



*Centre international
de formation européenne*



BLACK SEA SUMMER UNIVERSITY



REPORT OF THE SESSION

TBILISI (Georgia)

13 to 19 July 2026

The Black Sea Summer University was organised in Tbilisi, Georgia, in collaboration with New Vision University.

The programme took place from 13 to 19 July on the topic “Security Challenges in the Black Sea Region”. The foreign students stayed, together with the lecturers, in a very good hotel, easily accessible to all points of interest in Tbilisi. The Georgian students enthusiastically took on the role of tour guides and showed their new international friends around their capital city after classes.

The academic programme was structured around many topics of security in the context of the Black Sea 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 Georgia and from countries both within and outside the European Union.

The group of almost 30 participants represented 12 different nationalities with a large proportion of Georgian candidates. The Georgian candidates were immediately very involved in the organisation of the free time and facilitated the cultural integration of their new foreign friends. Probably because they were for the first time in a very new country for them, they immediately formed a little family, taking advantage of all the free time offered.

All the candidates completed the programme successfully and received a certificate of participation during the closing ceremony. Additionally, those students who presented some supplementary work after the session acquired ECTS credits. At the end of the session, we also asked our students to fill out the evaluation questionnaire and comment upon our programme. Their observations showed great satisfaction.

It was noted that studying conditions were very comfortable in the building of New Vision University with air conditioning in all the classrooms.

In addition, the participants enjoyed a rich full-day excursion out of Tbilisi to one of the famous wine regions of Georgia.

Everyone, both students and teachers, considered this experience in Georgia as a great success and CIFE warmly thanks the collaborators of New Vision University for their involvement in the preparation and organisation of the programme.



PROGRAMME

MONDAY 13 JULY 2026

**Arrival of the international participants.
Accommodation. Free evening**

TUESDAY 14 JULY 2026

10.00: Welcome coffee

10.30: Opening session

- **Renata Skardziute-Kereselidze**, Head of International Relations Department, New Vision University, IPRES, Tbilisi, Georgia
- **Marie-France Perdigon**, Director, Summer University Programme, CIFE Nice



“International Law in a Contested Environment: The Significance of the Political Context in the Black Sea Region”
Prof. Benedikt Harzl, University of Graz, Austria

13.00: Lunch at the cafeteria of New Vision University

14.00: “EU Policies in the Region”

Prof. Dr. Çiğdem Üstün, PhD in European Studies and international relations, Nişantaşı University Istanbul, Turkey



Free afternoon for personal visits



WEDNESDAY 15 JULY 2026

10.00: *"Relations between Turkey and Georgia"*

Prof. Dr. Çiğdem Üstün

11.30: Coffee break

11.45: *"Black Sea Security in Focus: Strategies of the Littoral States"*

H.E. Razvan Rotundu,
Ambassador of Romania
to Georgia



13.00: Lunch at the cafeteria of New Vision University

14.00: *"Trump and NATO: Implications for the Black Sea Region"*

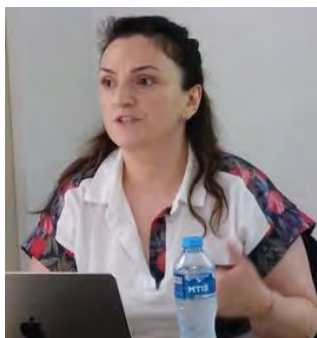
Madeleine Hubin, Assistant professor in international
relations and European politics, HEC Liège, Belgium



THURSDAY 16 JULY 2026

10.00: *"NATO and the Black Sea Region: Towards a New Role"*

Madeleine Hubin



11.30: Coffee break

11.45: *"Building Resilience in the Europeanisation Process of Georgia"*

Prof. Gvantsa Davitashvili, New Vision University, Tbilisi, Georgia

13.00: Lunch at the cafeteria of
New Vision University



14.00: *"Black Sea Security in Focus: Georgia's Strategy"*

Megi Benia, Contributing Editor of New Eastern
Europe, Georgia

Free afternoon for personal visits



FRIDAY 17 JULY 2026 Full-day excursion to the Kakheti Region:

