

Irine Guruli

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Education

PHD DEGREE | 2019 | ILIA STATE UNIVERISTY GEORGIA

- Major: Business Administration

VISITING PHD STUDENT | 2017-2018 | JÖNKÖPING INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS SCHOOL

MASTERS DEGREE | 2009 | JÖNKÖPING INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS SCHOOL

- Major: Business Administration
- Minor: Economics
- Related coursework: Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Business Renewal

BACHELORS | 2006 | TBILISI STATE UNIVERSITY

- Major: English Language and Literature

Experience

March 2020 till now

Ilia State University – Associate Professor in Business Administration

July 2011 – till now

Economic Policy Research Center (EPRC) – Deputy Director/Researcher

November 2015 – March 2020

Visiting Lecturer – Ilia State University, Georgia. Courses: International Business (Master level course), Cultural Entrepreneurship (Bachelor Level course), Basics in Entrepreneurship (Bachelor Level course).

September 2009-December 2010

CNFA Georgia – Agribusiness Development Activity of Millennium Challenge Georgia – Project Assistant

September 2005- August 2006

JSC Zestafoni Ferro-Alloy Plant – Assistant to the Member of the Supervisory Board

November 2003- September 2005

Union Agro-Business Consulting – Office Manager/Translator

August 2003-July 2004

The Ministry of Agriculture and Food of Georgia WTO Relations Division – Translator

Other Activities

2016-2017 Project Manager – Public Policy Research and Training Center (PPRTC) at Ilia State University. *Georgian Academia Contributing to Strengthening Policy and Law Making Process in Georgia (USAID/GGI)*

Scholarships and Awards

- ✓ 2017-2018 Swedish Institute Visby Programme – PhD researcher, visitor
- ✓ 2015 Think Tank Exchange Grant Recipient. The exchange gathered think tankers from nine developing countries to participate in various research projects. (Supported by Think Tank Initiative/Think Tank Fund, Open Society Institute).
- ✓ 2002 U.S. State Department Scholarship – Future Leaders Exchange. Langley High School, McLean, Virginia.

Management, Research and Training Experience in Projects implemented by EPRC

2023 Oct – till now, EU funded project United for Georgia’s European Way, implemented by a consortium led by Konrad Adenauer Stiftung, *Team Leader*.

2022 – till now Unity through Diversity, supported by the USAID and implemented by the UNAG. *Research Component Lead*.

2021-2024 – Connecting Universities-Industry through Smart Entrepreneurial Cooperation and Competitive Intelligence of Students in Moldova, Georgia and Armenia, EU, Erasmus+, *Coordinator and Trainer from Ilia State University*.

2022 June – 2023 September Economic Dependency Index, supported by the USAID Economic Governance Program. *Research Component Lead*.

2021 November – 2022 September Activating Civil Society Organizations Through Training and Inclusive Operational Network (ACTION) in Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan supported by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation. *Capacity Building Component Lead*.

2021– 2022 USAID Social Engagement Support (SES) Activity in Azerbaijan *Expert on Political and Economic Analysis Report*.

2020-2021 Supporting the Government of Georgia (GoG) in Mitigating the Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic by Promoting Inclusive and Evidence-based Governance in Key Policy Areas support by USAID. *Research Component Lead*.

2020-2021 – POWER Promoting Opportunities for Women’s Economic Resilience – *Project Research Component Lead. Funded by the British Embassy Tbilisi. www.womenpower.ge*

2018 till now Research Component Lead EU Association Agreement for Strengthening Competitiveness of Georgian SMEs (funded by SIDA), implemented by EPRC and Enterprise Georgia.

2017-2019 Project Manager Strengthening Civil Society Role in DCFTA and SME Policy Implementation (EU), Implemented by Konrad Adenauer Stiftung in collaboration with EPRC and Association Atinati (total budget of 614 thousand Euros).

2015- till now Project Coordinator Leadership Academy for Development (LAD) in collaboration with Stanford University CDDRL.

2015 till now Project Coordinator *Tbilisi International Conference in collaboration with the McCain Institute for International Leadership.*

2017 Research Manager – *Development of Three Policy Briefs on DCFTA Topics and Holding PPD Discussions (USAID/G4G).*

2017 Researcher – *Preparation of Analytical Articles on the issues of DCFTA (OSGF).*

2017 Project Expert - *Countering anti-western propaganda through fostering economic education on Euro Atlantic integration (U.S. Embassy Georgia).*

2016-2017 Trainer, Project Coordinator – *EU's Association Agreement for Increasing Competitiveness of Georgian Agriculture (USAD/ACCESS).*

2015-2016 Project Coordinator – *Improving the quality and user-centricity of Georgian Public Services (Estonian Ministry of Foreign Affairs).*

2015-2016 Trainer – *Increasing Awareness and Supporting Public Education on the economic benefits of the Euro-Atlantic Integration of Georgia (U.S. Embassy in Georgia).*

2015 Research Manager – *Assessment on Collaborative Governance Gaps – analyzing the existing Public Private Dialogue (PPD) mechanisms in Georgia (USAID/G4G).*

2015 Researcher – *Research and Monitoring of DCFTA impact on Georgian small-holder farmers (Oxfam).*

2015 Researcher – *Economic NATO (Economic Impact Assessment of Georgia's integration into NATO) (OSGF).*

2014-2016 Trainer and Project Coordinator – *Strengthening the System of Parliamentary Democracy in Georgia.* Trainings on budgeting principles, the role of the parliament in budgetary cycle, budget analysis, analysis of draft laws and program budgeting to MPs and staff of the committees of Georgian Parliament.

