



250TH
ANNIVERSARY OF THE
DECLARATION OF
INDEPENDENCE
1776 - 2026

16th Annual International Research Conference on American Studies

School of Education, Humanities and Social Sciences
International Black Sea University



IBSU

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

International Black Sea University, 2nd Building, 3rd Floor, Conference Hall.
D. Aghmashenebeli alley, 13 km. № 2, Tbilisi, Georgia.



Monday, 8 June 2026

10:00 - 11:00	REGISTRATION International Black Sea University, 2nd Building, 3rd Floor, Conference Hall
11:00 - 12:00	Conference welcome and official opening Mr. Luka Kavtelishvili , President of the International Black Sea University Goderdzi Buchashvili , Professor, Vice President of the International Black Sea University Tamar Shioshvili , Professor, Dean of the School of Education, Humanities and Social Sciences, Head of BA, MA and PhD American Studies Programs, International Black Sea University. John Bushyhead , Alumnus of the International Black Sea University American Studies PhD Program Saba Pruidze , Senior Student of the American Studies Program, International Black Sea University. Alan S. Purcell , Chargé d'Affaires, United States Embassy in Georgia Dr. Nicole Morris , Keynote speaker, Professor of Practice, Faculty Director of the Emory IP & Innovation Clinic, Emory University School of Law
12:00 - 12:30	Buffet Lunch

12:30 – 16:15	<p>PARALLEL WORKSHOPS: WORKSHOP 1: POLITICS, HISTORY Chair: Nika Chitadze, Affiliated Prof. Dr., International Black Sea University. Room: TBC</p>
12:30 – 12:45	<p>1. Bezhitashvili Tato, Ph.D. candidate, American Studies Program, School of Education, Humanities, and Social Sciences, International Black Sea University, Tbilisi, Georgia. <i>"From Philadelphia to NATO: The Internationalization of U.S. Security Commitments at 250"</i></p>
12:45 – 13:00	<p>2. Chitadze Nika, Affiliated Prof. Dr., School of Education, Humanities and Social Sciences, International Black Sea University, Tbilisi, Georgia. <i>"Prospects and challenges for the development of transatlantic ties between NATO's American and European partners under the Donald Trump administration"</i></p>
13:00 – 13:15	<p>3. Chumburidze Tea, Affiliated Assoc. Prof. Dr. in American Studies, School of Education, Humanities and Social Sciences, International Black Sea University, Tbilisi, Georgia. Tielidze Davit, PhD candidate, American Studies Program, School of Education, Humanities and Social Sciences, International Black Sea University, Tbilisi, Georgia. <i>"Institutionalizing Cyber Defense: A Comparative Study of U.S. Practices and Georgia's National Cyber Reserve Development"</i></p>
13:15 – 13:30	<p>4. Gabunia Mariami, Junior student, American Studies Program, School of Education, Humanities and Social Sciences, International Black Sea University, Tbilisi, Georgia. <i>"From Rapprochement to Retrenchment: U.S. Foreign Policy Toward Cuba from Obama to Biden (2014–2024)"</i></p>
13:30 – 13:45	<p>5. Gogoladze Meri, Invited Lecturer, American Studies Program, School of Education, Humanities and Social Sciences, International Black Sea University, Tbilisi, Georgia. <i>"From 1776 to 2026: The Enduring Power of "Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness"</i></p>
13:45 – 14:00	<p>6. Karazanishvili Tamar, Affiliated Assoc. Prof., International Black Sea University, Tbilisi, Georgia. <i>"Reimagining 1776 in the Digital Age: Popular Sovereignty, Democratic Legitimacy, and the Transformation of Political Authority in a Globalized World"</i></p>
14:00 – 14:15	<p>7. Kokhreidze Nia, Junior student, American Studies Program, School of Education, Humanities and Social Sciences, International Black Sea University, Tbilisi, Georgia. <i>"Voice in action: How Americans participate in democracy today"</i></p>
14:15 – 14:30	<p>Break</p>
14:30 – 14:45	<p>8. Mamasakhlisi Ioseb, PhD candidate, Political Science, Caucasus International University, Tbilisi, Georgia. <i>"Crisis of Power Projection in the 21st Century: Technological Transformation, Hegemonic Pressure and Security in the South Caucasus."</i></p>
14:45 – 15:00	<p>9. Matcharashvili Giorgi, MA student, US Foreign Affairs Program, School of Education, Humanities, and Social Sciences, International Black Sea University, Tbilisi, Georgia. <i>"250 Years of Declaration of Independence"</i></p>
15:00 – 15:15	<p>10. Meladze Eka, PhD in American Studies, School of Education, Humanities, and Social Sciences, International Black Sea University, Tbilisi, Georgia. <i>"The Cultural Legacy of the Declaration of Independence and Its Influence on American Leadership Models"</i></p>
15:15 – 15:30	<p>11. Nyasha Foster, PhD candidate, American Studies Program, School of Education, Humanities, and Social Sciences, International Black Sea University, Tbilisi, Georgia <i>"The Declaration of Independence at 250: Climate Resilience, Disaster Diplomacy, and the Enduring American Ethos of National Security (1776–2026)"</i></p>
15:30 – 16:00	<p>12. Pruidze Saba, Junior student, American Studies Program, School of Education, Humanities and Social Sciences, International Black Sea University, Tbilisi, Georgia. <i>"America and Its Oldest Ally: The Enduring Partnership with France"</i></p>
16:00 – 16:15	<p>13. Utiashvili Tamta, PhD in American Studies, School of Education, Humanities and Social Sciences, International Black Sea University, Tbilisi, Georgia. <i>"An Analytical Examination of President Donald Trump's 2026 State of the Union Address"</i></p>

