



Fifth Forum of Young Politicians of the South Caucasus and Ukraine

July 14-15, 2017

Parliament of Georgia, Tbilisi

Agenda

Day 1 – July 14

Anti-Democratic Propaganda in Europe and Eurasia

Day 1 of the Forum will aim at understanding and exploring an increasing trend of using distorted information and fake news for the purposes of anti-democratic propaganda. It will look into the best ways and means to counter it and on the EU approaches to improve communication and outreach to its neighbors. Participants will analyze this renewed emphasis on the weaponized use of information and the challenges it creates for the region. They will also focus on response needs from the perspectives and realities in the South Caucasus and Ukraine and from the perspective of the EU. Discussions in the working groups will also focus on setting out a broad and regionally shared vision on how best the knowledge and resilience of Forum Participants, their respective political parties and finally, of the countries involved can best be strengthened.

08:45-09:15 Participant Registration / Coffee

Ilia Chavchavadze Hall

09:15-09:30

Welcoming Remarks

Levan Tsutskiridze, NIMD Representative in the Eastern European Neighborhood

Ben Luckock, Portfolio Manager for Eastern Partnership Programme Hub,
British Embassy in Georgia

09:30-09:50
Keynote Speech

Eimert van Middelkoop, Member of the Senate of the Netherlands (2003-2007),
Minister of Defense of the Netherlands (2007-2010)

Weaponizing Information in the 21st Century: Anti-Democratic Propaganda and Fake News
in the Age of Democratic Backsliding

09:50-10:30

Q&A and Discussion

Moderator

Levan Tsutskiridze, NIMD Representative in the Eastern European Neighborhood

10:30-10:50

Anneli Kimber, Strategic Communication Expert, East StratCom Task Force,
European External Action Service

The European Union's Response: Communicating Strategically
in the Eastern Neighbourhood

10:50-11:30

Q&A and Discussion

Moderator

Levan Tsutskiridze, NIMD Representative in the Eastern European Neighborhood

11:30-12:00

Coffee-break

12:00-12:20

Margarita Akhvlediani, JamNews

Disinformation in Eurasia

Moderator

Levan Tsutskiridze, NIMD Representative in the Eastern European Neighborhood

12:20-13:00

Q&A and Discussion

13:00-14:00 Lunch

14:00-15:00

Ilia Chavchavadze Hall

Speeches by Participants of the 2016/2017 Resilient Democracies Project

Combating Anti-Democratic Propaganda: Lessons from the Region

14:00-14:10 Anna Samkharadze (European Georgia, Georgia)

14:10-14:20 Gevorg Ghukasyan (ARF, Armenia)

14:20-14:30 Toghrul Valiyev (REAL Movement, Azerbaijan)

14:30-15:00 Q&A and Discussion

Moderator

Levan Tsutskiridze, NIMD Representative in the Eastern European Neighborhood

15:10-17:00

Parallel Working-Group Sessions

Fake News and Disinformation in Europe and Eurasia: a Youth Perspective

Group 1

Ilia Chavchavadze Hall

15:10-15:20 Opening remarks

15:20-15:30 Mariam Kasrashvili (United National Movement, Georgia)

15:30-15:40 Anush Hovhannisyan (ARF, Armenia)

15:40-15:50 Fizuli Dehgani (REAL Movement, Azerbaijan)

15:50-16:00 Iaroslav Malygin (Petro Poroshenko Bloc 'Solidarity', Ukraine)

16:00-16:20 Coffee-break

16:20-17:20 Discussion

Moderator: Denys Degurko, NIMD EEN

Group 2

Cinema Hall

15:10-15:20 Opening remarks

15:20-15:30 Anna Samkharadze (European Georgia, Georgia)

15:30-15:40 Lilik Tarlamazyan (Armenian National Congress, Armenia)

15:40-15:50 Ulvi Hasanli (NIDA, Azerbaijan)

15:50-16:00 Iuliia Lytvynenko (Youth of the Democratic Alliance, Ukraine)

16:00-16:20 Coffee-break

16:20-17:20 Discussion

Moderator: Mariam Chikhladze, NIMD EEN

Group 3
Working Room 307

15:10-15:20 Opening remarks

15:20-15:30 Sopo Samushia (European Georgia, Georgia)

15:30-15:40 Hovsep Ghazaryan (Heritage, Armenia)

15:40-15:50 Narmin Shamilova (Democratic Reforms Party, Azerbaijan)

15:50-16:00 Oleksii Zakharchenko (Batkivshchyna, Ukraine)

16:00-16:20 Coffee-break

16:20-17:20 Discussion

Moderator: Salome Mukhuradze, NIMD EEN

17:30-18:00
Ilia Chavchavadze Hall
Closing Plenary Session

Reports from the Working Groups

17:30-17:40 Group 1: Reporter from NIMD EEN

17:40-17:50 Group 2: Reporter from NIMD EEN

17:50-18:00 Group 3: Reporter from NIMD EEN

Moderator

Levan Tsutskiridze, NIMD Representative in the Eastern European Neighborhood

18:00-18:10

Concluding Remarks

Levan Tsutskiridze, NIMD Representative in the Eastern European Neighborhood

20:00 Dinner at Restaurant Georgian House

Day 2 – July 15
Digital Democracy

Day 2 of the Forum will focus on exploring pioneering innovations in digital democracy world. International experts and software developers from the European Union will present their thinking on how new tools and technologies might improve the legitimacy of democratic structures and institutions through a combination of greater transparency, representation and better decision-making. Analysis of existing experiences of digital tools' use in politics should provide better understanding of how to get the most from these tools and to study possible ways to approach incorporation of digital solutions into political life of parties in the region.

10:00-10:20

Ilia Chavchavadze Hall

Will Derks, Innovation Adviser, NIMD

Political Parties in the Digital Age

10:20-11:00

Q&A and Discussion

11:00-11:20

Alberto Fernandez, International IDEA

Participation, Representation and Policy Making: The Promise of Digital Tools

11:20-12:00

Q&A and Discussion

12:00-12:20

Coffee-break

12:20-13:00

Group Workshops

Technology and Political Parties

Group 1
Ilia Chavchavadze Hall

Workshop by [Socioneers](#)

Group 2
Parliamentary Cinema Hall

Workshop by [International IDEA](#)

Group 3
Working Room 307

Workshop by [Elva](#)

13:00-14:00 Lunch

14:00-16:00

Workshops

Technology and Political Parties

16:00-16:20 Coffee-break

16:20-18:10

Concluding Plenary Session

16:20-16:30 Nona Mchedlidze (Georgian Dream, Georgia)

16:30-16:40 Mariam Kasrashvili (United National Movement, Georgia)

16:40-16:50 Hasmik Ghazaryan (Republican Party of Armenia)

16:50-17:00 Speaker from Civil Contract (Armenia) (TBC)

17:00-17:10 Abulfaz Sadigov (Musavat Party, Azerbaijan)

17:10-17:20 Agil Maharramov (Popular Front Party of Azerbaijan)

17:20-17:30 Taras Zinchenko (Samopomich, Ukraine)

17:30-17:40 Olga Nemaneyzhyna (Syla Lyudey, Ukraine)

17:40-18:10

Concluding Remarks

Mr. Irakli Kobakhidze, Chairman of the Parliament of Georgia (TBC)

H.E. Mr. Johannes Douma, Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to Georgia

Levan Tsutskiridze, NIMD Representative in the Eastern European Neighborhood

Group Photo

20:00 Dinner at Senate Restaurant