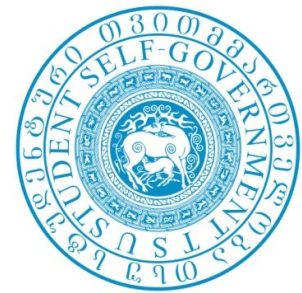




**GEORGIA INTERNATIONAL FORUM
OF STUDENT UNIONS**

Project Description

Tbilisi State University Student Self-Government is a student representative institute and constitutive part of the University, with independent structural units and governing points, which performs its own plenary powers, both inside and outside of university.



Foreign Affairs Office was created at TSU Students' Self-government one year ago. This new structural unit aims to intensify relations with all students from different universities and strengthen cooperation process with student unions from all over the world.

In order to achieve this goal TSU Student Self-government Foreign Affairs Office is organizing Georgia International Forum of Student Unions (GIFSU) in 1-5 June, 2012.

General Information

Georgia International Forum of Student Unions is a second edition of the same event, which was held last year under the name of TIFSU (Tbilisi International Forum of Student Unions). The main financial supporter of GIFSU is **Ministry of Sports and Youth affairs of Georgia** (<http://www.msy.gov.ge>). This year, GIFSU will gather around 200 participants (100 Georgian and 100 international delegates) from all over the world's leading universities in Anaklia, Georgian sea resort, to discuss contemporary challenges of youth activities in the world. TSU Student Self-government made decision to form GIFSU as an annual meeting which will be held every year and will become an important event in the world's youth life.

GIFSU will involve its participants in different types of activities. The academic part will be provided by foreign and Georgian lecturers, who will conduct classes on different topics, related to nowadays youth policies and future prospective. Students will be given opportunity to work in groups as well as individually on presentations. Meetings with high officials of Georgian government are also planned.

Who can participate?

Eligibility criteria:

GIFSU will host 200 students from all over the world. Participants should be members of Student Union or other youth organization acting in their home universities (preference will be given to those applicants, who are currently in a managing position, such as a president, board member etc). Upon their arrival, **participants will be requested to present official document (supporting letter), certifying the authority to participate in GIFSU on behalf of their student union.**

Application:

Applicants should fill in simple form, which will be approved by OC of GIFSU. Deadline for submission of applications is **30th of March, 2012**; however, preference will be given to early applicants, so we recommend you to send us applications as soon as possible.

See the application form on the following link:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/viewform?formkey=dEF1R0Y5Vmd0YXhwSms3eFZDZ1I0dXc6MQ>

Memorandum:

As a final event of the forum, Memorandum of Cooperation (MOC) will be signed by parties. This memorandum was created during TIFSU 2011 and is already in force. Currently 18 universities' student unions are parties of this memorandum; however, new participants are also welcomed to access to the memorandum, which has good-will, non-obligatory character and are

intended for further partnership and cooperation. Note, that all heads of delegations, willing to attend GIFSU, should have authority to sign the memorandum, thus, they should have responsible positions on their Student Unions. Draft memorandum and its amendments will be sent in advance to all delegates.

Guest Speaker:

This year, academic part of the training will be guided by Mr. Viktor Szabados (Vienna University of Business and Economics) who works as a Hungarian EU Presidency Project Officer at European Youth Forum. He has implemented different youth projects and is going to conduct trainings on youth in action issues at our Forum.



Aims of the project

- Deepening the cooperation between TSU Students' Self-government and its partner student unions and searching for new partners;
- Inter dialogue and sharing experience between students' unions from all over the world;
- Establishment of long-term and continuous cooperation and relations between TSU and world's leading universities' Students' Unions; Laying out future perspectives and action plans;
- Drawing up the Common Memorandum of Cooperation between TSU Students' Self-government and its partner Students' Unions;
- Increase knowledge level and experience of students by means of attending public classes and seminars, which will be conducting in terms of given event;

Agenda

GIFSU						
Draft Agenda (The OC reserves right to change this below agenda)						
Time	Fri 1st	Sat 2nd	Sun 3rd	Mon 4th	Tue 5th	Wed 6th
09:00	Arrival of the participants	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast
09:30						
10:00						
10:30						
11:00						
11:30	Presentations of the representatives of Student Unions	Training Youth in Action Programs	Transportation	Working on the MOC	Departure of the participants	
12:00			Sightseeing in Zugdidi			
12:30						
13:00						
13:30	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch		
14:00						
14:30						
15:00						
15:30	Opening Plenary	Presentations of the representatives of Student Unions	Training Youth mobility and exchange process within and out of EU	Transportation		Meeting with High-Official Guests
16:00						
16:30						
17:00				Field Trip to Batumi	Final Plenary	
17:30						
18:00	Free Time					
18:30	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner & Party in Batumi		
19:00						
19:30						
20:00					Dinner	
20:30	Welcome Party	Pool Party	Party	Dinner & Party in Batumi	Party	
21:00						
21:30						
22:00						
22:30				Transportation		
23:00						
23:30						
24:00						

