STATE-BUILDING AND POLICY-MAKING IN AN INDEPENDENT ARMENIA: 1991-2006

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THE ARMENIAN CENTER AT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY is an independent, non-profit organization conceived to preserve, strengthen, and expand Columbia’s Armenian Studies program. The centerpiece of its strategy was the establishment of the Gevork M. Avedissian Chair of Armenian History and Civilization in 1979. A series of visiting professorships sponsored by the center began in 1996. Beyond its support of formal instruction, the Armenian Center’s vision involves enlarging the library’s Armenian collection; organizing lectures, symposia, and exhibits; underwriting new publications; recognizing the works of Armenian literary figures; and the endowment of scholarships. By making the benefits of scholarly study accessible to the public, the center seeks to strengthen the relationship between the Armenian and academic communities.

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THE ARMENIAN STUDIES PROGRAM AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN, ANN ARBOR, is the umbrella structure for two endowed chairs—the Alex Manoogian Chair in Modern Armenian History and the Marie Manoogian Chair in Armenian Language and Literature—as well as the Summer Armenian Institute in Yerevan. The ASP coordinates the activities of both chairs and the summer institute; organizes lectures, conferences, and outreach programs for the community; and offers a wide range of courses on all periods of Armenian language, literature, history, and culture. Occasionally, specialists are invited to teach areas not covered by the chairholders. The ASP offers graduate degrees and an undergraduate concentration (both minor and major) in Armenian Studies.

The Armenian Studies Program, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
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A JOINT CONFERENCE OF THE
Columbia University Armenian Center &
The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor,
Armenian Studies Program

Saturday, March 11, 2006
Columbia University Campus, New York City
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The Columbia University Armenian Center and
The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor,
Armenian Studies Program

Saturday, March 11, 2006
10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Columbia University, Davis Auditorium
New York City

Conference Opening (10:00 a.m.)

Welcome on behalf of the Columbia University Armenian Center and
the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Armenian Studies Program

PROF. CHARLES KING, Georgetown University
A General Overview

Panel I (10:30 a.m.)
FOREIGN POLICY AND SECURITY ISSUES

DR. RICHARD GIRAGOSIAN, Washington, D.C.
Repositioning Armenian Security and Foreign Policy
within a Region at Risk

ARMAN GRIGORIAN, Columbia University/Wesleyan University
The Karabakh Conflict and Competing Perspectives
on Armenia's Grand Strategy

TALINE PAPAZIAN, Ph.D. student
Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris
Foreign Policy and Political Elites

Panel Chair:
PROF. PETER SINNOTT, Columbia University

Lunch Break (12:00 noon)

Edward W. Walker. "No Peace, No War in the Caucasus:
Secessionist Conflicts in Chechnya, Abkhazia and Nagorno-
Karabakh." Occasional Paper, Strengthening Democratic
Institutions Project, John F. Kennedy School of Government,
Harvard University, February 1998.

Andre Zagorsky, editor. Crisis Management in the CIS: Wither
Panel II (1:30 p.m.)
DOMESTIC AND POLITICAL POLICY

PROF. GERARD J. LIBARIDIAN
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
Tracking State, Nation, and Democracy-Building

ARUS HARUTYUNYAN, Ph.D. student
Western Michigan State University
Dual Citizenship Debates in Armenia: In Pursuit of National Identity Since Independence

DR. MARINA KURKCHYAN
Wolfson College, Oxford, United Kingdom
Investing in Human Capital as an Aspect of Security

Panel Chair:
ARAM ARKUN, Armenian Center at Columbia University

Coffee Break (3:00 p.m.)

Panel III (3:30 p.m.)
ECONOMIC POLICY

HRAND BAGRATYAN
Prime Minister, Republic of Armenia (1993-1996)
Armenia in Transition: Adaptation to the New Economic Values

ARMAND SARIAN, Economist, Paris, France;
Economic Challenges to Armenia's Independence

ARMEN MARTIROSYAN, Permanent Representative of the
Economic Performance, Institution-Building, and the State

SAUMYA MITRA, Lead Economist, World Bank
The Roar of the South Caucasian Tiger

Panel Chair:
GERARD LIBARIDIAN, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
ROSTER OF CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS

CONFERENCE SPEAKERS

Hrand Bagratyan served as Prime Minister of the Republic of Armenia from 1993 to 1996, and held various positions in prior governments. The author of six monographs and many articles on economic theory and transformation, Bagratyan's contributions have been recognized by numerous international organizations. In 2005, he was awarded doctorates in economics in Armenia and Russia. He is currently vice president of the Yerevan Brandy Factory.

Richard Giragosian is a Washington-based analyst specializing in international relations, with a focus on economics, security, and political developments in the former Soviet Union, Middle East, and Asia-Pacific region. He is a regular contributor to Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (RFE/RL) publications, and is a contributing analyst for the London-based Jane's Information Group, covering political, economic, and security issues involving the South Caucasus, Central Asia, and the Asia-Pacific region, as well as the Japanese military.

Arman Grigorian is a visiting instructor of Government at Wesleyan University in Middletown, Connecticut, and a Ph.D. candidate in Political Science at Columbia University. His dissertation focuses on third-party intervention in internal conflicts. He has authored a number of articles on the politics of Armenia and the Caucasus.

