International Center on Conflict and Negotiation

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- · Calendar of Events with ICCN Participation
- · Map of the Conflict Zones in the Caucasus Region

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International Center on Conflict and Negotiation

is the first independent professional center in the explosive region of Caucasia totally devoted to the studies on, mediation in, constructive transformation and peaceful resolution of the ethnic, religious and social conflict.

ICCN is developing collaboration with leading domestic and international academic institutions and NGOs in order to promote studies of the painful problems of post-totalitarian transition, democratization and ethnic conciliation in the post-Soviet space.

International Center on Conflict & Negotiation



International Center on Conflict and Negotiation (ICCN) is an independent, non-profit, non-governmental and non-partisan research and training center, legally incorporated in 1994 in the Republic of Georgia (Registration Certificate #1755 issued by the Ministry of Justice). Its main objectives are to study causes, manifestations and means of early prevention, constructive management and peaceful resolution of the ethnic, religious, social and political conflict, with particular attention to circumstances in the Republic of Georgia.

Acknowledgements

Establishment of the Center became possible thanks to the grant made to its founder by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. At the initial stage (1994/95 academic year) the grant was administered by the Center for International Security and Arms Control (CISAC) of Stanford University. Thereafter, ICCN is functioning as an independent contracting agency currently supported by the grant from the MacArthur Foundation. Since fall of 1995 ICCN is publishing a Bulletin "Conflicts & Negotiations" (available also on World Wide Web) supported by the Open Society - Georgia Foundation grant.

Government

ICCN is governed by the **Board** chaired by the Director, and also has the **Advisory Board** which includes Professor S.Neil MacFarlane, Lester B. Pearson Professor of Political Science at Oxford University, U.K. and Director of the Centre for International Relations at Queen's University, Kingston, Canada; Professor Alex Rondeli, Chair, International Relations Dept. at Tbilisi State University, et al.

Partnership and Membership

Among the Founding Members of the Center are professor David Holloway, Director of CISAC, Stanford University; Professor S.Neil MacFarlane of Queen's Univ., Canada; Dr. Raymond Shonholtz, President, Partners for Democratic Change, SF, CA, USA.



"The common point in all major crises is that you cannot over-come them without transforming your mind"

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Founder and Director of the Center is Professor George Khutsishvili, Ph.D., 46, Visiting Fellow of the Center for International Security and Arms Control, Stanford University (1993/94 academic year) and Harvard trained negotiator (1995), NATO Democratic Institutions Research Fellow (1993-1994), IREX/Carnegie (1993), MacArthur (1994) and Soros (1995) Grantee; obtains Doctor of Philosophy degree from the Ukraine Academy of Sciences (1991) for the book "Genesis of the Structure of Mentality" (Tbilisi: Academic Press, 1989).

Dr. Khutsishvili organized the joint NATO-ICCN Workshop "Developing a Regional Security Concept for the Caucasus" (Tbilisi, 4-6 October 1996), initiated the first non-official Georgian-Abkhazian contacts; is Member of the Consultative Council on Foreign Relations at Georgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the State Committee on Developing a National Security Concept for Georgia; consulted Stanford University on Ethnic Conflicts in FSU in 1994/95; initiated the international conference "Ethnicity, Conflict and the Post-Soviet Reality" (Stanford University, Nov. 15, 1993); organized the first joint Georgian-Canadian conference "Ethnic Conflict and Federalism" (Tbilisi, March 1993); advised in 1992-93 the Georgian government, United Nations Office and CSCE Mission in Georgian

Dr. Khutsishvili is the author of the Culturgram of Georgia (Culturgrams are published by Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah); broad range of his publications covers psychological fiction to systems analysis to international relations and conflict studies. Teaches Conflict Theory at the Department of International Relations and International Law of Tbilisi State University (since 1994), was Vice President of the Georgian Academy of Philosophical Sciences (1995-97).

History

The project of establishing a conflict resolution center in Tbilisi was first proposed by Dr. George Khutsishvili in 1989, but existed only as an independent group of scholars till 1992 when the Center first materialized at the State Committee for Human Rights and Ethnic Relations of Georgia. Dr. Khutsishvili's fellowship at Stanford followed in 1993/94 when the decision was made by the MacArthur Foundation to support the establishment of the independent center in Georgia.

Joint Programs and International Activities ICCN coordinates the Program of Conflict Resolution Training in Georgia (with the grant received from the Norwegian Refugee Council), the project "Integration and Disintegration in the FSU: Implications for Regional and Global Security", jointly with the Center for Foreign Policy Development (Prof. Terrence Hopmann, Director) at Brown University, Providence, RI, U.S.A.; participated in the "Ethnicity and European Security" Program, coordinated by the Center for International Relations at Queen's University, Kingston, Canada (forthcoming is the summarizing book with the chapter on Georgia co-authored by professors S. Neil MacFarlane and George Khutsishvili), in the "Initiative in Georgian - South-Ossetian Dialogue" of Conflict Management Group/Harvard Negotiation Project (Prof. Roger Fisher, Director), in the Network for Ethnological Monitoring and Early Warning of Conflict, co-directed by Conflict Management Group, Cambridge, MA and the Institute of Ethnology and Anthropology of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow; coordinates jointly with International Alert, London, U.K. the Initiative in Georgian-Abkhazian Dialogue.

Research Projects and Activities in Georgia ICCN financially supports projects and publications by NGOs and groups of scholars aimed at promoting democratic changes, conflict analysis and peace studies. Donations for the extension of the range of such assistance are welcome to be made directly to the ICCN.