Expenses

Note, that there is **NO PARTICIPATION FEE**. TSU Student Self-government will cover these following costs:

- Accommodation in 5 star hotel in Anaklia during the forum;
- One extra night accommodation in Tbilisi in case of advanced or delayed flight;
- 3 times meal per day during the forum;
- Local transportation;
- Field trips and other social programs;
- Pick-up service from and to airport / bus station / railway station;
- All study materials

We do not cover applicants' transportation expenses to and from Georgia. However we can advise you the cheapest companies to arrive in Georgia. Note that participants from these following countries can travel by bus or train: Greece, Turkey, FYR Macedonia, Bulgaria, Romania, Armenia, Azerbaijan and Russia. In this case, travel expenses will be much cheaper than by plane.

Ministry of Youth and Sport Fund

10 the most highly qualified applicants will get partial waiver of their travel costs, which doesn't exceed 250 EUR per person. Applicants, willing to receive MYS fund scholarships, should submit project proposals (brief description of proposed project) which will be potentially implemented in future. Project description shouldn't exceed 2 000 words, there is no special submission requirements or different application forms for project proposals. Applicants are requested to attach their project description together with application or send it later. MYS will choose 10 most desirable projects and their authors will be granted partial waiver of their transportation expenses max. of 250 EUR. This sum will be reimbursed upon arrival.

Important Dates

- February 5 – Online application procedure is launched;
- March 30 – Deadline for applications;
- April 5 – Results are announced;
- April 10 – Deadline for confirmation by selected delegates;
- April 15 – Deadline for submission of project proposals (only for those applicants who wish to receive MYS fund scholarship)
- April 20 – Selection results of MYS fund scholarship;
- June 1-5 – Forum is held

Logistics

How to arrive in Georgia

- By plane – There are two international airports in Georgia (Tbilisi and Batumi) both might be useful for participants. These following air companies are operating in Georgia: Lufthansa, British Airways, Turkish Airways, Czech Airways, Ukrainian Airways, Pegasus Airlines, Arkia, Skat, Belavia, Air Baltic, Austrian Airways, KLM, First Chinese Airlines, Arabian Airlines, Airzena, Georgian Airways; Qatar Airways; Alitalia;
- By bus – There are every day buses arriving from Istanbul to Tbilisi / Batumi, also from Greece (Thessaloniki and Athens) everyday buses are available, however if you travel by bus from Romania or Bulgaria, you should change the bus in Istanbul (transit);
- By train – currently Georgia has railway connection only with Armenia and Azerbaijan. Trains leave from Yerevan and Baku every day, besides, participants from Caucasus can use buses as well;
- By ferry – Direct ferries are available from Romania (Constanta port), Bulgaria (Varna port) and Ukraine (Odessa port) to Poti port in Georgia, which is quiet close to Anaklia, where forum should be held.

Visa:

Apart from the People's Republic of China and Russian Federation, citizens of almost all other countries can enter Georgia and stay here without obtaining visas. Russian and Chinese citizens can obtain visas in the border check point; the procedure is very simple and takes not more than 10 minutes and 30 EUR. Citizens of Russian federation who permanently reside in the Transcaucasia region (such as Chechnya etc) aren't required visas to enter Georgia. Please note, that all participants will be requested to present valid international passport upon their arrival in the border. If some of you need official invitation letter, notify us in advance and we will prepare it.

Dress code:

During the forum dress code will be informal, however you will be requested to wear official casual dress on opening and closing ceremony as well as during the meeting with Georgian authorities.

Organizing Committee

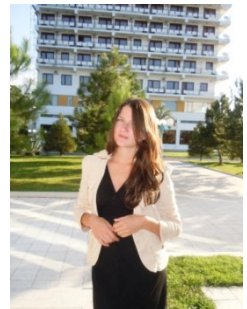
The Organizing Committee (OC) will try its best to accomplish all the above-mentioned goals by being smooth and available for each of the delegation members any time of the day or night. Foreign Affairs Office at Tbilisi State University Student Self-Government has strong financial, material, human resources to attain comfortable, interesting and pleasant atmosphere while working.

The total number of the organizers is estimated to amount of 30 organizers. The responsibilities will be divided accordingly:

- Head Organizer (HO) - Mariam Kvernadze

Currently she is heading Foreign Relations Office at Students Self-Government. She studies at faculty of law at Tbilisi State University.

Mariam is a Vice-president Student Trainee Exchange Programme of European Law Students' Association Tbilisi.



