



Academia Europaea
Tbilisi Knowledge Hub

2022

**ANNUAL
REPORT**

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Organization

The *AE* Tbilisi Knowledge Hub is operating since 2019 and is hosted by Tbilisi State University. It is headed by an Academic Director, currently David Prangishvili MAE, appointed by the Rector of the Tbilisi State University. The Academic Director and the Advisory Board ensure the strategic direction and activities of the Hub.



ALEXANDER TSISKARIDZE



BEZHAN TCHANKVETADZE



DAVID LORTKIPANIDZE



DAVID PRANGISHVILI



EVA KONDOROSI



GEORGE GEGELASHVILI



GEORGE SHARVASHIDZE



KATE TCHANTURIA



MERAB KOKAIA



MIKHEIL CHKHENKELI



SIERD CLOETINGH



ZAAL KOKAIA



ZAZA SKHIRTLDADZE

Distinguished Seminar Series

“Crossroads”

On January 26, 2022 the seminar entitled *“Wall Paintings of the Church of Saint Nicholas in Kintsvisi”* was held with the announcement of **Prof. Zaza Skhirtladze** (MAE, Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University) and with the participation of **Prof. Mariam Didebulidze** (Project coordinator of the Georgian Cultural Heritage Protection Fund, Chief Scientist of George Chubinashvili National Research Centre for Georgian Art History and Heritage Preservation).

At the seminar **Prof. Mariam Didebulidze** analyzed the frescoes of the temple of St. Nicholas in Kintsvisi and along with it, she described the cultural processes taking place in contemporary Georgia.

Wall painting of the Church of St. Nicholas in Kintsvisi

January 26, 2022
Wednesday

Speakers:

Prof. Zaza Skhirtladze
Prof. Mariam Didibulidze

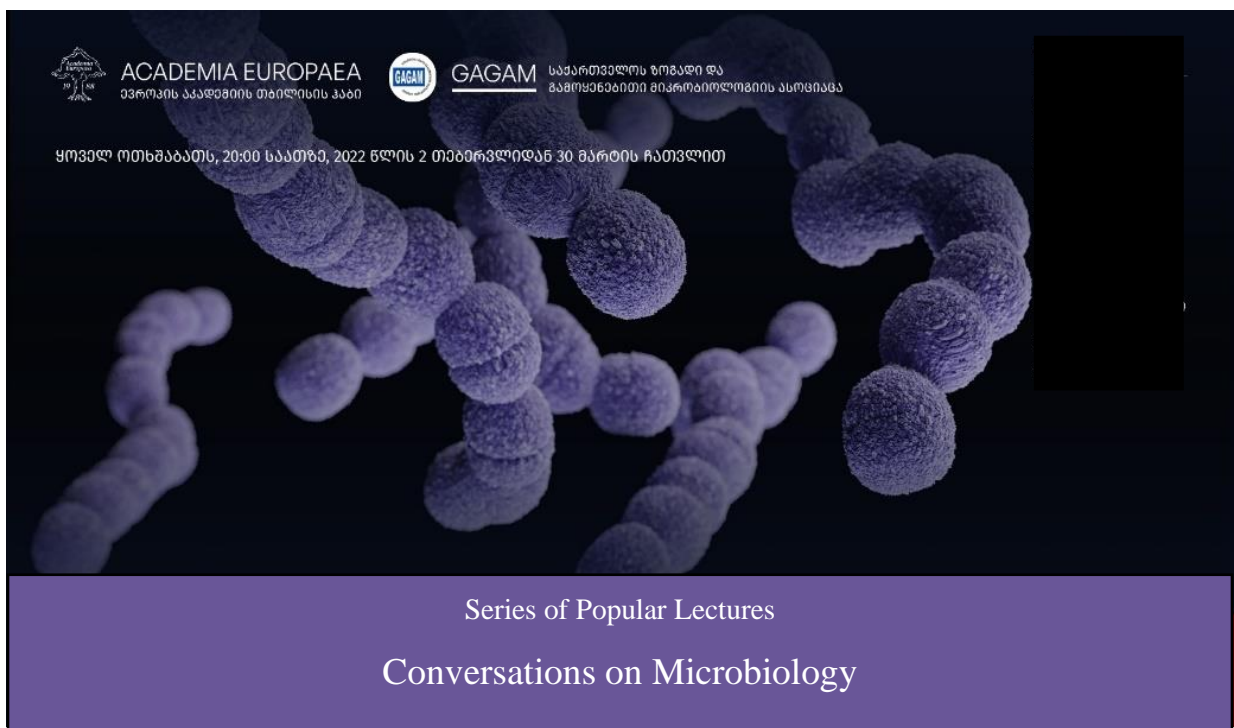


Distinguished Seminar Series
The Crossroads

Series of Popular Lectures

“Conversations on Microbiology”

For promotion scientific research, knowledge and education **AE Tbilisi Knowledge Hub** in collaboration with **Georgian Association for General and Applied Microbiology** has established **“A series of popular lectures: *Conversations on Microbiology*”**, which was intended for secondary school students and their parents, as well as for the general public interested in current issues of microbiology. The lectures were delivered by leading scientists in this field from different scientific institutions and caused great response and interest amongst biology teachers, as they were given the opportunity to share the latest researches with their students.