2014-2015 Researcher – *Georgia Applied Research Facility for Regional Development (EU).* Policy papers to screen analyze and provide recommendations to the Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure of Georgia regarding the obligations undertaken under the EU-Georgia Association Agreement.

2014-2015 Project Coordinator and Researcher – *Assessing Effectiveness and Efficiency of E-services in Georgia.* (Estonian Ministry of Foreign Affairs).

2011-2016 Researcher – **Preparation of Quarterly/Annual Georgian Economic Outlook Series.**

2016-2017 – Trainer *Informed Voters for Improved Electoral Accountability* (U.S. embassy Small Grants Program). Trainings conducted for civil society and media representatives on the monitoring methods of political party program implementation.

2015 Project Manager, Trainer - *Capacity Building and Economic Empowerment of Women Entrepreneurs;* (Swiss Embassy in Georgia); Trainings for women entrepreneurs on the business development and fundraising.

2014 Project Coordinator, researcher – *Streamlining Agricultural Land Ownership and Registration Legislation and Procedures (USAID/EPI).*

2014 Researcher – *Anti-crisis Document for Economic Recovery Stimulus Package* (USAID/GPAC). Policy papers on assessment of Governments’ financial activity; developing efficient state debt management policy.

2014 Researcher – *Regulatory Impact Assessment on the Law of Georgia on Securities Market* (USAID/EPI).

2014 Researcher – *Analysis and Recommendations for Management of Non-Performing Loans in Georgia* (USAID/GPAC).

2013-2014 Project Coordinator, Researcher – *Emergence and Evaluation of Entrepreneurship in Georgia* (University of Freiburg).

2013-2014 Trainer *Monitoring and Efficiency Analysis of the Rural Aid Programs* (OSGF), topic: Community mobilization and engagement mechanisms for Rural Aid Programs in Georgia.

2013-2014 Trainer and Researcher– *Involvement of Ethnic Minorities of Georgia in Assessing Economic and Social Programs of the Election-Participant Political Parties* (US Embassy in Georgia).

2013 Researcher – *Innovative Approach to Agricultural Policy Making* (USAID/GPAC) – three policy papers: (1) Report on Current Stance of Georgian Agricultural Policy; (2) Analysis on International Experience in Creating Effective Agricultural Policy and their Applicability to Georgia; (3) Analysis and Recommendations on Current Stance of Georgian Agricultural Land Market.

2012-2013 Project Coordinator and Trainer - *Price of the State* (USAID/GPAC). Creation of an innovative web-tool for public finance monitoring, increasing taxpayer culture among students, and public.

2012 Researcher – *Study on Economic Potential of Georgian Diaspora* (GIZ).

2013 Researcher – Policy Paper on *Analysis and Recommendations on a Draft Budget 2013* (OSGF).

2012 Project Coordinator – *Political Parties Pre-Election Economic Platforms* (USAID/GPAC). Creation of a website and preparing a concluding report on the socio-economic platforms of the parliamentary election participant political parties, assessment of the party platforms in terms of their economic feasibility and possible impact.

2011-2012 Researcher - *Monitoring and Evaluation of Tbilisi City Budget* (OSGF). The policy paper evaluated effectiveness and transparency of Tbilisi City budget and provided policy recommendations.

2011-2012 Researcher for the project *Threats and Challenges for Sustainable Economic Growth*. (USAID/GPAC). In collaboration with the National Security Council of Georgia, the aim of the policy paper was to research and analyze economic threats and challenges and identify major policy constraints and development shortcomings.

Trainings and Conferences

- ✓ Expert Conference: *China and Russia in the EU’s Neighbourhood: A Threat for Integration and Democracy?* Panel Speaker – *The Caucasus: Can China make inroads in Russia’s Backyard? Georgia as new East-West hub?*. 8-9 October, 2018, Brussels, Belgium. Organized by Konrad Adenauer Stiftung and EU-Asia Center.
- ✓ Eastern Partnership (EaP) Civil Society Forum (June 19, 2018, Brussels, Belgium). Panel on Structural Reforms, Financial Sector, Agriculture and SMEs.

