

**10<sup>TH</sup> SOUTH CAUCASUS MEDIA CONFERENCE**  
**11-12 November 2013, Tbilisi**

**SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES**



**Mehman Aliyev**

Mehman Aliyev is the Director of Turan Information Agency and the founder of news portal contact.az. Born in 1957, he has graduated from Moscow State University with a diploma in journalism. He worked as contributor to “Molodezh Azerbaijan” and Azerinform State Information Agency. In 1993, he was the Public Relations Manager at Presidential Apparatus.

In 2012 Aliyev received the Human Rights House Network Award, for his "tireless and courageous and long-standing work for the freedom of expression in Azerbaijan".



**Vugar Aliyev**

Vugar Aliyev is the Head, Sector on Work with the Media and Information Structures of the Public-Political Affairs Department, Presidential Administration. He was born in 1968 in the city of Ganja, Azerbaijan. In 1993, he graduated from the Philosophy Faculty of Moscow State University after Lomonosov. In 1998-2002 he worked as a correspondent, head of the department, then the chief editor of the socio-political newspaper "Azad Azerbaijan" ("Free Azerbaijan").

In July 2002, Vugar Aliyev was appointed as Adviser in the Sector of organization of information work and analytical research of the Political department of the Presidential Administration.



**Tigran Balayan**

Tigran Balayan is the spokesperson the Armenia’s Ministry for Foreign Affairs since 2008. He also teaches at the Faculty of International Relations at Yerevan State University. He holds a PhD from Yerevan State University and studied International Relations and Diplomacy in The Diplomatic Academy of the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Balayan held different positions in the Foreign Ministry, as well as in the Armenia’s embassies in Belgium and in Russian Federation. He is the author of numerous publications on Nagorno-Karabakh conflict and international diplomacy.



**Joan Barata**

Dr. Joan Barata is the Principal Adviser to the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media. Before that he was a Professor of Communication Law and Vice Dean of International Relations at Blanquerna Communication School (Universitat Ramon

Llull, Barcelona). He was also a Professor at the University of Barcelona (2001-2005), the Open University of Catalonia (since 1997 until nowadays) and the Universitat Pompeu Fabra (2010-2011), as well as visiting scholar at the University of Bologna (Italy, 2003) and Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law (New York, 2003-2004).

His writings and research interests include topics such as freedom of expression, media regulation, public service broadcasting and political and legal media transitions. He has provided assistance to several institutions and organizations regarding these issues in Thailand, Morocco, Tunisia, Lebanon, Jordan, Albania, Hungary, Dominican Republic, Colombia and the US. He was the Head of President's Cabinet (2005-2009) and Secretary General of the Catalonia Audiovisual Council (2009-2011). He has also provided assistance to the OSCE (2004) and the Council of Europe (2012 and 2013).



### **Irakli Chikovani**

Irakli Chikovani is Member of Georgian Parliament. He is also member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe and the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe since 2012. Chikovani was the Chairman of the Georgian National Communications Commission from 2009 to April 2013.



### **Douglas Griffin**

Douglas Griffin is a Director of Albany Associates, a UK-based company providing full-spectrum comprehensive communications services around the world. He is a lawyer and an expert in communications and media strategy, law and policy, particularly in conflict, post-conflict and transitional environments.

Examples of projects include drafting a media development strategy for Somalia with input from ministries, other stakeholders, the United Nations and UN agencies and donors; drafting key legislation and regulations concerning media and telecommunications in Iraq; training senior management of national regulators of broadcasting and communications and government officials; and providing comprehensive broadcast and other regulatory advice to communications regulators and government ministries in Jordan, the United Arab Emirates, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Kosovo, Afghanistan and Bosnia and Herzegovina.



### **Miklós Haraszti**

Miklós Haraszti is a Hungarian writer, journalist, human rights advocate and university professor. He served the maximum of two terms as the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media from 2004 to 2010. Mr. Haraszti studied philosophy and literature at the Budapest University and in 1996 received an Honorary Degree from Northwestern University in the United States. Currently he is Adjunct Professor at the School of International & Public

Affairs of Columbia Law School, New York and visiting professor at the Central European University, Department of Public Policy.

