



5th International Conference: Access to State Archives in the Post-Soviet Space

Conference Agenda

27-28 September, 2024, 10:00–17:00 Tbilisi Time (GMT+4)
Venue: Mercure Tbilisi Old Town, 9 Vakhtang Gorgasali St, Tbilisi

September 27

09:00-10:00 - Welcome Coffee and Registration

10:00-10:15 - Introductory Remarks: Tom Blanton, Giorgi Kldiashvili

10:15-11:30 - Session 1: **Restricted Openness of State Archives in Georgia: The Emergence of State Control Over Historical Policy**

Moderator: Anton Vatcharadze

10:15-10:35 - Sarah Slye (Online) - Creeping Authoritarianism in Higher Education and Research in Georgia: What Difference a War Makes?

10:35-10:55 - Nini Gogiberidze - Georgian Government Restrictions on Soviet-Era Archives: An Enabler for Russian Disinformation

10:55-11:15 - Vitaliy Shtybin - Working in Georgian Archives (2022-2024): Challenges and Trends

11:15-11:30 - Q&A, Discussion

11:30 - 11:45 - Break

11:45-13:15 - Session 2: **Best Practices for Archive Openness in Eastern European Countries**

Moderator: Andrea Gullotta

11:45-12:05 - Pavel Zacek - The Memory Policy and Archives in the Czech Republic. The state of research on communist power organs before 1989

12:05-12:25 - Henrik Bispinck - The Stasi Files – The Records of the GDR’s Ministry for State Security: History – Access – Usage

12:25-12:45 - Wanda Jarzabek - Impact of Political Transition in Poland on Access to State Archives

12:45-13:15 - Q&A, Discussion

13:15 - 14:30 - Lunch Break

14:30-16:20 - Session 3: **Archival Access in Post-Soviet States: Legal Frameworks, Challenges, and Political Influences**

Moderator: Iryna Ramanava

14:30-14:50 - Andriy Kudryachenko - Specifics of access and work for researchers in the archives of Ukraine

14:50-15:10 - Observations of the Current State of Archival Access in Uzbekistan: Legal Framework and Practices

15:10-15:30 - Eldar Zeynalov - The Influence of Domestic and Foreign Political Motives on Access to Archives in Russia and CIS Countries

15:30-15:50 - Levon Barseghyan - Freedom of Information Regulation, Practice and Challenges of Local Self-Government System in Armenia

15:50-16:20 - Q&A, Discussion

September 28

09:00-09:30 - Welcome Coffee

09:30-10:45 - Session 1: **Roundtable Discussion - Issues of Archival Access**

Moderator: Timothy Blauvelt

Participants: Claire P. Kaiser, Kristine Barseghyan, Anton Vatcharadze, Svetlana Savranskaya, Tom Blanton

10:45 - 11:00 - Break

11:00-12:30 - Session 2: **Challenges and Controversies in Russian Archival Openness: Historical Policy, Access, and Manipulation**

Moderator: Svetlana Savranskaya

11:00-11:20 - Jan Rachinsky - Russian Archives under the New Historical Policy

11:20-11:40 - Peter Ruggenthaler - Openness of State Archives in Russia, Examples from RGANI

11:40-12:00 - Andrea Gullotta - Archives vs archives. The Sandormokh Affair

12:00-12:30 - Q&A, Discussion

12:30 - 13:30 - Lunch Break

13:30-14:30 - Session 3: **Memory and Access: Navigating Archival Challenges**

Moderator: Tom Blanton

13:30-13:45 - Iryna Ramanava - Behind Locked Doors: Navigating Access in Belarusian Archives

13:45-14:00 - Ashot Melikyan - The Situation with Freedom of Information in Armenia: Legislative Issues and Their Reflection in Practice

14:00-14:15 - Parviz Mullojonov - Trends and Challenges in Developing Archives and Historical Memory in Tajikistan

14:15-14:30 - Q&A

14:30-15:30 - Roundtable Discussion/ Closing Remarks: **"The Future of the Archives in Post-Soviet Spaces: *Kto Vinovat y Chto Delat.*"**

Moderator: Svetlana Savranskaya

Participants: Jan Rachinsky, Andriy Kudryachenko, Giorgi Kldiashvili, Wanda Jarzabek