

YEREVAN STATE UNIVERSITY

YSU 3rd Annual International Conference on Politics and International
Affairs

REIMAGINING INTERNATIONAL ORDER: *The New Architecture of Global Governance Beyond Hegemony*

September 24-25, 2026

Yerevan State University, Yerevan, Armenia

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Participants from over 20 countries

DAY ONE — September 24

09:30 – 10:00

Registration

Venue: Charles Aznavour Cultural Center, Yerevan State University, YSU main building, 6th floor

10:00 – 10:10

Opening Ceremony

Dr. Tigran Yepremyan, Dean of the Faculty of International Relations, Yerevan State University

Dr. Hovhannes Hovhannisyan, Rector of Yerevan State University

10:10 – 10:30

Keynote Address

Dr. Prof. GAO Fei, President of China Foreign Affairs University, China

Promoting the Improvement of Global Governance with the Vision of the Community with a Shared Future for Mankind

10:30 – 14:00

Plenary Session

Panel 1: The Crisis of the Hegemonic International Order: Contesting Global Governance

Venue: Charles Aznavour Cultural Center

Moderator: Tigran Yepremyan, Yerevan State University, Armenia

Shared Destiny or External Stabilisation? Legitimising EU Security Interventions in Armenia and Moldova
Laure Delcour, Sorbonne Nouvelle University, France

Global Security Initiative and China's Evolving Role in International Conflict Resolution
REN Yuanzhe, China Foreign Affairs University, China

International Activities of Subnational Actors and the Foreign Policy of Sovereign States in the New World Order: Rethinking the Phenomenon of Paradiplomacy
Yury Akimov, Saint Petersburg State University, Russia

Between the West and the Rest: Armenia's In-Between Foreign Policy in a Post-Hegemonic Order
Gor Petrosyan, Yerevan State University, Armenia

From Tradition to Quantum: Evolving the Art of Diplomacy
Preethi Amaresh, Jindal Global University, India

• Presentation slots: 15 minutes per paper, followed by a joint panel discussion / Q&A.

12:00 – 12:30

Coffee Break

Panel 2: Coercion, the Power of Consent Formation and Diplomacy in Contesting Hegemony

Venue: Charles Aznavour Cultural Center

Moderator: Gor Petrosyan, Yerevan State University, Armenia

Pakistan's Mediation in Iran–US War 2026: Middle Power Diplomacy in the Changing World Order

Rouben Azizian, Massey University, New Zealand & Gul.i.Ayesha Bhatti, National University of Science and Technology, Pakistan

Soft Power in Hard Times: The Evolution of Cultural Diplomacy

Zhang Jian, China Foreign Affairs University, China

Will there be Life after the Death of Pax Americana?

Greg Simons, Daffodil International University, Dhaka, Bangladesh

Far-Rights Movements in Post-Soviet Georgia: Identity, Nationalism, and the Religious Factor

Giorgi Pareshishvili & Giorgi Mkheidze, Caucasus International University, Georgia

Religion, Politics, and World Order: The Role of Political Islam in Contemporary Global Realalignments

Arax Pashayan & Anush Tamrazyan, Yerevan State University, Armenia

- Presentation slots: 15 minutes per paper, followed by a joint panel discussion / Q&A.

14:00 – 15:00	Lunch Break
15:00 – 18:00	PARALLEL SESSIONS

Parallel Panel 1: The European Union & South Caucasus Regional Security Architecture

Venue: Charles Aznavour Cultural Center

Moderators: Narek Galstyan, Yerevan State University, Armenia

Laure Delcour, Sorbonne Nouvelle Université, France

- ❖ *The European Union's Strategic Autonomy as a Community of Values and a Security Provider in the Context of the De-Westernisation of the Global Security Architecture* - **Marcin Składanowski, John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, Poland**
- ❖ *Modern Geopolitical Transformations in the Black Sea Region and EU Strategic Evolution: Georgia's Perspective* - **Giorgi Pareshishvili & Erekle Iantbelidze, Caucasus International University, Georgia**
- ❖ *More than the Revisionist–Status Quo Binary: Azerbaijan and the Theory of Geographically Bounded Order Transformation* - **Suren Tadevosyan, Yerevan State University, Armenia**
- ❖ *Instability and Conflict in the Sahel: Regional Expansion towards Europe* - **Alberto Gallego Gordón, University of Murcia, Spain**
- ❖ *The Role of the EU in Armenia's Resilient Regional Integration Process: Connectivity, Stability, and Peacebuilding* - **Liana Grigoryan, Yerevan State University, Armenia**

