



Provisional programme

Security in the South Caucasus

Tuesday 20 – Thursday 22 March 2012 | WP1171

To be held in Tbilisi, Georgia

At a time of particularly significant change in the world, protracted conflicts and other security and economic challenges, the conference seeks to explore policy options to develop conditions for safeguarding security in the South Caucasus. It will take a comprehensive approach addressing strategic and regional security concerns, economic security, energy security and political security, intra-regional relations and the role of the international community.

The meeting aims to:

- Bring together key regional stakeholders with external actors for policy-orientated discussion
- Devise concrete suggestions to move ahead on the issues outlined below
- Disseminate the findings (on a Wilton Park Protocol basis) among a wider audience to maximise the impact

There will be particular focus on:

- **Regional security:** What role should international organisations play (e.g. including EU, NATO and OSCE) in promoting security in the region?
- **Regional energy/economy:** What are the opportunities for promoting intra-regional cooperation in energy and the economy?
- **Regional democratisation:** What are the opportunities and challenges in promoting good governance and democracy?

In association with:

Foreign and Commonwealth Office
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Georgia

*Speakers to be confirmed

Tuesday 20 March

1800 Participants arrive

1900 Reception followed by dinner

Wednesday 21 March

0800-0900 Breakfast

0900-0915 **Welcome and introduction**

Judith Gough
HM Ambassador to Georgia

Camilla Fenning
Programme Director, Wilton Park

0915-1045 **Opening Session: Safeguarding security – key concerns; creative solutions (big picture presentations setting the scene)**

Grigol Vashadze
Minister of Foreign Affairs of Georgia

*High level speaker from Azerbaijan

*High level speaker from Armenia

1045-1115 Tea/coffee

1115-1245 **1. Moving ahead on conflicts (response to points raised in previous session and specific comments/suggestions on unresolved conflicts)**

Antti Turunen
UN Representative to the Geneva International Discussions, Geneva

Giga Bokeria
Secretary, National Security Council of Georgia, Tbilisi

Pascal Heyman
Deputy Director for Policy Support Service, OSCE Conflict Prevention Centre, Vienna

1300-1500 Lunch

1500-1630 **2. What role for multi-lateral institutions and other key actors including the prospects of European and Euro-Atlantic integration**

Tornike Gordadze
Deputy Foreign Minister, Georgia

James Appathurai (via video link)
Deputy Assistant Secretary General for Political Affairs and Security Policy; Secretary General's Special Representative for the Caucasus and Central Asia, NATO, Brussels

Sabine Freizer
Director, Europe Programme, International Crisis Group, Istanbul

William Lahue
Head of the NATO Liaison Office in Tbilisi; NATO's Liaison Officer for the Caucasus, Tbilisi

1630-1700 Tea/coffee

1700-1830 **3. Encouraging intra-regional co-operation (to focus on people to people contact, human security and confidence building in war torn communities)**

Irakli Porchkhidze
Deputy Vice Prime Minister, State Minister for Reintegration of Georgia

Craig Oliphant
Senior Adviser, Europe/ Central Asia, Saferworld, London

Peter Semneby
Senior Fellow, German Marshall Fund, Brussels

1930 Reception followed by Conference Dinner

Thursday 22 March

0800-0900

Breakfast

0915-1030

4. Pragmatic approaches for future conflict resolution

Philippe Lefort

EU Special Representative for the South Caucasus, Brussels

Denis MacShane

Member of Parliament, House of Commons, London

1030-1100

Tea/coffee

1100-1200

5. Developing economic potential (to look at the role of both public and private institutions)

Asad Alam

South Caucasus Regional Director, World Bank

Ross Wilson

Former Ambassador to Azerbaijan and Turkey; Director, Dinu Patriciu Eurasia Center, Atlantic Council of the United States

1200-1300

6. Political perspectives for the region: Fostering democratisation and good governance

Akaki Minashvili

Chairman of Foreign Relations Committee, Parliament of Georgia, Tbilisi

Thomas Vennen

Head of the Democratization Department, ODIHR, Warsaw

1315

Lunch

1500-1630

7. Safeguarding energy security

Chair: Jon Ramberg

Ambassador, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Norway

Mariam Valishvili

First Deputy Minister, Ministry of Energy, Tbilisi

John Roberts

Energy Security Specialist, Platts, London

Vladimir Socor

Senior Fellow, Jamestown Foundation, Washington DC

1630-1700

Tea/coffee

1700-1830

8. Closing session – to include feedback from rapporteurs highlighting key points of previous sessions and key note closing speech

Sergi Kapanadze

Deputy Foreign Minister of Georgia, Tbilisi

1930

Dinner hosted by MFA

Friday 23 March

0800

Breakfast

0900

Participants depart

This is a preview programme and as such may be subject to change.

This is an invitation only conference.

Enquiries about participation and local travel to: **Jo Childs**, Conference Delivery Manager

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