

Draft Programme

A European South Caucasus?

EU soft power and challenges to democracy, peace and development in the South Caucasus

Barcelona, 6 and 7 October 2009

Tuesday, 6 October 2009

10.00 -10.30	Registration
10.30 -10.45	Welcoming Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jordi Vaquer, Director of CIDOB, Barcelona Center for International Studies• Lothar Witte, Director of Friedrich Ebert Foundation, Madrid
10.45 -11.30	Keynote Speech <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Peter Semneby, EU-Special Representative for the South Caucasus, European Council• Gerald Knaus, European Stability Initiative, Istanbul/Cambridge
11.30-12.00	Discussion
12.00-12.15	Coffee Break
12.15-13.00	Competing Foreign Initiatives in the South Caucasus: The EU, Russia, Turkey and the US Chair: Lothar Witte , Director of Friedrich Ebert Foundation, Madrid <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>The European Union and the Eastern Partnership</i> Nicu Popescu, European Council on Foreign Relations• <i>Turkey and the prospects of Stability and Cooperation in the South Caucasus</i> Meliha Altunışık, Middle East Technical University (tbc)• <i>The view from Russia</i> Andrey Makarychev, Professor International Relations, Nizhny Novgorod Linguistic University, Russia (tbc)• <i>View from the US</i> Svante Cornell, Central Asia-Caucasus Institute & Silk Road Studies Program Joint Center, Stockholm (tbc)
13.00-13.30	Discussion
13.30-15.00	Lunch
15.00-15.30	Prospects for the resolution of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict Chair: Deniz Devrim , Europe Programme Coordinator, CIDOB <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tabib Huseynov, International Crisis Group, Azerbaijan• Dennis Sammut, Executive Director, LINKS, UK
15.30- 16.00	Discussion
16.00-17.30	Walk through the Neighbourhood
20.00	Dinner



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Wednesday, 7 October 2009



- 09.30-10.00 **One year after the August war: Democracy, development, stability in Georgia: The importance of Georgia**
Chair: **Carmen Claudín**, Director of Programmes, CIDOB
Is there still a Georgian model?
- **Giorgi Baramidze**, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Euro-Atlantic Integration, Georgia
 - **David Usupashvili**, Republican Party, Georgia
- 10.00-10.30 Discussion
- 10.30-11.00 **Domestic politics in Armenia and Azerbaijan**
Chair: **George Tarkhan-Mouravi**, Co-director, Institute for Policy Studies, Georgia
- *Trends in Armenian politics*
Richard Giragosian, The Armenian Center for National and International Studies, Armenia
 - *Trends in Azeri Politics*
Arzu Geybullayeva, European Stability Initiative, Azerbaijan
- 11.00-11.30 Discussion
- 11.30-12.00 Coffee Break
- 12.00-13.00 **Prospect and potential of normalization of Turkish-Armenian relations**
Chair: **Tigran Mkrtchyan**, European Stability Initiative, Armenia
- *The view from Ankara*
Nigar Göksel, European Stability Initiative and Turkish Policy Quarterly
 - *The view from Yerevan*
Sergey Minasyan, Head of Political Studies Department, Caucasus Institute
- 12.30-13.00 Discussion
- 13.00-13.30 **Conclusions**
- **Jordi Vaquer**, Director of CIDOB, Barcelona Center for International Studies

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Concept of the Seminar

Seminar in Barcelona, 6 and 7 October 2009

The Caucasus is a shared neighbourhood of Europe, Russia and Turkey. It has also become a zone of renewed instability in the bad and good sense.

NATO and EU's enlargements in the wider Black Sea area and Russia's renewed international assertiveness have resulted in a new situation in the region. The Russian-Georgian war of August 2008 has brought the south Caucasus back on the European agendas. It has reminded the EU that this region is home to frozen conflicts which have long impeded peace and stability in the region and affect it directly. Bordering the Black Sea since the accession of Bulgaria and Romania in 2007, the EU has developed initiatives such as the Eastern Partnership have been developed under the framework of the European Neighbourhood Policy. But serious questions have been raised to what extent this is an adequate policy response to a whole series of new challenges. There is an urgent need to relaunch the debate on which EU policy approach would prove to be efficient in order to promote stability and security to the South Caucasus.

