



Strasbourg, 23 November 2015

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**EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW
(VENICE COMMISSION)**

in co-operation with

THE CENTRAL ELECTION COMMISSION OF GEORGIA

**REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON GENDER EQUALITY
IN ELECTORAL PROCESSES**

Venue:
***Rooms Hotel
14, M. Kostava St., Tbilisi***

**Tbilisi (Georgia)
25 (9:30) – 26 November 2015 (16:15)**

DRAFT PROGRAMME

**Programmatic Cooperation Framework for
Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Ukraine and Belarus**

Funded
by the European Union
and the Council of Europe



COUNCIL OF EUROPE



Implemented
by the Council of Europe

25 November 2015

09:30-10:00 Opening session

Ms Tamar Zhvania, Chairperson of the Central Election Commission of Georgia

Ms Khatuna Totladze, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs

Mr Cristian Urse, Head of the Council of Europe Office in Georgia

Ms Herdís Thorgeirsdóttir, Vice-President of the Venice Commission, past President of the European Women Lawyers' Association (EWLA), Iceland

Mr Shombi Sharp, UNDP Deputy Resident Representative in Georgia

10:00-10:30 Coffee break

10:30-12:30 Working session 1 – Gender Equality and elections: international standards and recommendations

Moderator: **Ms Ketevan Makharashvili**, Project Manager, UNDP/UN Women Joint Programme in Georgia “Enhancing Gender Equality”

- *International standards in the field of elections*, **Ms Herdís Thorgeirsdóttir**, Vice-President of the Venice Commission, past President of the European Women Lawyers' Association (EWLA), Iceland

- *The standards and work of the Council of Europe on balanced participation of women and men in political decision-making*, **Ms Raluca Popa**, Senior Project Officer at the Gender Equality Unit of the Council of Europe

- *Election Observation and Women's Participation: International Standards, Methodology and Recommendations*, **Mr Richard Lappin**, Senior Election Advisor, Elections Department, OSCE/ODIHR

12:30-14:00 Lunch break

14:00-16:00 Working session 2 – Gender Equality, electoral processes and electoral systems

Co-moderators:

- **Mr Gaël Martin-Micallef**, Legal Officer, Elections Division, Venice Commission

- **Mr Nermin Nisic**, Chief of Party, International Foundation for Electoral Systems – IFES Georgia

- *The impact of electoral systems, including quotas, on women's representation in parliament*, **Mr Michael Krennerich**, Senior Researcher on Human Rights Politics, Institute of Political Science, University of Erlangen-Nuremberg, Venice Commission, Germany

- *Assessing the impact of measures to improve women's political participation*, **Ms Elena Centemero**, member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination, Rapporteur

- *The impact of electoral model and political system on women's participation in Georgia*, **Mr Zurab Khrikadze**, Head of the Gender Equality Commission, Central Election Commission of Georgia

26 November 2015

09:00-11:00 Working session 3 – Gender Equality and political parties

Co-moderators:

- **Mr Richard Lappin**, Senior Election Advisor, Elections Department, OSCE/ODIHR

- **Mr Zurab Khrikadze**, Member of Central Election Commission of Georgia, Chair of the Standing Commission for Gender Equality of the CEC of Georgia

- *Gender equality and intra-party democracy*, **Ms Marina Stavniychuk**, ex-Advisor to President of Ukraine, Expert of the Venice Commission, Ukraine

- *Gender equality and intra-party democracy – Experiences of Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia*, **Mr Levan Tsutskiridze**, Director of South Caucasus Office, Netherland's Institute for Multi-Party Democracy

- *Comparative experiences in promoting gender equality in politics*, **Ms Nana Kalandadze**, Programme Officer, Democracy and Gender Programme, International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA)

11:00-11:15 Coffee break

11:15-12:45 Working session 4 – Gender Equality and electoral processes: best practices

Co-moderators:

- **Ms Marina Stavniychuk**, ex-Advisor to President of Ukraine, Expert of the Venice Commission, Ukraine

- **Ms Teona Kupunia**, Programme Manager, National Democratic Institute, Georgia

- *The Georgian experience in the implementation of a global strategy of gender equality*, **Ms Tamar Zhvania**, Chairperson of the Central Election Commission of Georgia

- *Gender Equality, best practices in Moldova*, **Mr Vitalie Modringa**, Member, Central Election Commission, Moldova

12:45-14:00 Lunch break

14:00-15:30 Working session 4, continued – Gender Equality and electoral processes: best practices

Moderator: **Ms Marina Stavniychuk**, ex-Advisor to President of Ukraine, Expert of the Venice Commission, Ukraine

- *Gender Equality in electoral processes in Azerbaijan*, **Mr Rashid Yusifbayli**, Head of International Relations Department, Central Election Commission, Azerbaijan

15:30-15:45 Coffee break

15:45-16:15 Conclusions – Building a strategy on Gender Equality in elections, towards recommendations

Co-moderators:

- **Mr Michael Krennerich**, Senior Researcher on Human Rights Politics, Institute of Political Science, University of Erlangen-Nuremberg, Venice Commission, Germany

- **Ms Teona Kupunia**, Programme Manager, National Democratic Institute, Georgia