- Responsible for Academic Program - Saba Pipia

Saba Studies LLM in International Law at TSU. He's deputy chairperson of the Foreign Relations Office at Student Self-government. Saba is one of the founders and board member of Erasmus Student Network Tbilisi Universal.



- Responsible for Social Program – Sopho Dekanozhvili

Sopho is also deputy chairperson of the Foreign Relations Office and she studies as a second year student at LLB. On GIFSU she will be responsible for Social Program and Sightseeing.



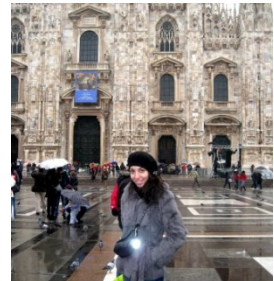
- Responsible for logistics and transportation – Irakli Sirbiladze

Irakli is completing his BA in International Relations. He is involved in internship program of the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia.



- Responsible for international participants - Ani Marjanidze

Ani is a LLM student in International La, she studied as an exchange student at the University of Tartu. Currently she's an intern in the Parliament of Georgia and Ministry of Justice of Georgia.



- Responsible for Finances – Irakli Tsobekhia

Irakli studies at PhD in Conflict Management and Analysis; he has successfully completed MA in the same field and BA in International Relations. On Forum he will deal with financial issues.



- Responsible for Georgian participants – Keto Sikharulidze
Keto studies on the Faculty of Law at Tbilisi State University. She used to contribute in the work of Student Self-Government before and on this Forum she will be responsible for Georgian delegates.



Venue



The forum will be held in 5 star hotels in Anaklia, ancient historical city of Georgia and modern sea resort, located on Black Sea coast. Hotels “Anaklia” and “Golden Fleece “offer the highest level of service and wide range of facilities, which will be free of charge for you.

Hotels embody comfortable and elegant sea-view rooms with open balconies. Each room is equipped with satellite TV, air conditioning, mini-bar, telephone, individual bathrooms. Hotels also have several pools, café-bar, restaurant, conference rooms.



Here you can see the hotel’s web page: <http://hotelanaklia.com/index.php?m=2&lang=eng>

TIFSU Alumni

Tbilisi International Forum of Student Unions was held in 1-5 June, 2011. Eva Fazekas participated in the forum on behalf of the Student Union of University of Szeged (Hungary). This year she has become Head of the Foreign Affairs Department of the Hungarian National Student Union and supposes to participate in GIFSU as well. Eva would like to share her impressions about TIFSU:

“When I arrived in Tbilisi at night and saw the lights of this beautiful city, I felt like in a dream. I’m really grateful for those people who made an attempt to show us how stunning their country is. The historical architecture and cultural atmosphere is just unforgettable! During our stay, we explored every bit of the city. We have visited churches and other ancient places, the Parliament and the President’s Palace; also, we had an opportunity to meet Georgian High-officials.

I loved TIFSU people! What also makes Georgia wonderful to me is the hospitality that is a real essence of this country. Georgians really appreciate guests, they are proud and their principles remained unshaken. We had really professional guides and our stay was fun all the time.

It was so nice to meet representatives of different student unions! It’s a unique way to share views and experience with your colleagues from all over the world. This opportunity helped me to broaden my horizons and to see student representation from a different perspective.

When we said goodbye to the organizers, I realized how much they had meant to me. Taking everything into account, nothing could be finer than those charming days in Georgia. I’m so glad I could enjoy the delights of this unique place. It appeared to be the best part of 2011, and I really hope to have the similar experience soon...”



Additional Info

Anaklia

Anaklia is a town and seaside resort in western Georgia being a main pearl of the Black Sea. The earliest settlement on Anaklia's territory dates back to the mid-Bronze Age and is typical to the Georgian culture. The resort Anaklia, which is located 34 km far from the town of Zugdidi, is famous for its unique environment and nice climate. A modern resort city with new boulevard, yacht-clubs, hotels and the longest in Europe - 550 m. long walking path, which connects Anaklia with another seaside settlement - Ganmukhuri.



Anaklia is nice place to visit in summer. Beautiful seaside and marvelous black sea guarantees good relaxation and pleasure.

Batumi

Participants will visit the most beautiful resort in Georgia and spend whole day there, including dinner and night party. Buses will serve for transportation;



Zugdidi

Participants will be able to see Royal Palace and museum, which preserves plenty of historical exhibits, including Mask of Emperor Napoleon Bonaparte and the Mantle of Most Blessed Theotokos, Virgin Mary. Sprinters will serve for transportation;



Contact Details:

If you have any questions regarding the Forum, please do not hesitate to contact us at any time. You are more than welcomed to express interest in GIFSU, we will be happy to host you here, in Georgia.

You can find and **add us** as a friend **on Facebook:**

<http://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100003052555570>

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