In this framework, the Barcelona Center for International Studies (CIDOB), the European Stability Initiative (ESI) and the Friedrich Ebert Foundation in Madrid will organize a workshop on "**What should the EU do in the South Caucasus?**".

The main purpose will be to engage in a critical assessment and a prospective exercise of the EU policy towards the Caucasus in the context of its troubled relations with Russia, but also of the potential of partnership and transformation of regional actors, in particular Turkey.

The format of the workshop will be a **one and a half day closed working session on 6 and 7 October 2009** with high profile experts and practitioners from the region, the EU and Spain. The working sessions will take place at the CIDOB Foundation in Barcelona, under Chatham House rules and with English and Spanish as working languages.



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List of Participants

- Gor Abgaryan, Armenian Cultural Association of Barcelona
- Leila Alieva, Centre for National and International Studies, Azerbaijan
- Meliha Altunışık, Middle East Technical University (tbc)
- Francesc Badia, Administrador, CIDOB, Barcelona Center for International Studies
- Giorgi Baramidze, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Euro-Atlantic Integration, Georgia
- Alicia Cebada Directora del Programa de Gestión de crisis y consolidación de la paz, Centro Internacional de Toledo para la Paz (tbc)
- Carmen Claudín, Programmes Director, CIDOB, Barcelona Center for International Studies
- Ihsan Dagi, Foreign policy advisor to the Prime Minister of Turkey (tbc)
- Deniz Devrim, Europe Programme Coordinator, Barcelona Center for International Studies
- Félix Flores, Journalist, *La Vanguardia*, Barcelona
- Arzu Geybullayeva, ESI Analyst, Baku
- Richard Giragosian, The Armenian Center for National and International Studies, Armenia
- Nigar Göksel, ESI Senior Analyst, Istanbul
- Fred Halliday, ICREA Research Professor, Barcelona Institute for International Studies (IBEI)
- Rita Huybens, Chairperson Peoples' Rights League, Barcelona
- Tabib Huseynov, International Crisis Group, Azerbaijan
- Toghrul Juvarli, Analyst of TURAN News Agency, Azerbaijan
- Gerald Knaus, Director of European Stability Initiative Istanbul. Fellow Harvard Kennedy School, Cambridge
- Jonathan Littell, Writer, Barcelona
- Alexey Malashenko, Moscow Carnegie Center, Russia (tbc)
- Lilit Manukyan, Armenian Cultural Association of Barcelona
- Aurelia Mañé, Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona. Director Central Asia Observatory.
- Rosa Massagué, Journalist, *El Periódico*
- Sergey Minasyan, Head of Political Studies Department, Caucasus Institute, Armenia
- Tigran Mkrtchyan, European Stability Initiative, Armenia
- Ignacio Molina, Real Instituto Elcano (tbc)
- Agnieszka Nowak, Associated Researcher, Security and World Politics Programme, CIDOB
- Vicente Palacio, coordinador del Observatorio de Política Exterior Española, Fundación Alternativas (tbc)
- Nicu Popescu, European Council on Foreign Relations, London
- Alex Rondos, advisor to George Papandreou (tbc)
- Dennis Sammut, Executive Director, LINKS, UK
- Peter Semneby, Special Representative, European Council
- Besa Shahini, ESI Senior Analyst , Berlin/Tbilisi
- George Tarkhan-Mouravi, Co-director, Institute for Policy Studies, Georgia
- Marta Ter, Peoples' Rights League, Barcelona
- José Ignacio Torreblanca, Head Madrid Office, European Council on Foreign Relations (tbc)
- David Usupashvili, Republican Party, Georgia
- Peter Van Praagh, German Marshall Fund, Washington
- Jordi Vaquer, Director, CIDOB, Barcelona Center for International Studies
- Francisco Veiga, Lecturer in Contemporary History, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona
- Lothar Witte, Head of Friedrich Ebert Foundation Madrid



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