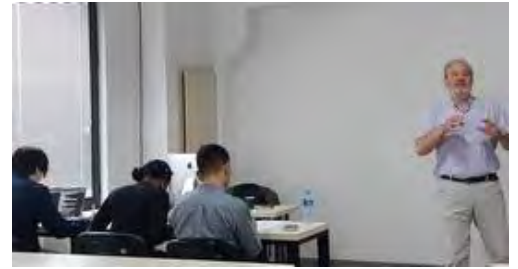
- Bodbe Monastery of St. Nino
- Signaghi



SATURDAY 18 JULY 2026

10.30: "Georgia's European Perspectives"

Kakha Gogolashvili, Senior Fellow, Director of EU Studies Center, Rondeli Foundation, Georgia



Coffee break

"Energy Security in the Black Sea Region"

Ariz Huseynov, Lecturer, Baku University, Azerbaijan

14.00: Lunch at the cafeteria of New Vision University

15.00: Closing session
ECTS oral exams or free afternoon



SUNDAY 19 JULY 2026 **Departure of the international participants**

PARTICIPANTS

Tamuna AKOBIA	Georgia	BA International Relations, Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University.
Rusudan ALBORISHVILI	Georgia	BA International Relations, International Black Sea University.
Benedict Jessica AMARACH	Nigeria	BA Politics and Diplomacy, Vision University.
Giorgi BOLGASHVILI	Georgia	BA International Relations, Free University of Tbilisi.
Ani BOLOTASHVILI	Georgia	Ilia State University, BA Field of Arts and Sciences.
Yasmine BOUATTANE	Morocco	Master's degree (M1) in Political Science, Université Lumière, Lyon 2 (France).
Aleksandre BUSALADZE	Georgia	MA International Relations/Politics and Governance in the Digital Age, University of Tartu.
Caterina CAMPAGNA	Italy	Bachelor's Degree in Language, Civilisation and the Science of Language, Ca' Foscari University of Venice, Italy.
Gülizar CELIK	France/Turkey	3 rd year bachelor's degree in law, major in Public Law, University of Lorraine, Nancy (France).
Alice FERRERO	Italy	3 rd year of the European Studies BA, University of Amsterdam, Netherlands.
Mikheil GOGIASHVILI	Georgia	BA Political Science, Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University.
Lucas GROSSE	Germany	M.A. Business, Media & Psychology, University of Applied Science Westcoast, Heide (Germany).
Batuhan INCE	Turkey	Student in Mechanical Engineering, University of Turkish Aeronautical Association, Ankara, Turkey.
Emine KARADAVUT	Belgium	Master in International Relations, Specialisation in Security, Peace and Conflict, Université Libre de Bruxelles (Belgium).
Tatia KATAMADZE	Georgia	BA Law, Caucasus University.
Atahan KAV	Turkey	Financial analyst and advisor, Ankara (Turkey).
Anita KHOJOVA	Georgia	BA Politics and International Relations, New Vision University.
Tamar KHOKHASHVILI	Georgia	MA International Relations: Europe from Visegrad Perspective, University of West Bohemia.
Tatia KHUNTUA	Georgia	PhD Political Science, Caucasus University.
Annalena KOFLER	Italy	Master in Political Science, University of Vienna (Austria).
Anano KULALAGHASHVILI	Georgia	BA International Relations, Free University of Tbilisi.
Felicia LEHRKE	Germany	Master degree in Political Science, Freie Universität Berlin, Germany.
Yang LI	China	PhD researcher, Oriental Languages & Cultures, Ghent University, Belgium.
Hugo REBEYROL	France	Intern at Reverdin consulting Rome (Geopolitical analysis), Graduate in International Relations, Luiss Guido Carli, Rome, Italy.