12:30 – 15:30	<p>PARALLEL WORKSHOPS: WORKSHOP 2: POLITICS, HISTORY Chair: Givi Amaglobeli, Affiliated Assoc. Prof. Dr., International Black Sea University. Room: TBC</p>
12:30 – 12:45	<p>1. Amaglobeli Givi, Affiliated Assoc. Prof. Dr., School of Social Sciences, Humanities and Education, International Black Sea University, Tbilisi, Georgia. <i>"Ideational differences between Democrats and Republicans on the Declaration of Independence"</i></p>
12:45 – 13:00	<p>2. Antidze Maia, PhD in American Studies, School of Education, Humanities and Social Sciences, International Black Sea University, Tbilisi, Georgia. <i>"Declaration's 250th Anniversary – The signer's legacy meets today's world"</i></p>
13:00 – 13:15	<p>3. Arakelian Artiom, American Studies BA Graduate, School of Education, Humanities and Social Sciences, International Black Sea University, Tbilisi, Georgia. <i>"The Psychology of the American Dream: Ambition, Failure, and the Science of Human Potential Beyond Borders"</i></p>
13:15 – 13:30	<p>4. Magradze Ellen, PhD candidate, Conflict Studies Program, Tbilisi State University, Tbilisi, Georgia. <i>"The USA Migration Policy and Its Implications to Combating Illegal Migrants – the Georgia Case"</i></p>
13:30 – 13:45	<p>5. Mikadze Miranda, Associate Prof., PhD in Political Science, Caucasus International University, Tbilisi, Georgia. Magradze Ellen, PhD candidate, Conflict Studies Program, Tbilisi State University, Tbilisi, Georgia. <i>"Migration Responses to the Russia–Ukraine War: The Case of Georgia"</i></p>
13:45 – 14:00	<p>6. George Mchedlishvili, Affiliated Assoc. Prof. Dr., European University, International Black Sea University Tbilisi, Georgia. <i>"The Reluctant Great Power: American Foreign Policy and Geopolitical Restraint, 1865-1900"</i></p>
14:00 – 14:15	<p>7. Kenkadze Kakhi, Invited Lecturer, American Studies Program, School of Education, Humanities and Social Sciences, International Black Sea University, Tbilisi, Georgia. <i>"The US and Anglosphere"</i></p>
14:15 – 14:30	<p>Break</p>
14:30 – 14:45	<p>8. Klateishvili Temur, Ph.D. candidate, American Studies Program, School of Education, Humanities, and Social Sciences, International Black Sea University, Tbilisi, Georgia. <i>"The Role of the USA in External Support in Building Strategic Resistance of Small States"</i></p>
14:45 – 15:00	<p>9. Kutateladze Anton, PhD candidate, Political Science Program, Caucasus International University, Tbilisi, Georgia. <i>"The Role of the United States and International Cooperation in Ensuring Georgia's Security"</i></p>
15:00 – 15:15	<p>10. Mshvidobadze Natia, PhD in American Studies, School of Education, Humanities and Social Sciences, International Black Sea University, Tbilisi, Georgia. <i>"The Invisible Ethnic: Rethinking German Assimilation in the Shadow of Anglo-American Historiography"</i></p>
15:15 – 15:30	<p>11. Scott Jonathan, Affiliated Assoc. Prof. Dr., American Studies Program, School of Education, Humanities and Social Sciences, International Black Sea University, Tbilisi, Georgia. <i>"Politics and Language of National Security Strategies: What of the 2025 NSS?"</i></p>
15:30 – 16:00	<p>12. Shioshvili Tamar, Affiliated Prof. Dr., Dean of the School of Education, Humanities and Social Sciences, Head of BA, MA and PhD American Studies Programs, International Black Sea University, Tbilisi, Georgia. <i>"American Freedom – Premise for the Innovative Trends"</i></p>
16:00 – 16:15	<p>13. Ustiashvili Samin, PhD in American Studies, School of Education, Humanities and Social Sciences, International Black Sea University, Tbilisi, Georgia. <i>"Between Deterrence and War: The Strategic Triangle of Iran, Israel, and the United States"</i></p>

