

Research Connections — E-Bulletin

CRRC Announces New Georgia Country Director

CRRC extends a warm welcome to its new Georgia Country Director, Koba Turmanidze. Koba comes to CRRC with an excellent track record in both research and teaching. “I want CRRC-Georgia to become an even more dynamic hub for the research community,” says Koba, who joins CRRC from Transparency International where he held the position of Senior Analyst. He has also taught at Tbilisi State University and the Georgian Institute of Public Affairs (GIPA). Koba holds a MPA from American University (Washington D.C.) and an M.A. in Political Science from Central European University. Please stop by our Georgia office or [email](#) to meet Koba.

Issue 4, May 2007



New CRRC-Georgia Country Director, Koba Turmanidze

Selected Upcoming [English](#) and [Russian](#) Events

- Training: [Case Study Research](#), Baku, Azerbaijan, May 10-11, — English.
- Lecture Series: [Ethnicity in the Post Soviet Area](#), Yerevan, Armenia, May14-18 — Russian.
- Lecture: [The Future Status of Kosovo](#), Tbilisi, Georgia, May 16 — English.
- Training: [Policy Analysis Approaches: How to Confront Policy Problems](#), Baku, Azerbaijan, May 24-25 — English.

For more events, particularly those in local languages, please go to our country websites listed below.

CRRC Book of the Month

[Racing Up Hill](#) by Hafiz Pashayev

Through primary documents the first Azerbaijani ambassador to the U.S. tells how he interacted with the U.S. political system. A comprehensive insight into Azerbaijan’s entry into world politics. Available in CRRC-AZ and upon request in Georgia.

Training Highlight — Game Theory and Maximum Likelihood Estimation



Andrei Sirchenko trains the trainers in Yerevan

CRRC-Armenia in cooperation with the Russian Armenian University and Yerevan State University organized sessions on game theory and maximum likelihood estimation. These techniques are essential for economists, but also find application in other quantitative research.

The trainings, running for five afternoons in early April, brought together professors from six Armenian universities representatives from the State Statistical Committee and the Central Bank, as well as researchers from various organizations.

Training Presentation Skills

We are building modules to train presentation skills. Ideally we want to create a Caucasus-based working group. Write to [Tamta](#) in case you want to sign up and find out more.

Participants learned how the order of moves (simultaneous versus sequential) can determine the dynamics of a situation. They also learned game-theoretic approaches to decision-making under uncertainty. The training on maximum likelihood focused on how to apply sophisticated techniques through computer programs.

Andrei Sirchenko, based at Indiana University and currently a visiting lecturer at the [Economics Research and Outreach Center \(EROC\)](#) in Ukraine, led the training.

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