Mingzhuo SHI	China	Undergraduate student in International Relations, Sun Yat-Sen University, Master student in Comparative Politics, Peking University, China.
Jordy van den BRINK	Nederlands	MA in European Integration and Transformation, College of Europe, Tirana, Albania.
Mariam VEKU	Georgia	London School of Economics and Political Science, MA European and International Politics and Policy.
Antoni WYLIGALA	Poland	3 rd year student in Law and International Relations, University of Warsaw, Poland.
Ersan YÜKSEKKAYA	Turkey	Student in Space Engineering, University of Turkish Aeronautical Association, Ankara, Turkey.
Mariam ZEDGINIDZE	Georgia	Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University, BA International Relations.
Tamizbek ZHOLDOSHOV	Kyrgyzstan	First-year undergraduate student, Bachelor of Arts in International and Comparative Politics, the American University of Central Asia, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan.



EVALUATION

The students unanimously agreed that the programme was very well designed. The academic part dealt with very relevant topics and the participants returned home with a better understanding of and new insights into Georgia, the region and its challenges. The tourist and cultural programme was very appreciated too.

Evaluation of the lecturers:

Of course, the academic programme would not have been such a success without the efforts of the lecturers. Both the teachers from Georgia and the foreign lecturers were highly appreciated by the students and more than once awarded with grades of 10 points out of 10. All the academic presentations were considered as a high standard. The participants were very satisfied with the programme and the relations with the organisers and the administrative assistance before and during the programme. They really appreciated the friendliness of the staff.

General evaluation of the session:

All the candidates, from Georgia and abroad, enjoyed the Black Sea Summer University very much. They learnt a lot about the country and its region, thanks to both the very interesting lectures and the cultural and tourist activities. But as usual, the session was considered too short. Everyone would have liked to stay longer.

Regarding the location of the host university, the candidates regretted the time wasted travelling to and from classes, but at the same time they really appreciated the shuttle service organised in the mornings and evenings.

CONCLUSION:

CIFE warmly thanks the Georgian partners for their involvement, collaboration and friendship.



Find all the photos of the session on

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.1655281456607529&type=3>



Ersan...

• 3e et +

+ Suivre



Uzay Mühendisi, Girişimci...

2 h •

🎓 I am pleased to share that I have successfully completed the CIFE Black Sea Summer University 2026 in Tbilisi, Georgia.

Throughout this intensive international programme, I had the opportunity to engage with academics, diplomats, and participants from different countries while exploring the evolving security landscape of the Black Sea region.

The programme covered a wide range of topics including:

- Black Sea security and regional geopolitics
- European Union policies in the region
- Turkey-Georgia relations
- Energy security and sustainability
- The strategic perspectives of Black Sea littoral states

Beyond the academic sessions, the experience offered an invaluable opportunity to exchange ideas with participants from diverse backgrounds, strengthen my international network, and gain new perspectives on regional security and international cooperation.

I would like to sincerely thank CIFE (Centre International de Formation Européenne), New Vision University, the distinguished lecturers, and everyone who contributed to making this programme such a valuable experience.

A special thank you goes to our hosts in Georgia for their outstanding generosity, kindness, and warm hospitality. Their welcoming spirit made this experience even more meaningful, and I will always remember the friendships and memories created throughout this journey.

I look forward to applying the knowledge and connections gained throughout this experience to my future academic and professional work.

Centre international de formation européenne
Batuhan Ince

#CIFE #BlackSea #SecurityStudies
#InternationalRelations #Geopolitics
#EuropeanUnion #Georgia #Tbilisi
#SummerSchool #SpaceEngineering
#Networking

Afficher la traduction



CIFE 13



Anano...

+ Suivre



BA in International Relation...