12:30 – 15:30	<p>PARALLEL WORKSHOPS: WORKSHOP 3: CULTURE, SOCIAL ISSUES Chair: Irina Bakhtadze, Affiliated Prof. Dr. in American Studies, International Black Sea University Room: TBC</p>
12:30 – 12:45	<p>1. Abdushelishvili Lela, Prof. Dr. in American Studies, School of Education, Humanities and Social Sciences, International Black Sea University, Tbilisi, Georgia. <i>"Mastery of Language and Style of Universal Declaration of Human Rights to Appeal to Both Domestic and International Audiences"</i></p>
12:45 – 13:00	<p>2. Bakhtadze Irina, Affiliated Prof. Dr. in American Studies, School of Education, Humanities and Social Sciences, International Black Sea University, Tbilisi, Georgia. Arabuli George, Ph.D. candidate, American Studies Program, School of Education, Humanities, and Social Sciences, International Black Sea University, Tbilisi, Georgia. <i>"International Partnership and National Resistance Effectiveness: The Case of U.S.–Georgia Strategic Cooperation"</i></p>
13:00 – 13:15	<p>3. Bakhtadze Irina, Affiliated Prof. Dr. in American Studies, School of Education, Humanities and Social Sciences, International Black Sea University, Tbilisi, Georgia. Revazishvili Sopo, Ph.D. candidate, American Studies Program, School of Education, Humanities, and Social Sciences, International Black Sea University, Tbilisi, Georgia. <i>"Importance of Development of Vocational Education in the US: Analysis of the Historical Role of Trade Colleges in the State of Georgia"</i></p>
13:15 – 13:30	<p>4. Beraia Eka, Associate Prof. Dr. in American Studies, Caucasus International University, Tbilisi, Georgia. <i>"The role of women in the memory of Georgian and American independence - Comparative analysis"</i></p>
13:30 – 13:45	<p>5. Lochoshvili Nino, MD, M.P.H, PhD, Alte University, Tbilisi, Georgia. <i>"Health Status and Risk Factors Among Asbestos-Exposed Populations: A Comparative Study of Georgia and the United States"</i></p>
13:45 – 14:00	<p>6. Natsvlisvili Eva and Gogia Anano, Junior students, American Studies Program, School of Education, Humanities, and Social Sciences, International Black Sea University, Tbilisi, Georgia. <i>"Painting Freedom: 250 Years of Independence in Art"</i></p>
14:00 – 14:15	<p>7. Mtchedlishvili Ketevan, Ph.D. candidate, American Studies Program, School of Education, Humanities and Social Sciences, International Black Sea University, Tbilisi, Georgia. <i>"The Structural–Interactionist Synergy Model in Breast Cancer Care: Reframing Psychosocial Outcomes through Social Support and Psychotherapy"</i></p>
14:15 – 14:30	<p>Break</p>
14:30 – 14:45	<p>8. Mgeladze Tamar, Ph.D. in American Studies, School of Education, Humanities and Social Sciences, International Black Sea University, Tbilisi, Georgia. <i>"Psychological Implications of Divorce on Women and Emotional, Behavioral, and Academic Outcomes of Children: A Comparative Analysis of the United States and Georgia"</i></p>
14:45 – 15:00	<p>9. Tcharbadze Salome, Ph.D. candidate, American Studies Program, School of Education, Humanities and Social Sciences, International Black Sea University, Tbilisi, Georgia. <i>"The Second Shift and Gender Inequality: A Comparative Analysis of American and Georgian Women (XX-XXI)"</i></p>
15:00 – 15:15	<p>10. Vashakidze Lasha, Ph.D. in American Studies, School of Education, Humanities, and Social Sciences, International Black Sea University, Tbilisi, Georgia. <i>"From Independence to Migration: Georgian Mobility to the United States in the Context of American Founding Ideals"</i></p>
15:15 – 15:30	<p>11. Ghudushauri Ekaterine, Ph.D. candidate, American Studies Program, School of Education, Humanities and Social Sciences, International Black Sea University, Tbilisi, Georgia. <i>"The Influence of Social Media on Women's Psychology and the Increased Demand for Aesthetic Centers"</i></p>