17TH SOUTH CAUCASUS MEDIA CONFERENCE

Media Freedom and Access to Information for Resilient Societies CHALLENGES AND WAYS FORWARD

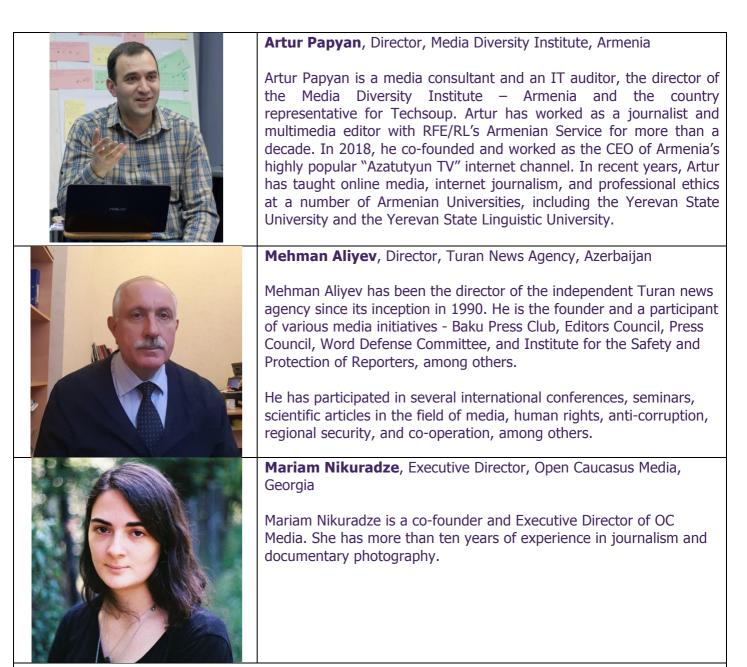
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Ton van den Brandt, Senior Adviser, Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media Ton van den Brandt is Senior Adviser at the Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media. He holds a degree in Dutch law and (cum laude) in International Law, and in Journalism. Van den Brandt worked as a journalist for a national newspaper and a weekly magazine for many years, and is the published author of two iournalistic books. After this, van den Brandt worked as an ad interim legal adviser with the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs and with the Netherlands Red Cross, before taking up a position as senior political adviser with Amnesty International. He chaired the Dutch branch of the International Commission of Jurists and was a member of the Supervisory Board of the Netherlands Helsinki Committee. Before moving to the OSCE, he led and managed the Communications Department of the Amsterdam District Court of Law. Andrey Rikhter, Senior Adviser, Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media Andrey Rikhter holds university degrees in law, journalism and foreign languages, a doctorate in Russia and a professorship in media studies from Slovakia. He sits on the editorial board of a number of international journals on communications and media policy, and authored more than 200 publications on media law in Russian, English, Armenian, Azeri, Bosnian, Croat, German, French, Serbian, Slovak, Tajik and Ukrainian, including the standard media law textbook for journalism students in the Russian Federation, a textbook on international standards of media regulation and a textbook on online media law. He was a professor at the School of Journalism, Lomonosov Moscow State University, where he chaired a department in media law and history. Rikhter was a commissioner at the International Commission of Jurists and the Chair of the Law Section of the International Association for Media and Communication Research. Antonina Cherevko, Chairperson, Independent Media Council in Ukraine Antonina Cherevko is a human rights lawyer and international development expert with a specialization in media law and a long-

development expert with a specialization in media law and a longterm professional and academic focus on the issues of freedom of expression and media policy. She has over 15 years of professional experience in international development and management of democratization projects in the areas of rule of law, human rights, media policy and law reform. Antonina worked with organizations like IREX, the OSCE, the Council of Europe, International Media Support and ARTICLE 19. She is the head of the Independent Media Council in Ukraine and a member of the Committee of Experts on Combating Hate Speech (ADI/MSI-DIS) of the Council of Europe.



SESSION 2

Aidar Botagarov, Adviser, Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media

Aidar Botagarov works as an Adviser with the Office of the Representative on Freedom of the Media (RFoM). He has been with the RFoM since 2013 and, prior to this, worked as a National Political and Media Officer with the OSCE Centre in Kazakhstan.

Aidar holds a Master's degree in Conflict Resolution from the University of Bradford and a Bachelor's Degree in Public Administration from the Kazakhstan Institute of Management, Economics and Strategic Research.

In his current position, Aidar acts as the geographical focal point for media freedom issues in Eastern Europe, the South Caucasus, and the Russian Federation; and has a thematic focus on the safety of



journalists.
 Lasha Darsalia, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Georgia Lasha Darsalia is Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Georgia since October 2018. His responsibilities include dealing with the issues concerning the Russian-Georgian conflict, as well as neighbouring countries and international organizations. Mr. Darsalia is chief negotiator from Georgia to the Russian Federation in the Geneva International Discussions (GID). Prior to his current assignment, Lasha Darsalia was First Deputy Minister at the State Ministry for Reconciliation and Civic Equity. His main responsibilities included working on engagement policy with the communities in the Russian Occupied territories of Georgia. He graduated from the Tbilisi State University with a Master's and Bachelor's degree in International Relations. In 2007, he received his Master's degree in The Theory of International Relations from the University of Essex (UK) as the British Government Chevening Fellowship Scholar. Parallel to this, he acquired extensive training through various programmes. Among them, he attended the "The
 New Issues in Security Course – 2016 at the Geneva Center for Security Policy. Nino Danelia, Co-founder and a member of "Coalition for Media Advocacy" Nino Danelia is a professor of mass communication at Ilia State University. She is also an invited professor at the Caucasus School of Journalism and Media Management. Danelia's research interests are in democracy, civic activism and the public sphere, Soviet dissident communication, and journalism professional and civic values. Danelia is an author of several research and policy papers on Georgian media and several handbooks for Georgian journalists and communication specialists. She has more than 20 years of experience of working for several newspapers and radio programmes as a reporter and an editor; and more then ten years of experience of teaching journalism and mass communication. She is also a founding member of the "Coalition for Media Advocacy", and a founding member of the "Georgian Women Movement".







	From 2005-2007, Mr. Navasardian was a member of the Council of	
	Europe's expert groups on "Freedom of Expression and Freedom of	
	Information in Times of Crisis".	