In 1976 Mr. Haraszti co-founded the Hungarian Democratic Opposition Movement and in 1980 he became editor of the samizdat periodical *Beszélo*. In 1989, he participated in the "roundtable" negotiations on transition to free elections. A member of the Hungarian Parliament from 1990-1994, he then moved on to lecture on democratization and media politics at numerous universities.

Mr. Haraszti has written several essays and books, including "A Worker in a Worker's State" and "The Velvet Prison", both of which have been translated into several languages. His essays have been published in The New York Times and The Washington Post.

In 2012, Haraszti was appointed UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus.



**Tamar Khorbaladze**

Tamar Khorbaladze is the Founder and Executive Director of NGO Media Development Foundation (MDF- [www.mdfgeorgia.ge](http://www.mdfgeorgia.ge)). She is responsible for MDF's media projects; trainer on media ethic issues in various projects; delivers lectures on press industry issues to MA and BA degree students at Ilia State University. She is also the editor of the scientific journal of the Tbilisi State University, *TSU Science*. Since 1995 she has worked for the newspapers *Droni* and *24 Hours*, Georgian Public Broadcaster's newsroom, *Radio Mtsvane Talga* ("Green Wave").

Tamar has worked as a correspondent, head of the department, presenter, and executive producer for various media outlets. She has graduated from the Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University (TSU), then she worked at TSU as a lecturer and delivered lectures on *Journalistic Skills* and *Business Journalism*. She attended the courses of *FOJO Media Institute* (Sweden), *International Monetary Fund Institute* (Vienna), and took part in the *Community Connections* program implemented by the U.S. Embassy to Georgia and *Reuters Foundation's* Trainings for trainers.



**Dieter Loraine**

Dieter Loraine is co-founder and Managing Director of Albany Associates - an international comprehensive communications and media development company, established in 2004. He has over 20 years' experience in strategic communications, institution building, media and regulatory development.

Prior to forming Albany he was Senior Consultant for Media Regulation with the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office's Media Development and Regulation Advisory Team in Iraq which, in 2004, set up the converged broadcast and telecommunications regulatory authority. Between 2001 and 2003 he was Acting Deputy Director General and Director of Communications for the Communications Regulatory Agency in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Dieter devised and created the self-regulatory system for the press in Bosnia and Herzegovina including setting up the country's inaugural Press Council. Between 1998 and 2001 he held two senior positions as Director of Broadcast Licensing and Director of Public Affairs in the Independent Media Commission in Sarajevo. Dieter has worked with communications and media regulatory authorities in Kosovo, UAE, Jordan, Rwanda, Bulgaria, Iraq, Afghanistan, Somalia and Romania advising on media and communications policy and regulation. Dieter has served as a Special Adviser to the UK Press Complaints Commission.



**Dunja Mijatović**

Dunja Mijatović of Bosnia and Herzegovina was appointed OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media on 11 March 2010, and reappointed for a second three-year term on 7 March 2013. She is an expert in media law and regulation. In 1998, as one of the founders of the Communications Regulatory Agency of

Bosnia and Herzegovina, she helped to create a legal, regulatory and policy framework for the media in a complex post-war society. She was also involved in setting up a self-regulatory Press Council and the first Free Media Helpline in South East Europe.

In 2007 she was elected Chair of the European Platform of Regulatory Agencies. She was the first non-EU Member State representative and the first woman to hold this post. Previously, she chaired the Council of Europe's Group of Specialists on freedom of expression and information in times of crisis. During her Chairmanship, the CoE Committee of Ministers adopted the Declaration on the protection and promotion of investigative journalism and Guidelines on protecting freedom of expression and information in times of crisis. As an expert on media and communications legislation, she worked in Armenia, Austria, Iraq, Jordan, Montenegro, Serbia, Slovenia, Morocco and the UK.



**Katrin Nyman-Metcalf**

Dr. Katrin Nyman-Metcalf is Professor of Law and Technology and Head of the Chair of Law and Technology at Tallinn Law School, Tallinn University of Technology, lecturing in public international, EU and comparative law with a special emphasis on communications law.