Arus Harutyunyan is a candidate for a Ph.D. in Political Science at Western Michigan University. Her primary fields of interest are national identity, trust, and democratization. Currently, she is working on a dissertation titled, Contesting National Identities in an Ethnically Homogeneous State: The Case of Armenian Democratization.


Charles King is the Ion Ratiu Associate Professor in the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C., where he also holds a joint appointment in the Department of Government, and serves as chair of the faculty. A former Marshall Scholar, he has worked as a research fellow at New College, Oxford, and as a research associate at the International Institute for Strategic Studies in London. His books include *The Black Sea: A History* (2004) and *The Moldovans: Romania, Russia, and the Politics of Culture* (2000). His articles on Eastern Europe and Eurasia have appeared in *Foreign Affairs*, *World Politics*, *International Security*, *Slavic Review*, and other journals, and he has contributed opinion pieces to the *Los Angeles Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, and *Christian Science Monitor*. He is currently writing a modern history of the Caucasus.

Marina Kurkchiyan is the Paul Dodyk Fellow in Socio-Legal Studies at the University of Oxford, and a Fellow of Wolfson College. She specializes in the post-communist transition in Armenia, Russia, and the Ukraine, with a focus on legal culture and institution-building. She has also worked as a consultant to the World Bank, the U.K. Department for International Development, the Soros Foundation, and the InterMedia Institute. Her publications include works on economic crime in Russia, law and informal practices in the post-communist countries, welfare reforms in Armenia, and research methodology. Her most recent book is *The Armenians*, edited with Edmund Herzig and published in 2005 by Routledge Curzon.

Gerard Jirair Libaridian currently holds the Alex Manoogian Chair in Modern Armenian History at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. He specializes in Armenia, the Caucasus, and the Near East. From 1991 to 1997, Dr. Libaridian served as adviser, and later senior adviser, to the President of Armenia, Levon Ter-Petrossian, and as First Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs (1993-1994). His most recent works are *Modern Armenia: People, Nation, State* (2004); and *The Challenge of Statehood: Armenian Political Thinking Since Independence* (1999).
Armen Martirosyan has been involved in Armenian politics from the establishment of the independent Republic. He was elected as the youngest member of the Armenian National Assembly in its first period (1990-1995), and was an advisor to two of Armenia’s Prime Ministers (1991-1993), before being re-elected to a second National Assembly term (1995-1999). From 1999 to 2003, he served as Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, and in 2003 he was appointed as the Republic of Armenia’s Permanent Representative, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the United Nations, in which position he currently serves. In addition to leading Armenia’s U.N. Mission in New York City, Ambassador Martirosyan also takes graduate courses in international relations at Columbia University.

Saumya Mitra is a lead economist in the Europe and Central Asia Department of the World Bank. His work focuses on economic reforms in Armenia and the south Caucasus region. He has previously worked on economics in the Balkans and in South America, principally Brazil. His main fields of interest are the political economy of reforms, reconstructing post-conflict societies, macro-economics, and structural economic reforms. Educated at Oxford, he has also worked at the International Monetary Fund and the Bank of England.

Taline Papazian graduated from the Institut d’Etudes Politiques de Paris in 2003. She is currently a second-year Ph.D. candidate in Political Science at the IEP.

Armand Sarian, a Paris-based economist, was Economic Advisor to the Armenian government from 1993 to 1996. As a consultant, he has participated in many projects within the framework of the European Union’s “Technical Aid to the Commonwealth of Independent States” programs in Armenia and Russia.

SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY ON ARMENIA AND RELATED ISSUES

ENGLISH LANGUAGE SOURCES


Michael P. Croissant and Bulent Aras, editors. Oil and Geopolitics of the Caspian Sea Region. Praeger, 1999.

CONFFERENCE PANEL CHAIRMEN

Aram Arkun is secretary of the board of directors of the Armenian Center at Columbia University. He is coordinator of the Krikor and Clara Zohrab Information Center of the Eastern Diocese of the Armenian Church of America, and editor of Ararat, an Armenian-American quarterly published by the Armenian General Benevolent Union. A specialist on modern Armenian history, he has published a variety of articles on that subject in books, periodicals, and encyclopedias. He is a graduate of Princeton University (B.A.), the University of Pennsylvania (M.A.), and UCLA (C.Phil.).

Peter Sinnott is an adjunct assistant professor of International Affairs at Columbia University, where he is a member of the Harriman and Middle East Institutes, and the Columbia Caspian Project. He is the author of "Central Asia's Geographic Movement," "The Physical Geography of Soviet Central Asia and the Aral Sea Problem," and other articles on Russia and Central Asia. Professor Sinnott received his B.A. from Fordham University (1975), and his M.A. and Ph.D. from Columbia University (1983, 1996). He teaches courses related to the history and politics of the Caucasus and has organized more than a dozen conferences on the regions of Central Asia and the Caucasus.

Gerard Jirair Libaridian: (See notes under "Speakers")

Figure 3.
Figure 1.
Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia: Topography and Drainage.

Figure 2.
Maps of Armenia and the Caucasus Region

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Panel II (1:30 p.m.)

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**ARUS HARUTYUNYAN**, Ph.D. student

Western Michigan State University

*Dual Citizenship Debates in Armenia: In Pursuit of National Identity Since Independence*

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