15 min break

- ❖ *Building peace in the South Caucasus: between (de-)securitisation and emotion management* - **Louise Amoris, Sorbonne Nouvelle University, France**
- ❖ *Japan's Engagement with the South Caucasus* - **Tadashi Iwami, Hokkaido University, Japan & Rouben Azizian, Massey University, New Zealand**
- ❖ *Conflict Transformations of the Civic State in the Post-Soviet Space: Lessons of Civiarchy and Constitutional Patriotism* - **Ashot Aleksanyan, Yerevan State University, Armenia**
- ❖ *Trends in the Review of Europe's Defence and Security Policy: European Army – Reality or Fiction?* - **Anna Asatryan, Armenian State University of Economics, Armenia**
- ❖ *Armenia's EU-Turn as a Resilience Statecraft* - **Astghik Hayrapetyan, Government of Armenia**

Parallel Panel 2: From Pax Americana to Multipolarity: Rethinking Power and Order

Venue: YSU Faculty of International Relations - Room 408

Moderators: Vahagn Aglyan, Yerevan State University, Armenia

Yury Akimov, Saint Petersburg State University, Russia

- ❖ *The New U.S. Strategic Priorities in a Changing World Order - Diplomacy of War and Peace* - **Roman Melikyan, European University of Armenia**
- ❖ *Latin America in the Age of Multi-Polar Governance* - **Gevorg Harutyunyan, Yerevan State University, Armenia**
- ❖ *Artificial Intelligence and Global Inequality: Toward Inclusive Digital Development* - **Narine Asryan, Yerevan State University, Armenia**
- ❖ *Influencer Diplomacy in the US-China Trade War: How Political YouTubers Construct China's National Image and Shape Foreign Audience Attitudes* - **Ou Ya, China Foreign Affairs University, China**

15 min break

- ❖ *Navigating India's Strategic Future in a Multipolar World: Balancing QUAD and BRICS* - **Sandeep Tripathi, Forum for Global Studies, India & Sovik Mukherjee, St. Xavier's University, Kolkata, India**
- ❖ *Cultural Paradiplomacy of cities and regions* - **Kristina Minkova, St. Petersburg State University, Russia**
- ❖ *Classic and Modern Concepts of Power: the Problem of the use of "Sharp Power" by Democratic Systems* - **Ara Poghosyan, Public Administration Academy of the Republic of Armenia & Norayr Dunamalyan, Russian-Armenian University, Armenia**
- ❖ *The Role of Education in China-Georgia Soft Power Relations, Integrating Intercultural Perspectives in Teaching History: Lessons from Georgian-Chinese Educational Cooperation* - **Aleksandra Lataria, Georgia**
- ❖ *Russia-Ukraine information war: Changes affecting the Ukrainian media space* - **Gréta Hóhn, Ludovika University of Public Service, Hungary**

The end of the first day of the conference

DAY TWO — September 25

09:30 – 09:35

Opening Remarks

Dr. Tigran Yepremyan, Dean of the Faculty of International Relations, Yerevan State University

Venue: Hall of Academic Council Sessions (Main building, 5th floor)

09:35 – 10:00

Keynote Address

In a world in turmoil, can the EU act as a global leader?

Dr. Raoul Delcorde

**Ambassador (ret'd.) of Belgium, Member of the Académie Royale de Belgique
and the Académie des sciences d'outre-mer in France**

10:00 – 11:20

Plenary Session

International Order in Transition: Regions, Governance, and Leadership Beyond Hegemony

Venue: Hall of Academic Council Sessions (Main building, 5th floor)

Moderator: Rouben Azizian, Massey University, New Zealand

Regional Subsystems and the Transformation of the International Order: Shock Absorption in an Emerging Multipolar System

Vrezh Kardumyan, Yerevan State University, Armenia

Between Empires and Algorithms: Armenia and the Reconfiguration of Digital Governance in a Post-Hegemonic

Cristina Vanberghen, Yerevan State University, Armenia

The Crisis of Republicanism and the Anti-Statist Turn of Contemporary Right-Wing Discourses: The Argentine Case - **Julia Evangelina Velisone, University Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, France**

Contestation of Multilateralism in the Armenia–Azerbaijan Conflict and Peace Process: Insights into Contemporary International Conflict Management

Sossi Tatikyan, Sorbonne Nouvelle University, France

The Role of Culture in Regional Dynamics: the case of Kyrgyz Republic

Elena Kolesova, University of Central Asia, Tajikistan | Kyrgyzstan | Kazakhstan

- Presentation slots: 15 minutes per paper, followed by a joint panel discussion / Q&A.