Speakers:

1. David Prangishvili – The Invisible World of Microbes
2. Nata Bakuradze- The human Microbiome
3. Nino Gachechiladze - Infectious Agents, Infection and the Infectious Process
4. Tamar Tsertsvadze - Immune System and Vaccines
5. Nino Tchanishvili - Bacteriophages and their Practical Use
6. Giorgi Melashvili - The Effect of Parasites on Humans, Animals and Plants
7. Tsitsino Sikharulidze - Diseases of the Food Chain
8. Mikheil Asatiani - Fungi in Human Service: Perspectives and Challenges
9. Adam Kotorashvili - Modern Methods of Genome Research of Microorganisms

Series of Panel Sessions

In order to promote interdisciplinary and international scientific collaboration, on the initiative of the AE Tbilisi Knowledge Hub was launched a **Series of Panel Sessions** dedicated to the issues of democratization and European integration in a historical and contemporary perspective.



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Tbilisi Knowledge Hub



Panel Session

Challenges and Opportunities of Small Countries on the Example
of the First Democratic Republic of Georgia

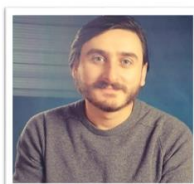
July 11, 2022 Tbilisi State University



Mikheil Ketchakmadze
Oxford University



Malkhaz Matsaberidze
Tbilisi State University



Irakli Khvadagiani
Soviet Past Research
Laboratory



Tornike Turmanidze
Tbilisi State University

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As part of the series of panel sessions, the first panel - "**Challenges and Opportunities of Small Countries on the Example of the First Democratic Republic of Georgia**" was held on July 11, 2022 at Tbilisi State University II. It featured important contributions from four highly eminent experts from Georgian and European universities in the field of history and politics of Georgia.

Within the series of panel sessions, on December 26, 2022 the second panel session entitled "**Ilia Chavchavadze - Past and Modernity**" was held at Tbilisi State University II. During the panel session, the speakers discussed the role of the prominent Georgian public figure, writer, politician and publicist, Ilia Chavchavadze, in the formation of the Georgian civil society of the 19th century and the creation of the Georgian national liberation movement. The panel session aroused a great response amongst university students and schoolchildren.



ACADEMIA EUROPAEA TBILISI KNOWLEDGE HUB

MODERATOR

AKAKI CHIKOBAVA

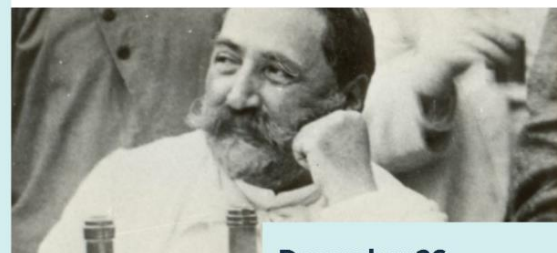
SPEAKERS:

MARIAM
CHKHARTISHVILI

DIMITRI
SHVELIDZE

IRAKLI
CHKHAIDZE

ILIA CHAVCHAVADZE - THE PAST AND MODERNITY



December 26,
2022

2:00 pm

TSU I building, room 115

International Summer School

“Future Technology and Peace Leaders”

Considering the interest of young generation in digital technologies, Tbilisi Hub in cooperation with the New Technology and Innovation Laboratory - **GeoLab** held the International Summer Schools "*Future Technology and Peace Leaders*".

In 2021, International Summer School was considered for European and Georgian students, but in 2022, due to the ongoing hostilities in Ukraine, for the purpose of expressing solidarity the International Summer School “**Future Technology and Peace Leaders**” was announced specifically for Georgian and Ukrainian students.

The International Summer School included the following short-term courses:



“Future Technology and Peace Leaders”



- ❖ Graphic design - Adobe Photoshop
- ❖ Graphic design - Adobe Illustrator
- ❖ UI/UX design - Web Design
- ❖ UI/UX design - Mobile Design
- ❖ Unity
- ❖ Technical and Creative conceptualization
- ❖ STEM activities using microcontroller
- ❖ Front end Web development HTML, CSS

The courses have been devised by experienced academics and offered both theoretical knowledge and practical workshops with experienced lecturers. A part of the lessons was project work in groups.

In addition to this, the International Summer School allowed Georgian and Ukrainian teenagers to get to know each other, share their views and cultural diversity.

The course was result-oriented, which in turn involved the construction of knowledge in the field of modern technologies and the transfer of effective, dynamic and functional knowledge to participants.

