



PROGRAM

THURSDAY JULY 19th, 2018

Arrival and accommodation for the foreign participants

Free time

FRIDAY JULY 20th, 2018

10:30h: Opening session (Tbilisi State University)

Presentation of partners



- **Dr. Kornely Kakachia**, Director of the Georgian Institute of Politics (GIP), Georgia
-
- **S.E. Amb. Giedrius Pucdžiūnas**, Ambassador of the Republic of Lithuania to Georgia
-
- **Marie-France Perdigon**, Director of the Summer University Programme, CIFE Nice, France



Presentation of participants

11:00 h: “NATO-Georgia Relations and its Perspectives”

Batu Kutelia, Former Georgian Ambassador to the United States and Deputy Secretary of Georgia’s National Security Council.



Lunch



14:30 h: “Relations Between Black Sea Region and NATO”

Dr. George Tzogopoulos (Greece), Begin Sadat Center for Strategic Studies, Lecturer at the Democritus University of Thrace, Senior Research Fellow at CIFE

17:00

Walking tour in the Old town of Tbilisi



SATURDAY JULY 21th, 2018

10.00 h ***“European Union and Energy Issues in the Black Sea area. Relations Between Turkey and Russia”***
“China as a New Actor in the Black Sea Area”

Dr. George Tzogopoulos (Greece),
Begin Sadat Center for Strategic
Studies, Lecturer at the Democritus
University of Thrace, Senior Research
Fellow at CIFE



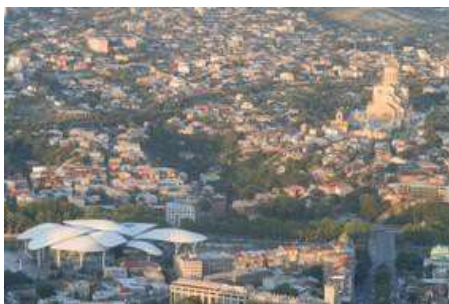
Lunch



14:30 h ***“Georgia-EU Relations: Perspectives and Challenges”***
Elene Panchulidze (Georgia), Policy Analyst, Georgian
Institute of Politics (GIP), (Georgia)
Mariam Grigalashvili (Georgia), Georgian Institute of Politics
(GIP), (Georgia)



17:00 Walking Tour.
The most beautiful view of Tbilisi





MONDAY JULY 23th, 2018

(building of the information center for NATO and EU
Freedom Square

**9.30h “Georgian identity and its
Foreign Policy”**

Levan Kakhishvili (Georgia),
Policy Analyst, Georgian Institute
of Politics (GIP), Georgia



11:00h “NATO-Georgia Partnership”

Rosaria Puglisi, Head of the NATO Liaison Office in Georgia



Lunch together

14.00h “Security Challenges in the Black Sea Region”

“The European Neighborhood Policy and the Eastern partnership”

Madeleine Hubin (Belgium), Liège University



17:00h Walking tour in the city center of Tbilisi: The cathedral



TUESDAY JULY 24th, 2018

10:00 h *“The Frozen Conflicts in the Black Sea Region: Security Threats and Challenges”*
(including an interactive activity) Madeleine Hubin, (Belgium), Liège University



13.00 h Short Lunch

Exams for the students wishing to acquire ECTS Credits







16:00 Closing ceremony and distribution of diplomas










WEDNESDAY JULY 25th, 2018

Departure of the foreign participants

PARTICIPANTS

<p>Aragona Nicole</p> <p><i>U.S.A.</i></p>		<p>Graduated from the University of Florida (BA English, ESL Adult Educator, Elementary School Teacher, Editor for International Students, Kuwait.</p>
<p>Davidian George</p> <p><i>Georgia</i></p>		<p>BA in International Relations, International Black Sea University</p>
<p>El-Chehimi Mehiedine</p> <p><i>Lebano</i></p>		<p>Legal and strategy consulting, Cedar's consulting Paris-Beirut, Graduated in International Business and Trade Management</p>
<p>Elisashvili Salome</p> <p><i>Georgia</i></p>		<p>BA in Political Sciences, Tbilisi State University</p>
<p>Gasparian Ekaterine</p> <p><i>Georgia</i></p>		<p>BA in International Relations, International Black Sea University</p>
<p>Guez Chloé</p> <p><i>France</i></p>		<p>Student in European Studies (Master degree), Catholic University of Leuven (Belgium)</p>

<p>Heiss Christopher</p> <p><i>Germany</i></p>	 A portrait of Christopher Heiss, a man with short brown hair, wearing a light blue button-down shirt, resting his chin on his hand.	<p>Teacher training for high school (german language, norwegian language, history and culture)</p>
<p>Kaziu Klajdi</p> <p><i>Albania</i></p>	 A portrait of Kaziu Klajdi, a man with short brown hair and a beard, wearing sunglasses and a blue shirt.	<p>Student of Political science and international relations (3rd year, bachelor degree), Epoka University of Tirana</p>
<p>Khvadagiani Ani</p> <p><i>Georgia</i></p>	 A portrait of Ani Khvadagiani, a woman with long dark hair, wearing a patterned top.	<p>BA in Social and Political Sciences, Tbilisi State University</p>
<p>Korpivaara Ida</p> <p><i>Finland</i></p>	 A portrait of Ida Korpivaara, a woman with long blonde hair, wearing a patterned top, with sunglasses on her head.	<p>Student in Economics and Business Administratiion, Jyväskylä Univer- sity, Finland</p>
<p>Manizhashvili Nino</p> <p><i>Georgian</i></p>	 A portrait of Nino Manizhashvili, a woman with long dark hair, wearing a white top.	<p>MA of International Relations Global Governance and Social Theory, University of Bremen & Jacobs University of Bremen</p>
<p>Melashvili Teona</p> <p><i>Georgia</i></p>	 A portrait of Teona Melashvili, a woman with long dark hair and glasses, wearing a light-colored top.	<p>Master of Arts in Public Policy and Public Administration, Tbilisi State University</p>

