

Prof. Giorgi Gvalia, PhD

Curriculum Vitae

Vice-Rector, Ilia State University | Jean Monnet Chair | Professor of Politics and International Relations

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PERSONAL INFORMATION

Date of birth: 12 April 1982

Nationality: Georgian

Gender: Male

PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

Professor of Politics and International Relations at Ilia State University, Vice-Rector for Academic Affairs, and Jean Monnet Chair. His research focuses on foreign policy analysis, small states, international security, EU foreign policy, post-Soviet politics, and the South Caucasus. He has held senior academic and policy positions, coordinated international research and teaching projects, and published academic and policy work in outlets including Security Studies, Foreign Policy Analysis, East European Politics, International Politik Quarterly, The National Interest, and The Central Asia-Caucasus Analyst.

WORK EXPERIENCE

09/2021-current	Vice-Rector <i>Ilia State University</i> Tbilisi, Georgia
10/2023-current	Jean Monnet Chair <i>Ilia State University</i> Tbilisi, Georgia
02/2021-02/2023	President <i>Georgian Association for Public Opinion Research (GAPOR)</i> Tbilisi, Georgia
09/2013-09/2021	Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences <i>Ilia State University</i> Tbilisi, Georgia
09/2013-09/2021	Chair of the Faculty Academic Council <i>Ilia State University</i> Tbilisi, Georgia
01/2019-01/2020	Member of the Authorization Council of Higher Educational Institutions <i>Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia</i> Tbilisi, Georgia
09/2018-current	Academic Head of PhD Programme in Political Science <i>Ilia State University</i> Tbilisi, Georgia
12/2016-current	Professor of Politics and International Relations <i>Ilia State University</i> Tbilisi, Georgia
09/2016-current	Academic Head of BA Programme in International Relations <i>Ilia State University</i>

Tbilisi, Georgia

02/2014-09/2019 **Accreditation Expert**
National Center for Educational Quality Enhancement, Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia
Tbilisi, Georgia

10/2013-11/2016 **Associate Professor of Politics and International Relations**
Ilia State University
Tbilisi, Georgia

01/2013-09/2013 **Deputy Dean of the School of Business**
Ilia State University
Tbilisi, Georgia

02/2009-01/2013 **Senior Adviser, Analytical Department**
National Security Council of Georgia
Tbilisi, Georgia

03/2008-10/2013 **Assistant Professor of Politics and International Relations**
International School for Caucasus Studies, Ilia State University
Tbilisi, Georgia

09/2007-06/2009 **Invited Lecturer**
University of Georgia
Tbilisi, Georgia

01/2008-06/2008 **Senior Researcher**
European Stability Initiative (ESI), South Caucasus Program
Tbilisi, Georgia

01/2007-02/2008 **Assistant to the Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences**
Ilia State University
Tbilisi, Georgia

02/2006-01/2007 **Researcher in Georgian Security Analysis Center**
Georgian Foundation for Strategic and International Studies (GFSIS)
Tbilisi, Georgia

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

01/2009-07/2013 **PhD in Political Science, Faculty of Arts and Sciences**
Ilia State University
Tbilisi, Georgia

2011 **Advanced Course in Social Science Research, School of Politics and Global Studies**
Arizona State University
Arizona, United States

2005-2007 **MA in International Relations, Faculty of Social and Political Sciences**
Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University
Tbilisi, Georgia

2000-2004 **BA in International Relations, Faculty of International Relations and International Law**
Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University
Tbilisi, Georgia

LANGUAGE SKILLS

- Georgian - mother tongue
- English – B2 (listening, reading, spoken production, spoken interaction, writing)
- Russian - B2 (listening, reading, spoken production, spoken interaction, writing)