1 j •

Last week, I had the pleasure of taking part in the Black Sea Summer University 2026: Security Challenges in the Black Sea Region, organized by the **Centre international de formation européenne** (CIFE), a European institute of higher education and research. The Black Sea Summer University is part of CIFE's long-running Summer University Programme, which brings together students and young professionals from across Europe each year to explore contemporary geopolitical issues in different host countries.

Throughout the week, we explored some of the region's most pressing security questions - from international law and EU policy to NATO, energy security, resilience and the strategic perspectives of the Black Sea littoral states.

As someone whose academic and professional interests are centered on Euro-Atlantic security, I found the programme particularly enriching. It challenged many assumptions and offered new angles on some of the region's most pressing security issues.

Thanks to the organizers, speakers and everyone I had the chance to meet throughout the programme. I look forward to building on the knowledge I gained and integrating these insights into my future research on Euro-Atlantic and regional security.

Afficher la traduction





Mariam Vekua • 2nd

MSc Student at LSE | Young European Ambassador from Georgia
3h • 🌐

Last week, I had the privilege of participating in the Black Sea Summer University, organised jointly by the [Centre international de formation européenne](#) and the Institute for Policy Research and European Studies at [New Vision University](#) in Tbilisi.

Throughout the week, we had the pleasure of attending lectures on security challenges in the Black Sea region, delivered by a wide range of speakers, from diplomats to both international and Georgian leading scholars. We discussed challenges to energy security, regional connectivity, the roles of NATO and the EU in the Black Sea region, and resilience-building strategies in the context of hybrid warfare.

Huge thank you to the organising team and the participants for such a great experience!



👍❤️🌐 12

Reactions



Megi Benia • 2e

Founder and Director of Strate...
4 j • 🌐

+ Suivre

Today I had the pleasure of delivering a lecture on "Black Sea Security in Focus: Georgia's Strategy" at the Black Sea Summer University 2026, organized by the [Centre international de formation européenne](#) and hosted by [New Vision University](#).

We discussed why the Black Sea has evolved into a strategic hub for European security, connecting critical energy infrastructure, undersea cables, transport corridors, and the South Caucasus. We also examined how Russia's war against Ukraine, NATO and EU initiatives, and the changing maritime environment are reshaping the strategic landscape in the region.

The highlight of the lecture was an interactive crisis simulation, where participants responded to a fictional hybrid crisis affecting Georgia and the Black Sea. The discussions demonstrated thoughtful analysis, practical problem-solving, and a strong understanding of today's increasingly complex security environment.

Thank you to the organizers for the invitation and to all participants for their insightful questions, active engagement, and stimulating discussion. It was a pleasure to exchange ideas with such a motivated international group.

[#BlackSea](#) [#BlackSeaSecurity](#)
[#EuropeanSecurity](#) [#EuroAtlanticSecurity](#)
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[#Geopolitics](#) [#NATO](#) [#EuropeanUnion](#)
[#Georgia](#) [#Ukraine](#) [#SouthCaucasus](#)
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[#CognitiveWarfare](#) [#HigherEducation](#)
[#CIFE](#) [#NewVisionUniversity](#)

Afficher la traduction



👍❤️🌐 2



Ani...

• 3e et + + Suivre ...

Student at Ilia State Univer...
18 h • Modifié • 🌐

Organized by [Centre international de formation européenne](#) and [New Vision University](#), the program "Security Challenges in the Black Sea Region," dove deep into covering everything from international law, EU policies to NATO dynamics and regional security strategies.

While the lectures and insights were outstanding, what made this experience truly unforgettable was the people. I'm incredibly grateful to have shared this week with brilliant peers from across the globe.

A massive thank you to the organizers, speakers and amazing fellow participants for making this week rewarding both personally and professionally! ✨

Afficher la traduction



SUMMER UNIVERSITY ORGANISATION IN FRANCE

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ORGANISATION AND ASSISTANCE IN GEORGIA

NEW VISION UNIVERSITY

with the collaboration of
the Institute for Policy Research and European Studies (IPRES)



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Shota Kakabadze
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