<p>Nachkebia Tamar</p> <p>Georgia</p>		<p>MA in International Law, Tbilisi State University</p>
<p>Okujava Badri</p> <p>Georgia</p>		<p>BA in Political Science, Ilia State University</p>
<p>Peireira Pedro Alexandre</p> <p>Portugal</p>		<p>Events & Campaign Manager, European Commission Directorate-General for Communication, Madrid (Spain), Master degree in Advanced European and International Studies, CIFE – Nice</p>
<p>Petriashvili Nino</p> <p>Georgia</p>		<p>Faculty of Social Sciences, International Black Sea University, Tbilisi</p>
<p>Pocyte Agniete</p> <p>Lithuania</p>		<p>Student in Erasmus Mundus Master's programme in Intelligence Security and Strategic Studies, University of Glasgow.</p>
<p>Shanshashvili Nino</p> <p>Georgia</p>		<p>MA in Public Affairs, Ilia State University Tbilisi.</p>

Soto Betancourt Daniel

Chile



Lawyer, Legal advisor in the International Cooperation and Extradition Unit of the Public Prosecutor's Office of Chile

Torbeyns Wouter

Belgium



Student of Political science (1st year, Master Degree), Free University of Brussels, Belgium

Tsikoridze Sophio

Georgia



BA in International Relations, Free University



EVALUATION

Number of candidates in the program:	21
Receipt of the evaluation forms:	20 or 96% receipt of the forms (a sick candidate the last day)
	Student satisfaction rate : 96 %

The evaluation of the session organised at the end of the program and the examination of the forms proved an excellent satisfaction of the students regarding the programme as well as the organisation and the logistic. The candidates were invited, the last day of the programme, to fill in a form in two parts, the first concerned the traditional CIFE form, the second part was an evaluation on specific criteria required by NATO. We can consider that the program has been very, very appreciated with a level of satisfaction of 96 %.

Studying conditions were very comfortable in the building of Tbilisi State University, very close to the hotel of the foreign candidates and teachers, and one working day was organised with success in the building of the Information Centre on NATO and EU, in the area of the old city. The restaurant booked near the university for the working lunches was very tasting and proposed a large variety of food. All others meals proposed during the programme (snacks for the excursion day, large buffet for the day organised in the information center of NATO and for the last day at the university) was very appreciated. The only criticism was about the quantity too much !

The program was very appreciated and judged very interesting and useful. All the major topics were covered with a lot of discussions, debates and interactive activities. Everyone was very happy to have participated in this program and to have the opportunity of open-discussions with all the teachers during the formal academic timing, but during lunches too. On the other hand, Georgian students were very cooperative with their new foreign friends and a lot of guided tours to Tbilisi and its surroundings were organized every afternoon after classes, to allow a better appreciation of the country's culture. The foreign candidates greatly appreciated the friendship of their new friends to help them discover their country. In addition, a full day trip was organised in the middle of the programme, with all the students and some teachers together, in the region of Kakheti where everyone could discover wonderful landscapes, very interesting religious buildings and even a concert of traditional music in one of the monasteries.

Evaluation of the lecturers:

All the lecturers from Georgia and from abroad were considered as very professional in their area and the best part of the project that made the whole summer school truly useful and beneficial. Some of them were particularly appreciated for their professionalism and for their alive presentation.

In addition, the candidates have all noticed a very large satisfaction about

- relations with the team,
- administrative assistance offered before and during the program
- cultural and tourist activities offered outside the program and
- and the very, very friendly atmosphere.

General evaluation of the session :

All the candidates, from Georgia and from abroad, have largely taken advantage of their free time after the courses and were able to visit, thanks to their Georgian friends, all the interesting places of Tbilisi. The general opinion was that this program is a perfect mixture of leisure activities, lectures and discussions.

Many comments were very complimentary: *"I'm very glad to participate in this excellent programme and to be part of this great team", "I can only recommend to continue on the same level which is quiet good", "it was too short", "I can't believe it's already over !".....*

CONCLUSION :

CIFE warmly thanks Georgian Institute of Politics for its amazing involvement and specially Mariam, for her friendly collaboration and organization and the NATO for the co-founding.

This session could not have been such a success without the financial support provided by the sponsors, and which allowed us to propose a rich program as well for the academic part as for the discovery of the culture, the traditions and the gastronomy of the country.

Photos and videos of the session

Facebook

"Summer University Programme-CIFE" :

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.10156990165613816&type=1&l=4e4f249bb4>



Georgian Institute of Politics :

https://www.facebook.com/pg/GeorgianInstituteofPolitics/photos/?tab=album&album_id=1754103004627510



and Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AVj0JrJ3sQs>

SUMMER UNIVERSITY ORGANISATION

Direction of the CIFE's Summer University Programme

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Mariam Grigalashvili
Master of Political Science, Analyst
Georgian Institute of Politics



The programme is organized by the Centre International de Formation Européenne (CIFE) in partnership with the Georgian Institute of Politics, with support of the Embassy of the Republic of Lithuania to Georgia, co-funded by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