ACADEMIC PROJECTS

2023-2026	Jean Monnet Chair at Ilia State University <i>Erasmus+ Jean Monnet Chair. Project Coordinator.</i>
2022-current	Embracing Change: Overcoming Obstacles and Advancing Democracy in the European Neighborhood (EMBRACE) <i>Horizon Europe Programme. Researcher and WP local coordinator.</i>
2019-current	Linking to Europe at the Periphery (LEAP) <i>Erasmus+ Jean Monnet Network Project. Local Coordinator.</i>
2019-2021	Security Perspectives in the Eurasian Regional Context <i>Project in cooperation with Coastal Carolina University, USA; funded by Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation of Georgia. Project Director.</i>
2016-2019	Eurasia Peace Studies Exchange <i>In cooperation with The Arctic University of Norway and American University of Central Asia. Local Coordinator.</i>
2015-2018	PESTUGE - Development of Peace Studies Curricula in the Georgian Universities <i>Erasmus+ Project. Project Coordinator.</i>
2014-2016	Europeanization on a Rocky Ground - Russia and the EU in the South Caucasus <i>Research project funded by ASCN. Senior Researcher.</i>
2010-2011	The Western Identity of Georgia's Political Elite: The Case of Country's Foreign Policy <i>Research project funded by ASCN. Project Director.</i>
2009	NATO and South Caucasus: Comparative Analysis <i>Social and Strategic Research Foundation. Senior Researcher.</i>
2008	The Influence of Formal and Informal Institutions in the Rural Societies of Georgia <i>European Stability Initiative. Senior Researcher.</i>

PUBLICATIONS

- Gvalia, G. (2026). ევროკავშირი, როგორც გლობალური აქტორი: ინსტიტუტები, ღირებულებები და ინტერესები [The European Union as a Global Actor: Institutions, Values and Interests]. Ilia State University Press. Book.
- Gvalia, G., & Lebanidze, B. (2026). The Unipolar Delusion. International Politik Quarterly.
- Gvalia, G., & Lebanidze, B. (2026). How the EU Is Contesting Russia's Sphere of Influence in the South Caucasus. International Politik Quarterly.
- Gvalia, G., & Lebanidze, B. (2026). Washington's Georgia Problem is Strategic, not Normative. The National Interest.

- Gvalia, G., & Lomidze, I. (2026). Georgia's Shifting Strategic Outlook and its Limits. *The Central Asia-Caucasus Analyst*.
- Aprasidze, D., & Gvalia, G. (2025). Georgia, Russia and the Oligarch: Can the EU Untangle the Knot? EMBRACE Policy Brief 07.
- Gvalia, G. (2025). Contesting or Supporting? The EU Integration Project and the Georgian Youth. Book chapter. Springer Publishers
- Aprasidze, D., & Gvalia, G. (2022). Introduction: Experiencing Europe at the Periphery. *Identity Studies in the Caucasus and Black Sea Region*, 7.
- Aprasidze, D., & Gvalia, G. (2022). National Interest and Regime Survival: Why Georgia is Cautious Towards the Russia-Ukraine War. *The Central Asia-Caucasus Analyst*, April 2022.
- Gvalia, G. (2022). National Security, Elite Responses and State-Building in Georgia. *Ilia State University Press*. Book chapter.
- Abashidze, A., & Gvalia, G. (2020). A Cost-Benefit Analysis of Border Corruption in the Conflict Regions in Georgia and Moldova. *European Scientific Journal, ESJ*, 16(11).
- Gvalia, G., Lebanidze, B., & Siroky, D. S. (2019). Neoclassical Realism and Small States: Systemic Constraints and Domestic Filters in Georgia's Foreign Policy. *East European Politics*, 35(1). Routledge, Taylor & Francis Group.
- Gvalia, G., & Lebanidze, B. (2018). Geopolitics and Modernization: Understanding Georgia's Pro-Western Assertiveness since the Rose Revolution. In G. Zedania (Ed.), *Modernization in Georgia: Theories, Discourses and Realities: Interdisciplinary Studies on Central and Eastern Europe*. Peter Lang Publishers.
- Siroky, D. S., Simmons, A. J., & Gvalia, G. (2017). Vodka or Bourbon: Foreign Policy Preferences Toward Russia and the United States in Georgia. *Foreign Policy Analysis*, 13(2), 500-518. Oxford University Press.
- Gvalia, G., Siroky, D., Lebanidze, B., & Iashvili, Z. (2013). Thinking Outside the Bloc: Explaining the Foreign Policies of Small States. *Security Studies*, 22(1), 98-131. Routledge, Taylor & Francis Group.
- Gvalia, G., Lebanidze, B., & Iashvili, Z. Political Elites, Ideas and Foreign Policy: Explaining and Understanding the International Behavior of Small States in the Former Soviet Union. *Ilia State University Press*.
- Gvalia, G. (2008). Balance of Power or Balance of Threat? Alignments in the South Caucasus. BTKK-Politics Research Group. Book.
- Гвалиа, Г. (2008). Торговля ядерными веществами: новый вызов международной безопасности. *Право и Политология*, 1(2).