Apart from her academic work, Nyman-Metcalf is active as an international consultant primarily in the area information and communication technology law including e-governance. Projects include regular legal analysis of media and communications legislation for the OSCE, EU legislative projects, support to the judicial sector in Palestine on media and data protection issues, work on setting up regulatory systems and professional training especially for post-conflict societies, support to e-governance in Myanmar and Albania; as well as a number of legislative analyses covering communications legislation of e.g. Armenia, Georgia and Macedonia.



**Emir Povelakić**

Emir Povelakić graduated Law Faculty in Sarajevo and since January 1999 has been working for the Communications Regulatory Agency. Currently he is the Head of Division for licensing, digitalization and coordination in broadcasting, working on matters of licensing for broadcasters, distributors and service providers of audiovisual content, freedom of expression, hate speech and copyright.

From the very beginning of the DTT Forum in Bosnia and Herzegovina he was a permanent member of the Working Group for regulation, and participated in drafting strategy on digital switchover in Bosnia and Herzegovina. He is a member of the Expert Commission for developing an action plan for implementation strategy of digital switchover. For many years, he was Representative of Bosnia and Herzegovina in the Standing Committee for Media and New Communication Services (CDMC) of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg. In November 2010 he was reelected for second two-year term as a member of the CDMC Bureau. Since 2012 he is Bureau member of the Steering Committee on Media and Information Society – CDMSI. Povelakić occasionally represents Bosnia and Herzegovina in work of the European Platform of Regulatory Authorities.



**Andrey Rikhter**

Dr. Andrey Rikhter is the Director of the OSCE Office of the Representative on Freedom of the Media, and a professor at the School of Journalism, Moscow State

University, where he teaches on mass media law. Born in Kharkov, Ukraine, in 1959, he has university degrees in law, foreign languages, and a doctorate in journalism. Richter is a commissioner of the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) and former co-chair of the Law Section of the International Association for Media and Communication Research (IAMCR).

Richter sits on editorial boards of a number of international journals on communications and the media. He has authored numerous publications on media law in Russian, English, Armenian, Azeri, Tajik, Ukrainian, Serbian, Slovak, German and French, including the only standard media law textbook for journalism students of Russian colleges and universities (2002, 2009), a textbook on international standards of media regulation (2011), and a book on censorship and freedom of the media in post-Soviet countries published by UNESCO in English (2007).



### **Nouneh Sarkissian**

Nouneh Sarkissian is the Managing Director of Media Initiatives Center (formerly Internews Media Support NGO). Working in media development, she has over 20 years of experience as a broadcast journalist, producer and script writer. In her current job, Sarkissian has designed and implemented numerous media development projects, which include various journalism trainings; TV, radio and documentary production; medialiteracy; media critics and analyses; multimedia and convergent newsroom development; media in conflict transformation and awareness raising on different political and social problems. She is a member of Union of Journalists of Armenia, Board Member of Yerevan Press Club.

Sarkissian holds a Diploma in Philology (Russian Language and Literature) from the Yerevan State University, completed courses in Management and Financial Management provided by the Open University (UK). As a Senior Chevening Fellow, she studied Conflict Prevention and Transformation in the University of York, UK.



### **Ljiljana Zurovac**

Ljiljana Zurovac is Executive Director of the Press Council in Bosnia and Herzegovina. She holds degrees in teatrology and comparative literature. As an expert for media self-regulation and ethics of media, Zurovac established the Press Council as a unique body for all print media in Bosnia and Herzegovina. She also established educational programs for media ethics and media freedoms, within the Press Council, as well as media literacy programs for students of journalism, high-school students, citizens, political structures and judiciary.

Previously, Zurovac was Program Director at the High College of Journalism, as well as radio journalist. She also worked as a radio and TV journalist, as editor and host of live RTV programs at the public service broadcaster and Radio FERN. She also works regularly as lecturer for media ethics and self-regulation, conflict resolution, and PR.

Zurovac is founder and producer of the radio program on media ethics and media self-regulation named "Your Voice in Media", that she runs with a team of ten students of journalism. She is member of IFJ and BHN Journalists' Association; member of Consulting Group of TACSO program; and a member of the Article 10 ECHR Working Group at the European University Viadrina Frankfurt/Oder.