



# 14<sup>TH</sup> SOUTH CAUCASUS MEDIA CONFERENCE

## *"Fake news", disinformation and freedom of the media*

10-11 May 2017, Tbilisi, Georgia

Venue: [Rooms Hotel Tbilisi](#)  
14, Kostava Street

### AGENDA

#### Day 1: Wednesday, 10 May

**09.30 – 10.00**      **REGISTRATION**

**10.00 – 10.30**      **OPENING SESSION**

**Welcoming remarks**

- Frane Maroevic, Director, Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media
- Khatuna Totladze, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Georgia
- Arad Benkö, Ambassador of the Republic of Austria in Georgia

**10.30 – 11.45**      **SESSION I: Challenges of disinformation and propaganda to media freedom in the digital age**

Moderator: Andrey Rikhter, Senior Adviser, Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media

*This session will address such issues as the impact of disinformation and propaganda on the risks posed to journalists and other communicators, on public trust and confidence in the profession of journalism and the public's right to know. It will also address the effects of disinformation and propaganda on states' attempts to restrict media freedom through the imposition of rules on operation and accreditation, technical controls and pressure upon intermediaries.*

- Nadezda Azhgikhina, Vice-President, European Federation of Journalists
- Dainius Radzevicius, Chairman, Lithuanian Union of Journalists
- Questions and Answers

**11.45 – 12.15**      **COFFEE BREAK**

**12.15 – 13.15**

**SESSION I (cont'd): Challenges of disinformation and propaganda to media freedom in the digital age**

Moderator: Andrey Rikhter, Senior Adviser, Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media

- Seymour Kazimov, Freelance Journalist, Azerbaijan
- Tamar Kintsurashvili, Executive Director, Media Development Foundation
- Gegham Vardanyan, Producer and Trainer, Media Initiatives Center, Armenia
- Discussion

**13.15 – 14.15**

**LUNCH**

**14.15 – 15.45**

**SESSION II: Latest media freedom developments in the South Caucasus**

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

*Reports and discussion on media freedom developments since the 2016 South Caucasus Media Conference, including legislative initiatives and framework, current case law, safety of journalists, media transparency, professional standards, and other pertinent issues and challenges to media freedom.*

**Armenia**

- Artur Papyan, Website Editor, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, Armenia Service
- Hovhannes Nikoghosyan, Advisor to the Director of Public Relations and Information Center, Office of the President of the Republic of Armenia
- Discussion

**Azerbaijan**

- Alasgar, Mammadli, Media Lawyer, Azerbaijan
- Kamran Hasanov, Head Adviser, Public and Political Affairs Department, Administration of President of the Republic of Azerbaijan
- Discussion

**15.45 – 16.15**

**COFFEE BREAK**

**16.15 – 17.00**

**SESSION II (cont'd): Latest media freedom developments in the South Caucasus**

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

**Georgia**

- Nino Robakidze, Media Program Manager, Transparency International Georgia
- Representative from government/State institution
- Discussion

**18.00**

**RECEPTION (at Rooms Hotel Tbilisi)**

Hosted by the Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media

**9.30 – 11.00**

**SESSION III: Approaches to counter disinformation and propaganda**

Moderator: Sejal Parmar, Senior Adviser, Office of the Representative on Freedom of the Media

*This session will focus on identifying appropriate policy responses to counteract the dissemination and effects of disinformation and propaganda in the digital age. Such responses include the promotion of media and digital literacy, pluralism and transparency of media ownership, accessibility of intermediaries' policies, as well as fact-checking initiatives by media organizations. It will highlight practical recommendations for various specified actors, such as the requirement that states provide an environment conducive for media freedom and the promotion media literacy and that media outlets and journalists support effective systems of self-regulation and civil society promotes awareness of the challenges of disinformation and propaganda. This session would also indicate the types of responses to disinformation and propaganda which would be inappropriate or unacceptable since they would threaten or undermined media freedom.*

- Tigran Hakobyan, Member, National Commission on Television and Radio of Armenia
- Hikmet Hajiyev, Spokesperson, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan
- Government representative from Georgia
- Questions and answers / Discussion

**11.00 – 11.15**

**COFFEE BREAK**

**11.15 – 12.45**

**SESSION IV: Workshop “Best practice in countering disinformation and propaganda through media self-regulation in Russia”**

- Yurii Kazakov, Deputy Chair of the Chamber of media audience, Public Collegium on Press Complaints (Russian Federation)

**12.45 – 13.30**

**CLOSING SESSION**

Moderator: Andrey Rikhter, Senior Adviser, Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media

- Discussion on the draft declaration from the conference
- Evaluation of the conference

**Closing remarks**

Frane Maroevic, Director, Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media

**13.30 – 14.30**

**LUNCH**