



## CATCH THE MOMENT - EXPLORE EASTERN EUROPE

Information Booklet

### EASTERN EUROPEAN SUMMER SCHOOL 2013

1-10 August, 2013  
Bakuriani, Georgia

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### **About**

Eastern European Summer School has an interdisciplinary character and combines various topics related to Eastern Partnership and Black Sea Region countries. The methodology of the summer school will combine lectures, seminars as well as debates around the issues raised by the courses given by European and Georgian professors. Participants will have an opportunity to choose specific issues and write analytical articles published as a final booklet of the summer school.

### **Courses**

- 20 years of Democratization in Eastern Europe: Mistakes and Achievements



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- Political Institutions, Values and Ideological Ambivalences in Eastern Europe
- Post-Communist Populism and its Political Roots
- The Principals of Eastern Partnership: General Outline
- Citizenship, Democracy and Activism in Eastern Europe
- Youth and Political Participation in Post-Communist Space: Apathy and Alienation
- Political and Economic Transitions in Eastern Europe: Experimental Oasis?
- Inequalities, Social Injustice and Alienation in Post-Communist Space
- Conflicts in Eastern Europe: Societal Roots
- Freedoms without Opportunities: Neoliberal Transitions and Troubles of Eastern Europe
- New Paradigms of Cultural Hegemony and Class Domination in Eastern Europe

### **Working Language**

The working language of the school and the entire program will be in English; participants must be able to communicate freely in English.

### **Dates**

The summer school starts on 1 August 2013 (arrival day) and ends on 10 August 2013 (departure day);

### **Who can participate**

To be a successful scholarship candidates will need to demonstrate that their academic background and professional experience are somehow related to the issues connected with the development of the region. Applicants should also demonstrate that their personal qualities make them an appropriate representative of their respectful countries. 20 participants will be selected.

### **Fees and Payments**

Accommodation, meals and tuition materials will be provided by organizers. Participants are required to pay just symbolic 50 Euros and cover their travel expenses.

### **How to Apply**

Please submit your CV and Motivation Letter to [eessbakuriani@gmail.com](mailto:eessbakuriani@gmail.com)

**Application Deadline:** June 12



## CATCH THE MOMENT - EXPLORE EASTERN EUROPE



**Georgia** is a sovereign state in the Caucasus region of Eurasia. Located at the crossroads of Western Asia and Eastern Europe, it is bounded to the west by the Black Sea, to the north by Russia, to the south by Turkey and Armenia, and to the southeast by

Azerbaijan. The capital of Georgia is Tbilisi. Georgia covers a territory of 69,700 km<sup>2</sup>, and its population is



almost 4.7 million.

Georgian is the native language of the Georgians and the *official language* of Georgia, a country in the Caucasus.

*The climate* of Georgia is extremely diverse. There are two main climatic zones, roughly separating Eastern and Western parts of the country. The wettest periods generally occur during Spring and Autumn while Winter and the Summer months tend to be the driest. Much of eastern Georgia experiences hot summers (especially in the low-lying areas) and relatively cold winters. As in the western parts of the nation, elevation plays an important role in eastern Georgia where climatic conditions above 1,500 metres (4,921 ft) are considerably colder than in the low-lying areas. The regions that lie above 2,000 metres (6,562 ft) frequently experience frost even during the summer months.

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Georgia maintains good relations with its direct neighbours Armenia, Azerbaijan, Turkey, and is a member of the United Nations, the Council of Europe, the World Trade Organization, the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Community of Democratic Choice, the GUAM Organization for Democracy and Economic Development, and the Asian Development Bank. Georgia also maintains political, economic and military relations with Japan, Uruguay, South Korea, Israel, Sri Lanka Ukraine and many other

countries.

Georgia is well known for its rich folklore, unique traditional music, theatre, cinema, and art. Georgians are renowned for their love of music, dance, theatre and cinema.

*The currency of Georgia is Georgian Lari.*

**Tbilisi** is the capital and the largest city of Georgia. According to an old legend, the present-day territory of Tbilisi was covered by forests as late as 458. One widely accepted variant of the legend of Tbilisi's founding states that King Vakhtang I Gorgasali of Georgia went hunting in the heavily wooded region with a falcon (sometimes the falcon is replaced with either a hawk or other small birds of prey in the legend). The King's falcon allegedly caught or injured a pheasant during the hunt, after which both birds fell into a nearby hot spring and died from burns. King Vakhtang became so impressed with the hot springs that he decided to cut down the forest and build a city on the location. The name Tbilisi derives from the Old Georgian word "Tpili" (თბილი), meaning warm.



