

## Research Connections — E-Bulletin

### CRRC Launches Armenian Language Moodle

CRRC-Armenia has launched an Armenian language version of Moodle. Moodle is an e-Learning platform designed to facilitate intensive collaboration and dialogue while trainees gain new skills. The application and selection process for participants in two methodological trainings on Statistical Analysis with SPSS for economists and sociologists will take place through Moodle, followed by face-to-face training. Launching Moodle in Armenian is a breakthrough for local scholars because, to date, very few professional resources have been available in Armenian, which has its own alphabet. You can visit CRRC's platform, which is still under construction at [crrc.am/moodle](http://crrc.am/moodle). Stay tuned for updates.

Moodle is an e-Learning platform designed to facilitate intensive collaboration and dialogue. CRRC already used it to administer the 2007 Research Fellowship application and selection process. Stay tuned for more news coming.

### Selected Upcoming Events

- Lecture-Discussion: [Competition Policy and Regulation](#), Yerevan, Armenia, November 22 — David Harutyunyan (ARM).
- Training: [Sensitivity of Research Resources and Information Seeking Behavior in 21st Century](#), Yerevan, Armenia, November 29 — Dr. Tom Sloan (ENG).
- Conference: Labor Market Trends in Armenia — TBD (ARM).

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

### Issue 9, November 2007



Hans Gutbrod

### CRRC at Woodrow Wilson

Hans Gutbrod gave a presentation of CRRC's Data Initiative to a diverse audience, including a former US Ambassador to Georgia, at the Woodrow Wilson Center in Washington, DC. Presenting the findings on popular attitudes, Hans highlighted that CRRC conducts the largest coordinated survey effort in the region. DI results for 2007 available soon!



CRRC Fellow, Tamar Zurabishvili

### CRRC Fellowship Highlight — Tamar Zurabishvili

Very little is known about the status of labor migrants in Georgia. The 2002 Georgian Census data is outdated, and the questions that addressed issues of migration on the census forms were flawed and did not yield reliable results.

In order to better understand the migration dynamics in Georgia, Tamar Zurabishvili, Assistant Professor at Telavi State University conducted an alternative household census in Daba Tianeti, a settlement in the Mtskheta-Mtianeti region, which according to migration experts, is characterized by one of the highest rates of out migration in Georgia.

The study found that only 7% of migrants study abroad – these are mostly young people, living in Germany. Of the surveyed households, 71% receive remittances, although the amount and regularity of remittances varies significantly. It was estimated that 280,000 euros were sent by Tianeti labor migrants between July 2005 and August 2006. According to the survey, almost all remittance money was being spent on consumption, and there were only a few cases where migrants or their family members invested the money or bought or renovated houses/apartments. [More...\(PDF\)](#)

### CRRC — Armenia Blog Launched

CRRC-Armenia has launched a new blog in English to cover events and discuss what is going on in social science research and training in Armenia. You can find the blog at <http://crrcam.blogspot.com>. Check it out and please give us your feedback!!

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