

YSU Alumni Forum

Agenda

Day 1 - 15.05.2025

9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. YSU Central Building, Second Floor Lobby
Arrival and Registration of Participants

10:00 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. YSU Main Hall
Opening Ceremony
Welcome Speech

National Anthem and YSU Anthem

Welcome Speech

- Hovhannes Hovhannisyan, Rector of YSU
- Vahagn Khachaturyan, President of Armenia
- Zhanna Andriasyan, Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of Armenia
- Suren Papikyan, Chairman of YSU Board of Trustees

10:45 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. YSU Main Hall
Keynote Speech

10:45-11:00 **Knowledge-Based Society: Priorities and Challenges**
Vahagn Khachaturyan
Armenian President

11:00-11:15 **The Place and Role of YSU in Armenia in the Context of Challenges and Opportunities**
Hovhannes Hovhannisyan
Rector of YSU

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. YSU Main Hall
Panel Discussions

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. The State and Society's Expectations from Universities Today and Tomorrow
Moderator: Kristine Alagulyan, News Presenter at Shant TV, Lecturer at YSU Chair of Print and Broadcast Media

Speakers:

- Zhanna Andreevyan, Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of Armenia
- Mkhitar Hayrapetyan, Minister of High-Tech Industry of Armenia
- Anna Vardapetyan, Prosecutor General of Armenia

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. Higher Education in 21st Century Armenia: Approaches, Expectations, and Formats

p.m.

Moderator: Petros Ghazaryan, Head and Producer of Political Programs at Public Television of Armenia

Speakers:

- Sargis Hayotsyan, Chairman of the RA MESCS Higher Education and Science Committee
- Vache Gabrielyan, Dean of Manoogian Simone College of Business and Economics at the American University of Armenia, Doctor of Philosophy in Public Administration
- Sisak Gabrielyan, Chairman of the Standing Committee on Science, Education, Culture, Diaspora, Youth, and Sports of the National Assembly
- Arevik Anapiosyan, United Nations Office

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. **Break**

p.m.

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. **Opening of Exhibition Dedicated to 106th Anniversary of YSU**

p.m.

2:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. **Thematic Panel Discussions**

p.m.

2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Robert Schumann Hall at YSU Center for European Studies (YSU Library Building, 1st Floor)

p.m.

Section 1: Physical World

Priorities in Natural Resource Management: Issues and Challenges

Moderator: Gayane Shahnazaryan, Deputy Director of Hydrometeorology and Monitoring Center SNCO, Armenian Ministry of Environment

Speakers:

- Arman Vardanyan, Technical Director of ZCMC LLC
- Sevak Baloyan, Head of Department of Bioresource Management, Armenian Ministry of Environment
- Astghik Danielyan, UNDP, Coordinator of "EU for Sevan" Program

2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Academic Council Session Hall (YSU Central Building, 5th Floor)

Section 2: Space and Technology

Prospects of Space Exploration in Armenia: What, How, and Why?

Moderator: Khachatur Nerkararyan, Director of YSU Institute of Physics

Speakers:

- Feliks Aharonyan, YSU
- Garik Israelyan, Starmus (online)
- Valeri Hambaryan, Jena University (online)
- Aram Saharyan, YSU

2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Charles Aznavour Cultural Center (YSU Central Building, 6th Floor, Room 603)

Section 3: Economy and Society

Armenia at the Crossroads of Integration Programs: Opportunities and Challenges

Moderator: Anna Gevorgyan, Lecturer at YSU Chair of Arab Studies

Speakers:

- Ashot Voskanyan, Research Center in Humanities
- Armen Bayburdyan, Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador, Massachusetts University (online)
- Narek Sukiasyan, Friedrich Ebert Foundation
- Artak Ayunts, UN Office in Armenia

2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. YSU History Museum named after Professor Ludwig Gharibjanyan (YSU Central Building, 7th Floor)

Section 4: Language, History, Culture, and Tradition

How to Think in Armenian: Current Issues in Language Development

Moderator: Avetik Mejlumyan, Director of YSU Library named after Sarkis and Marie Izmirlian

Speakers:

- Siranush Dvoyan, Chairperson of the Language Committee of Armenia
- Gevorg Ter-Gabrielyan, Fiction Writer, Executive Director of the Eurasia Partnership Foundation
- Ani Shahnazaryan, Lecturer at AUA
- Hasmik Jivanyan, Lecturer at YSU

3:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Break

3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Robert Schumann Hall at YSU Center for European Studies (YSU Library Building, 1st Floor)

Section 1: Physical World

Biodiversity, Climatic Conditions, Global Warming

Moderator: Karen Trchounian, Director of YSU Institute of Biology

Speakers:

- Levon Azizyan, Director of Hydrometeorology and Monitoring Center SNCO, Armenian Ministry of Environment
- Hovik Sayadyan, Sustainable Land Use Adviser, GIZ
- Nona Budoyan, Head of the Department of Climate Policy, Armenian Ministry of Environment

3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Academic Council Session Hall (YSU Central Building, 5th Floor)

Section 2: Space and Technology

The Digital World through the Lenses of Education, Science, Governance, and Economy

Moderator: Davit Baghdasaryan, CEO & Co-Founder of Krisp

Speakers:

- Narek Melkonyan, PMI Science

- Tigran Sargsyan, Synopsys
- Ashot Arzumanyan, SmartGate

3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Charles Aznavour Cultural Center (YSU Central Building, 6th Floor, Room 603)

Section 3: Economy and Society

The Entrepreneurial Environment in Armenia: Opportunities for Advancement

Moderator: Karlen Khachatryan, Dean of the Faculty of Economics and Management

Speakers:

- Hayk Stepanyan, Byblos Bank Armenia
- Hayk Aloyan, Executive Director of Lydian Armenia
- Anna Gyurjyan, UNDP
- Sergey Khachatryan, Director of Yerevan Brandy Company

3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. YSU History Museum named after Professor Ludwig Gharibjanyan (YSU Central Building, 7th Floor)

Section 4: Language, History, Culture, and Tradition

How to Study and Teach History: Methodological and Content Priorities

Moderator: Mkhitar Gabrielian, Dean of YSU Faculty of History

Speakers:

- Arsen Bobokhyan, Director of the Institute of Archaeology and Ethnography at NAS RA
- Vahram Ter-Matevosyan, AUA, Doctor of History
- Mushegh Asatryan, University of Calgary (online)
- Ara Sanjian, University of Michigan (online)

2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. YSU Library, 503 Reading Room

Establishment of YSU Alumni Community and Enhancement of Operational Efficiency

Working Group Discussion

Day 2 - 16.05.2025

10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. YSU Charles Aznavour Cultural Center
Discussions Led by YSU Alumni

10:00-10:20 **Physical World**
Harutyun Movsisyan
Prospects (Opportunities) for the Development of the Mining Industry and Responsible Mining
Director of the Republican Geological Fund SNCO, MTAI RA, Associate Professor

10:20-10:40 **Physical World**
Gagik Surenyan
Hydrometeorological Disasters and Anomalies
Deputy Director of Hydrometeorology and Monitoring Center

10:40-11:00 **Space and Technology**
Tigran Arshakyan
Priorities in Space Exploration
University of Cologne

11:00-11:20 **Space and Technology**
Samvel Martirosyan (pending confirmation)
AI: A Tool Offering Alternative Solutions in Education
Information Security Expert

11:20-11:40 **Space and Technology**
Artavazd Minasyan
Non-Technological Technologization
10Web

11:40-12:00 **Economy and Society**
Lusine Sargsyan
Armenia's Demographic Priorities
UNFPA

12:00-12:20 **Economy and Society**
Tigran Jorokhyan
Innovative Solutions in the Development Sector

12:20-12:40 **Economy and Society**
Hasmik Ghahramanyan
Key Trends in the Financial Sector
Board Member, Central Bank of Armenia

12:40-13:00 **Economy and Society**
Yeghishe Kirakosyan
Small States and International Law
Director of the "International Courts and Arbitration" master's program, YSU

13:00-13:20 **Economy and Society**

13:20-13:40 **Language, History, Culture, and Tradition**
Arkmenik Nikoghosyan
About New Armenian Literature
Literary Scholar, Editor

13:40-14:00 **Language, History, Culture, and Tradition**
Vahagn Mkrtchyan
Winemaking and Culture
Director of Armenia Wine

2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Break

3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. YSU Main Hall
Forum Results Summary

4:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. YSU Main Hall
Presentation of YSU Alumni Excellence Awards

4:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. YSU Main Hall
Closing Ceremony

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