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The name 'Tbili' or 'Tbilisi' ('warm location') was therefore given to the city because of the area's numerous sulphuric hot springs that came out of the ground.





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The architecture in the city is a mixture of local (Georgian), with strong influences of Byzantine, European/Russian (neo-classical), and Middle Eastern architectural styles. The oldest parts of town, including the Abanot-Ubani, Avlabari, and to a certain extent the Sololaki districts clearly have a traditional Georgian architectural look with Middle Eastern influences. The start of the 20th century was marked with an architectural revival, notably, with an art nouveau style.

### **BAKURIANI**

Bakuriani is a skiing resort in the Borjomi district of Georgia. It is located on the northern slope of the Trialeti Range, at an elevation of 1,700 meters (5,576 feet) above sea level. The region around Bakuriani is covered by coniferous forests (mainly made up of spruce). The resort lies 30 km (19 mi) from Borjomi and is located within the so-called Bakuriani Depression/caldera. The resort is connected with Borjomi by an electrified narrow-gauge railway. The present-day area of the town was built up by the lava flows from the Mukheri volcano. The highest mountain of the resort used for skiing is called Mount Kohta at around 2,200 meters (7,216 feet) above sea level.





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Vacationing in Bakuriani is rewarding and interesting during all seasons: wood-covered mountains, mineral water springs, unique tourist routes towards spectacular natural or cultural monuments of the Borjomi Valley. All of this is a guarantee of our health and good mood.



It's pleasantly cool here during evenings, and sometimes it's even cold. And this happens while down there, in the flatlands, people are much disturbed of unbearable heat.

The climate of Bakuriani is transitional from humid maritime to relatively humid continental. The winters are cold and experience significant snowfall while the summers are long and warm.

Average annual temperature of the town is 4.3 degrees Celsius. The average temperature in January is -7.3 degrees Celsius while the average August temperature is 15 degrees Celsius. The annual precipitation is 734 mm (28.9 in). The depth of snow from December to March is 64 cm (25.2 in).

Bakuriani is also home to the Botanical Garden of the Georgian Academy of Sciences.



**How to reach Georgia?**



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By plane -You can use Tbilisi or Batumi International airports to reach us. Following airlines are operating in Georgia: Lufthansa, Turkish Airways, British Airways, Pegasus Airlines, Czech Airways, Ukrainian Airways, Air Baltic, KLM, Austrian Airways, LOT Polish Airlines, Alitalia, Airzena and others.

By train - currently Georgia has railway connection only with Azerbaijan and Armenia. Daily trains run from Baku and Yerevan to Tbilisi.

By bus - You can take direct bus from Istanbul, Turkey to Tbilisi/Batumi. Bus services are also available if you are travelling either from Athens or Thessaloniki to Tbilisi. If you take bus from Romania or Bulgaria, you need to change the bus in Istanbul.

By ferry - there are boat services from Ukraine, Turkey, Romania and Bulgaria to Batumi or Poti ports in Georgia.

Useful information There are no Visa requirements for up to 360 day visits to Georgia for the citizens of EU and most European countries.



Official currency in Georgia is Lari, which can be exchanged in banks or in any of plenty exchange points in the city. The exchange rate for 1 Euro is 2.2GEL andfor 1 USD –1.6 GEL.

Euro to Lari Conversion Table	
€ Euro	₾ Lari
€ 1	2.13
€ 5	10.67
€ 10	21.34
€ 50	107
€ 100	213
€ 250	534
€ 500	1067
€ 1000	2134
€ 3000	6403
€ 5000	10672
€ 10000	21345
2.1345 per Euro 14 May, 2013	

Dollar to Lari Conversion Table	
\$ Dollar	₾ Lari
\$ 1	1.64
\$ 5	8.21
\$ 10	16.42
\$ 50	82.1
\$ 100	164
\$ 250	410
\$ 500	821
\$ 1000	1642
\$ 3000	4926
\$ 5000	8210
\$ 10000	16419
1.6419 per Dollar 14 May, 2013	