International Conference: Enhancing Openness of State Archives

Tbilisi, 27-28 April, 2018

Agenda

Hotel Courtyard Marriott, Tbilisi

Friday, April 27

Registration (9:00-9:30)

1) Plenary Opening Session (9:30-11:15)

Welcome and introductions; frame discussion and objectives for the next three days and foreshadow agenda

a) Welcome notes (9:30-9:45)
   i) **Giorgi Kldiashvili**, Founding Member and Executive Director, Institute for Development of Freedom of Information (IDFI), Georgia
   ii) **Omar Tushurashvili**, Director of the Archive of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, Georgia

Panel - International Best Practice of Archive Openness

Moderator - **Timothy Blauvelt**, Historian of Soviet Studies, Professor at Ilia State University, Georgia

   Speakers (9:45-11:15):
   iii) **Pavel Zacek**, MP of the Czech Republic; Lecturer in CEVRO Institute – Opening Archives: The Czech Experience
   iv) **Malcolm Byrne**, Deputy Director, Research Director of the National Security Archive at George Washington University, USA - Access to State Archives: experience of the National Security Archives -
   v) **Giorgi Mamulia**, PHD, Higher School of Social Sciences (EHESS), France – Access to Archives in France
   vi) **Inguna Slaidina**, Deputy Director, National Archives of Latvia – The National Archives of Latvia. The Way to Openness. 1991 – 2018

Coffee Break (11:15-11:30)

2) Plenary Session (11:30-13:00) - Legal Regulations and Practice of Access to Archives

Moderator – **Levan Avalishvili**, Co-Founder and Programs Director at IDFI, Georgia
Speakers:

i) **Dariana Gryaznova**, Lawyer, Team 29, Russian Federation – Legal regulations on access to archives in Russian Federation (Правовые регуляции доступа к архивам в Российской Федерации)

ii) **Mariam Gogosashvili**, Georgian Young Lawyers' Association (GYLA) - Legal Regulations on Access to Archives in Georgia

iii) **James Lowry**, University of Liverpool; Leading Open Government Partnership National Action Plan on records management of UK government's commitment - Historical Accountability and Justice through Open Archives

iv) **Jerzy Rohozinsky**, Director of the Institute of Solidarity and Virtue, Poland - Polish archives for post-Soviet researchers

Lunch Buffet (13:00-14:00)

3) Plenary Session (14:00 - 16:00) - Access to State Security Archives

Moderator – **Lasha Bakradze**, Director of Giorgi Leonidze State Museum of Literature, Historian of Soviet Studies, Georgia
Speakers:

i) **Joachim Foerster**, The Federal Commissioner for the Documents of the State Security Service of the Former German Democratic Republic, Germany - The significance of the access to the archives of the State Security Service in the process of coming to terms with the past - the German experience

ii) **David Alaverdashvili,** Deputy Director of the Archive of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, Georgia - Openness of Archives of Former KGB and Communist Party of Georgian SSR

iii) **Andriy Kohut,** Director of the SBU (former KGB) archives of Ukraine – Former KGB Archives in Ukraine: Fonds, mode of access and public interest

iv) **Anna Oliinyk**, Acting Director of Center for Research on the Liberation Movement – How did Ukraine open the KGB archives

v) **Dmitriy Drozd**, Researcher of the Belarusian Documental Center – Access to Archives of the Soviet Intelligence Agencies in Republic of Belarus.

Coffee Break (16:00-16:30)

4) Plenary Session (16:30 - 18:00) - Challenges in Access to Archives

Moderator - **Ivan Pavlov**, Director of Team 29, Russian Federation
Speakers:

i) **Thomas Welsford**, All Souls College, Oxford, UK – Experience of Working in the State Archives of former Soviet Republics: Uzbekistan, Georgia and Russian Federation

ii) **Anton Vacharadze**, IDFI - Access To Document in State Archives of Georgia

iii) **Ihor Chernichenko**, Historian, Kharkiv Human rights Protection Group, Ukraine – Availability of Archives in Ukraine: legislation and practice

iv) **Igor Casu**, Archival Studies, Soviet Studies, State University of Moldova – The Long Road to Openness: Access to Archival depositories in post-Soviet Moldova

Closing Remarks and Summarization of the First Day

Saturday, April 28

5) Plenary Session (10:30 - 12:30) - Archive Openness In Post-Soviet Countries

Moderator – **Michael Hall**, Senior Policy Analyst for Eurasia, Open Society Foundations
Speakers:
   i) **Hranush Kharatyan**, NGO Hazarashen - Armenian Center for Ethnological Studies – Access to State Archives in Armenia
   ii) **Eldar Zeynalov**, Journalist, Human Rights Center, Azerbaijan – Re-closure of Archives of USSR Period in Azerbaijan
   iii) **Nurbek Toktakunov**, Director of Partner Group Precedent, Kyrgyzstan – Access to State Archives in Kyrgyz Republic
   iv) **Araylim Mussagallieva**, Professor, Eurasian National University - Access to State Archives in Kazakhstan.

Lunch Buffet (13:00-14:00)

6) Session (14:00-16:30)

Roundtable discussion about the methodology for openness of the archives in post-Soviet Countries

7) Summary Session – (16:30-17:00)

Final remarks