- ✓ BSEC/KAS Conference (16-17 March, 2017). The Role and Impact of ICTs for Young Entrepreneurs. Istanbul, Turkey.
- ✓ Leadership Academy for Development, Stanford's Center for Democracy Development and the Rule of Law (CDDRL) conducted by Dr. Francis Fukuyama and Dr. Kent Weaver, 21-25 August, 2016, Lviv, Ukraine.
- ✓ Training in Regulatory Impact Assessment conducted by Jacobs, Cordova and Associates. 3-7 February, 2014, Tbilisi, Georgia.

Articles and Publications

- Langbein, J., Cenusa, D., Guruli, I (2023). EU trade liberalization, sectoral coalitions and development: insights from Moldova and Georgia. *Journal of European Integration* 46(1): 1-22.
https://www.researchgate.net/publication/375510761_EU_trade_liberalisation_sectoral_coalitions_and_development_insights_from_Moldova_and_Georgia
- Guruli, I., Ormotsadze, G. (2022). Understanding Contexts of Business in Western Asia. *New Teaching Resources for Management in a Globalised World: Volume 4 Chapter 7: The Context for Business in Georgia*, <https://www.worldscientific.com/worldscibooks/10.1142/12082#t=aboutBook>
- Langbein J., Cenusa D., Guruli, I. 'Ambivalent Effects of Trade Liberalisation with the EU: Insights from Moldova and Georgia', ZOIS Report 1/2022, (https://en.zois-berlin.de/fileadmin/media/Dateien/3-Publikationen/ZOIS_Reports/2022/ZOIS_Report_1_2022.pdf)
- Survival(ship) and Entrepreneurship Empirical evidence from Georgia and Armenia [https://eprc.ge/uploads_script/publication/Report-ENG_updated%20\(1\).pdf](https://eprc.ge/uploads_script/publication/Report-ENG_updated%20(1).pdf)
- COVID-19 in Georgia Impact and Implications <https://libmod.de/en/covid-19-in-georgia-impact-and-implications/>
- Women in Business: Opportunities and Impact of the Pandemic Research publication https://eprc.ge/uploads/Women_Enterpreneurs_eng_compressed.pdf Economic Policy Research Center, 2020, funded by the British Embassy in Tbilisi
- Rudaz, P., Guruli, I., Mikaelian, H. (2019). Survival(ship) and Entrepreneurship (empirical evidence from Georgia and Armenia). [http://eprc.ge/uploads_script/publication/Report-ENG_updated%20\(1\).pdf](http://eprc.ge/uploads_script/publication/Report-ENG_updated%20(1).pdf)
- Guruli, I. (2018), Vol. 7 No 3. *Current stance of entrepreneurship and SME development in Georgia: perspectives and challenges* <http://ecoforumjournal.ro/index.php/eco/article/view/862>
- Guruli, I. (2016). No. 82. *Caucasus Analytical Digest. Foreign Direct Investment Trends and Policies in Georgia*. <http://ysu.am/files/5-1510317110-.pdf>
- Magazine *Emerging Europe* (2018) - Young, Skilled and Competitive: Georgia's Labour Market <https://issuu.com/emerging-europe/docs/ee-spring-2018-full-update-web>
- Forbes (2016). The Economic Effect of NATO. <http://forbes.ge/news/1636/The-Economic-Effect-of-NATO>
- Mgaloblishvili, G., Kutelia, B., Guruli, I., Evgenidze, N. (2016). *Hybrid Warfare and the Changing Security Landscape in the Euro-Atlantic Area*
- Kutelia, B., Evgenidze, N., Guruli, I., (2016). *The NATO Effect on the Economic Trends of its New Member Countries and Potential Projection on Georgian Context*. Economic NATO, Research Paper No 2. EPRC. http://eprc.ge/admin/editor/uploads/files/Hybrid%20warfare%20report%20ENG_WEB.pdf
- Rudaz P., Guruli, I. (2016). *Emergence of Entrepreneurship in Georgia*. Economic Policy Research Center. <http://dfwatch.net/emergence-of-entrepreneurship-in-georgia-75076>
- Guruli, I. (2014). *Pension Reform in Armenia: Opportunities and Challenges*. View across the Border. Policy and Society in Georgia and Armenia. BTKK – Policy Research Group. <http://www.scribd.com/doc/242087553/View-Across-the-Border#scribd>

Articles

Understanding Georgia's Foreign Direct Investment Trends

<http://dfwatch.net/understanding-georgias-foreign-direct-investment-trends-81030>

Twin Deficit

<http://dfwatch.net/twin-deficit-35416>

Inflation in Georgia Causes and Cures

<http://dfwatch.net/inflation-in-georgia-%E2%80%93-causes-and-cures-39339>

Budgetary Expense and State Debt in Georgia

<http://dfwatch.net/budgetary-expenses-and-state-debt-in-georgia-27217>

The role of Remittances in Georgian Economy

<http://dfwatch.net/the-role-of-remittances-in-georgian-economy-74071>

Employment and Unemployment Trends in Georgia

<http://dfwatch.net/employment-and-unemployment-trends-in-georgia-40249>