**International Conference on Freedom of Information**

**Organized by the National Security Archive (George Washington University, US)**

**and the Institute for Development of Freedom of Information of Georgia**

**Tbilisi, Georgia, July 29-31, 2011**

Working languages: English, Russian.

**Friday, July 29, 2011**

19:00-21:00 Welcome dinner, Country Side Hotel, Tbilisi

**Saturday, July 30, 2011**

8:00-9:00 Breakfast

9:00-9:30 Greetings from the organizers: **Svetlana Savranskaya, Giorgi Kldiashvili**

9:30-11:00 Session One: Freedom of Information in the Region. Chair: **Levan Avalishvili**

* “AIP Monitoring of ATIL Implementation as Tool in Advocacy for More Transparent and Accountable Government,” **Gergana Jouleva**, Executive Director of the Access to Information Program, Bulgaria
* State of FOI in Azerbaijan, **Rashid Hajili**, Director of Media Rights Institute, Azerbaijan
* "Freedom of Information in Armenia: main problems and advances,” **Gevorg Hayrapetyan**, Head of Legal Services of the Freedom of Information Center of Armenia, Armenia
* “Projects and Activities of the IDFI to Develop e-Governance and e-Transparency in Georgia,” **Giorgi Kldiashvili**, Director of the Institute for Development of Freedom of Information, Georgia

11:00-11:15 Coffee Break

11:15-12:45 Session One, Continued. Chair: **Arif Aliev**

* “EXMO2010: an effective tool for improving government openness,” **Aleks Nikolov**, IT Specialist at the Institute for Freedom of Information Development, Russia
* “The introduction of new mechanisms for the development of freedom of information in Armenia,” **Ashot Melikyan**, Chairman of the Committee to Protect Freedom of Expression, Armenia
* Standards of Information Release and Existing Practice in Georgia, **Nina Khatiskatsi**, Programs Director of Transparency International in Georgia, Georgia
* “Public Information Database - [www.opendata.ge](http://www.opendata.ge),” **Levan Avalishvili**, Chairman of the Institute for Development of Freedom of Information, Georgia

12:45-14:00 Lunch

14:00-15:30 Session Two, Judicial Practices Regarding Freedom of Information. Chair: **Ashot Melikyan**

* “Criminal Procedure Code of Georgia and Freedom of Information in Transition,” **Ketevan Rostiashvili**, Professor at Tbilisi State University, Georgia
* “Comparative analysis of judicial practices concerning Freedom of Information in Georgia,” **Giorgi Narmania**, Member of the Georgian Young Lawyers’ Association, Georgia
* “People's right to know in the global information society: New challenges. The need for new responses,” **Viktor Monakhov**, Institute for State and Law, Russian Academy of Sciences, Russia
* “Freedom of Information in Ukraine: Law and Practice,” **Yevgeniy Zakharov**, Co-Chairman of the Kharkiv Human Rights Protection Group, Ukraine

15:30-15:45 Coffee break

15:45-17:00 Session Three:Access to Information Practices and Archival Research. Chair: **Kety Rostiashvili**

* “Access to archival information in Russia and legal experience in this sphere,” **Jan Raczynski**, Memorial, Russia.
* “European rules for access to archives,” **Yuri Vdovin**, Co-Chairman of Citizens’ Watch, Russia
* “ The Challenge of WikiLeaks for the Access Community,” **Malcolm Byrne**, Deputy Director, National Security Archive, US.

17:00 Special presentation:

* “Presentation of the 11th Issue of the Archival Bulletin and screening of the film ‘Order No. 00486,’" **Omar Tushurashvili**, Ministry of the Interior, Head of the Archive Administration, Georgia

19:00-21:00 Dinner

**Sunday, July 31, 2011**

8:00-9:00 Breakfast

9:00-10:30Session Three: Legal Aspects of FOI Implementation, and the Role of the Media. Chair: **Malcolm Byrne**.

* “Access to information and self-censorship in journalism,” **Arif Aliev**, Chairman of the Coalition of Journalists “Yeni Nesil,” Azerbaijan
* “Freedom of Speech in the Mass Media in Kazakhstan,” **Ganna Krasilnikova**, Head of Legal Services of Adil Soz, Kazakhstan
* “Turning the Media into the Fourth Estate in Azerbaijan,” **Gulnara Akhundova**, Project Manager at International Media Support, Azerbaijan
* “Shirak Governor FOI Case Development” **Levon Barsegyan**, Chairman of the Journalists’ Club “Asparez,” Coordinator of the Gyumri Anticorruption Center, Armenia

10:30-10:45 Coffee break

10:45-11:30 Session Three continued. Chair: **Viktor Monakhov**

* “The problems of journalists’ accreditation in government bodies and the initiation of legal proceedings in connection with violations of Armenia’s Freedom of Information law,” **Mesrop Harutyunyan**, Board Member of the Journalists’ Union of Armenia, Armenia
* “The problem of information access for journalists in Azerbaijan: Who is allowed, and who is in charge,” **Asaf Kuliev**, Coordinator of the Network of Investigative Journalists, Azerbaijan

11:30-13:00 Brainstorming session: Looking forward: the future of the Caucasus freedom of information network and sources of funding. Chair: **Svetlana Savranskaya**, Director of Russia Programs, National Security Archive, US

13:00-13:30 Concluding Remarks: **Thomas Blanton**, Director, National Security Archive, US

13:30-15:00 Lunch

16:00-20:00 Cultural Program in Mtskheta

20:00-22:00 Dinner

**Monday, August 1, 2011**

9:00-10:00 Breakfast

Departure of the participants.