

## Research Connections — E-Bulletin

### Writing Statement of Purpose

It's application season! Those who intend to study or research abroad are putting their application together. Statements of purpose are an essential part of the application package, which are difficult to write and even experienced professionals can end up struggling. CRRC-Georgia in cooperation with IREX offered hands-on, interactive training on how to get that statement of purpose right. Using practical examples, more than fifty participants learned what applicants need to succeed. The training was conducted by the CRRC Regional Director, Dr. Hans Gutbrod, who gave his feedback on some of the training participants' statements. A lively discussion allowed participants to learn not only from the trainer, but also from each other. If you wish to be notified of CRRC-Georgia's upcoming events, sign-up on our mailing list by writing to [Alex](#).

### Selected Upcoming Events

- Presentation: School Board in Armenia: Public Participation and Power Balance, Yerevan, Armenia, November 12 – Satenik Mkrtychan (ARM).
- Lecture: [Introduction to Fiscal and Monetary Policy](#), Baku, Azerbaijan, November 13 – Saied Sarkarat (AZE, RUS).
- Presentation: [Armenian Economic Association Organizational Meeting](#), Yerevan, Armenia, November 22 – David Joulfaiian (ENG, ARM).

*For more events, please go to our country websites listed below.*

### CRRC Presents on Media Coverage in Armenia



CRRC presenting at Marriott Hotel

On October 28th, CRRC Regional Director Dr. Hans Gutbrod presented findings of research on media conducted as part of a larger project on media coverage in Armenia and Azerbaijan. Among the attendees were the representatives of IREX, AED, OXFAM, OSCE, British Council, IFES and the Embassies of Poland and Romania in Armenia.

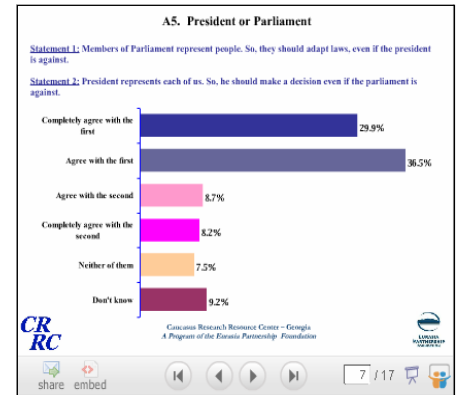
According to the report, Yerevanis believe that all of the main television stations are controlled by the government, copy news directly and deceitfully manipulate stories. Meanwhile, Bakuivians believe that the media environment is polarized between opposition and government channels, which generally avoid news coverage and focus on non-controversial topics such as sports or beauty.

The presentation was followed by an active discussion around the main findings and the recommendations that the research sets forth to the government, journalists and the donor community. The recommendations include embracing web journalism, blogging and creating interactive websites, promoting a bottom-up approach to journalist ethics, as well as developing a research based culture among media supporters and providers.

Similar presentations are planned for local journalists and the representatives of mass media in both countries later this year. If you would like to get the Power-Point presentation, email [nana@crrccenters.org](mailto:nana@crrccenters.org).

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### Issue 20, November 2008



Presentation posted on blog

### Public Opinion on the Parliament in Georgia

This month CRRC will make the dataset from a survey on opinion about parliament carried out before the parliamentary elections available on our [website](#). We encourage you to use the data. Some slides are already posted on the CRRC [blog](#) together with the Power-Point presentation.