International Research Initiative

Meeting of the Scientific Advisory Board of Tbilisi Hub

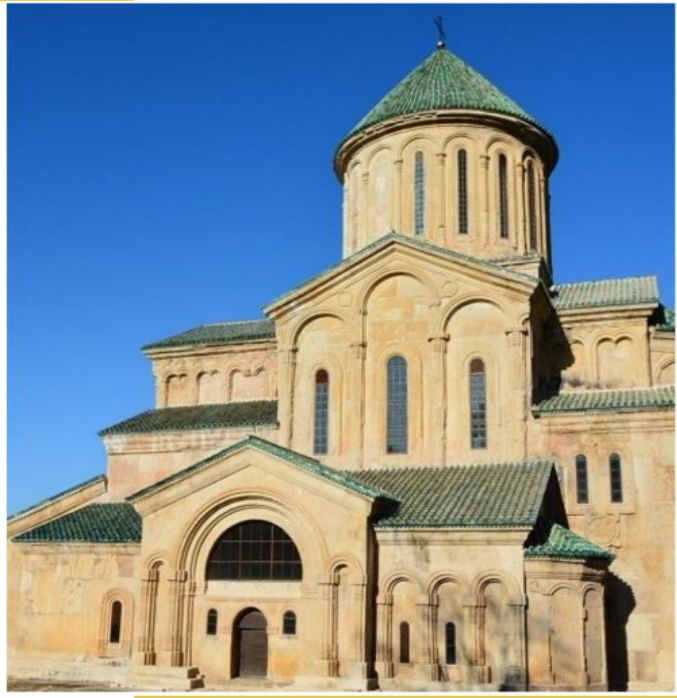
On October 4-5, 2022, the AE Tbilisi Knowledge Hub together with Tbilisi State University IJ, held an extended session of the Scientific Advisory Board in Gelati, Kutaisi and Vani. The meeting was attended by members of the Scientific Advisory Board and the project initiative group of the Gelati Academy. Amongst participants were Honorary President of Academia Europaea **Sierd Cloetingh** and former Vice-President of the European Research Council **Eva Kondorosi**.



Meeting of the Advisory board of Academia Europaea Tbilisi Knowledge Hub focused on

"Gelati Academy – the Medieval Center of Science and Education Amidst Eastern and Western Christianity"

ON OCTOBER 4-5, 2022
IN KUTAISI AND VANI



Gelati Academy - the Medieval Center for Science and Education amidst Eastern and Western Christianity

Gelati Academy was founded in 1106 next to Gelati Monastery (West Georgia) on the initiative of the Georgian King David the Builder. Here David brought together the most prominent Georgian scholars of that time contributing to the establishment of the Gelati Academy as one of the most important theological-scientific and educational centers of the Christendom. At the end of the 11th c., after the closing of the Academy of Mangana (Constantinople, Byzantine Empire) and the Seljuk conquest of Jerusalem, according to the King David's historian, the Gelati Academy became "a second Jerusalem of all the East for the learning of all that is of value, for teaching of knowledge – a second Athens, far exceeding the first in divine law, a canon for all ecclesiastical splendors". The curriculum of the Academy mainly included the subjects of trivium (geometry, arithmetic, music) and quadrium (three types of philosophy, three types of rhetoric, grammar and astronomy).

Meeting of the Scientific Advisory Board of Tbilisi Hub



The first day of the event was dedicated to Gelati Academy. Under the guidance of academician **Zaza Skhirtladze**, the participants visited the Gelati monastic complex. Later, Professor **Levan Gigineishvili** delivered a lecture about the Gelati Academy at the Kutaisi State Historical Museum.

The lecture was about the significance of Gelati Academy as one of the best, courageous and progressive theological-scientific and educational centers of its time of the Christian East and its role in the formation and development of the early European Renaissance. Levan Gigineishvili also spoke about Ioane Petritsi's attempt to combine philosophical and biblical traditions, which was a very interesting and at the same time, audacious project for this period.

After the lecture, the meeting participants discussed ways to protect the spiritual and material heritage of Gelati and present it in the European academic space.

On the second day of the meeting, events were held in the Archaeological Museum of Vani. In the first half of the day the session of the Scientific Advisory Board of Tbilisi Knowledge Hub was conducted. The participants discussed the current projects and future plans of the Tbilisi Knowledge Hub.

After the SAB meeting, the participants, led by academician **David Lortkipanidze**, visited the exhibition of the Vani Archaeological Museum. After the excursion, academician David Lortkipanidze gave a lecture on how modern technologies and installations can be used in the study of cultural heritage monuments, using the unique exhibits of the Vani Archeological Site as an example. He also spoke about the Vani Archaeological Museum, which is one of the first museums in the Caucasus region and has a rich cultural heritage. After that, the participants discussed the issues raised in the lecture.



International Seminar

"Internal Quality Assurance: Perspectives and Challenges"

On October 10, 11 and 12, 2022, an *International Seminar "Internal Quality Assurance: Perspectives and Challenges"* was held at Tbilisi State University. The representatives of the universities of Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Ukraine and Ireland, as well as the National Center for the Development of the Quality of Education of Georgia participated in the event. The Irish internal quality assurance model, doctoral education quality assurance and online teaching quality assurance were the topics of discussion at the workshop.



This seminar was implemented with the financial support of Academia Europaea and Hubert Curien Initiatives Fund, allocated to the AE Tbilisi Knowledge Hub.

Academia Europaea Tbilisi Knowledge Hub expressed its solidarity with the Ukrainian people in connection with the ongoing hostilities and covered the expenses of representatives of Ukrainian universities.



Management and Resources

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