11:20 – 12:00

Coffee / Lunch Break

Parallel Panel 1: International Order Between History and Geopolitics: (12:00-15:00)

Venue: Hall of Academic Council Sessions (Main building, 5th floor)

Moderators: Ashot Aleksanyan, Yerevan State University

Timo Stickler, Friedrich-Schiller University of Jena, Germany

- ❖ *South Caucasian Historiography: The Search for Orientation Amidst the Great Powers in Late Antiquity and the Early Middle Ages*
Timo Stickler, Friedrich-Schiller University of Jena, Germany
- ❖ *Perspectives from the Panchatantra: Ancient Lessons (not taken) to Create Order from Chaos* - **Zhak Manukyan, Yerevan University, Armenia & Shveta Dhaliwal, Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law, Punjab, India**
- ❖ *Foreign Labor in the Slovak Economy: Structural Trends and Regional Implications* - **Ludmila Lipkova, University of Alexander Dubček in Trenčín, Slovakia**
- ❖ *From Conflict Zone to Strategic Corridor: The Geopolitical Transformation of the South Caucasus* - **Siranush Melikyan, Yerevan State University, Armenia**

15 min break

- ❖ *Tailoring Narratives for Global Governance: Linguistic Adaptation and Strategic Framing in TRT's Coverage of the 2020 Artsakh War* - **Karolina Sahakyan & Artashes Aghajanyan, Yerevan State University, Armenia**
- ❖ *Azerbaijan's Shift to Defensive Realism in Public Diplomacy: Not Soft Power and Geopolitical Mapping* - **Tigran Avagyan, Yerevan State University, Armenia**
- ❖ *Migration as a Manipulation Tool: Case Study of Belarus and Turkey* - **Nune Melkonyan, Yerevan State University, Armenia**
- ❖ *Culture as Diplomacy: Soft Power, Identity, and Franco-Turkish Relations in a Changing Geopolitical Landscape* - **Mariam Topakyan, Yerevan State University, Armenia**

Parallel Panel 2: Security & Identity Politics: Political Challenges in a Changing World (12:00-15:00)

Venue: YSU Faculty of International Relations - Room 408

Moderators: Roman Karapetyan, Yerevan State University

Elena Kolesova, University of Central Asia, Tajikistan | Kyrgyzstan | Kazakhstan

- ❖ *Unique Among Equals? Place-Based Narratives of Municipal Distinctiveness and Local Democratic Resilience in Armenia* - **Arman Gasparyan, KU Leuven, Belgium**
- ❖ *Genocide Without Consensus: The International Recognition of the 2014 Yazidi Genocide and the Crisis of Global Governance* - **Almast Muradyan, Yerevan State University, Armenia**
- ❖ *Conspiracy Narratives and the Crisis of Trust in International Politics in the Digital Age* – **Lara Veston, Saint Petersburg State University, Russia**
- ❖ *TRIPP and Armenia's Strategic Dilemma in the Emerging Multipolar Order* - **Maria Ohanyan, National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Armenia**

15 min break

- ❖ *The Armenian Community in Afghanistan (XVII–Xx Centuries)* - **Omar Nessar Mohammad, Russian Academy of Sciences, Russia**
- ❖ *View From Diaspora: Armenia's Security Issues in The Canadian Armenian Weekly "Apaga" ("Future")* - **Vahram Hovyan, Armenian State University of Economics**

- ❖ *Armenia's National Security Issues within the Geopolitical Priorities and Challenges of Georgia and the Russian Federation - Mikhayil Movsisyan, Yerevan State University, Armenia*

Parallel Panel 3

[in Russian] Панель 3: Политика и дипломатия в эпоху трансформации: конфликты, технологии и культурная власть (12:00 – 15:00)

Локация: факультет международных отношений, 4-й этаж, аудитория 405.

**Модераторы: Жак Манукян, Ереванский государственный университет, Армения
Валентина Вячеславовна Комлева, Национальный исследовательский институт развития коммуникаций, Россия**

Изменяющийся социум: социальная структура, социальные институты и процессы
Валентина Вячеславовна Комлева, Национальный исследовательский институт развития коммуникаций, Россия

Политические процессы, связанные со строительством новой атомной электростанции в Армении
Керян Гарик, Ереванский Государственный Университет, Армения

От государственной дипломатии к глобальной культурной власти платформ (на примере японской стратегии «Cool Japan»)

Рубцова Анна, Рубцова Мария, Санкт-Петербургский государственный институт кино и телевидения, Россия

Начало и конец деятельности посреднической миссии по урегулированию этнополитических конфликтов по примеру Минской группы ОБСЕ (последствия и перспективы в контексте развития межгосударственных отношений)

Баласанян Григор, Ереванский Государственный Университет, Армения

15:00 – 15:30

Closing Remarks & Conference Close

"Reimagining International Order: Synthesis and Future Directions".

Hall of Academic Council Sessions (Main building, 5th floor)

The end of the conference

18:00

Gala Dinner