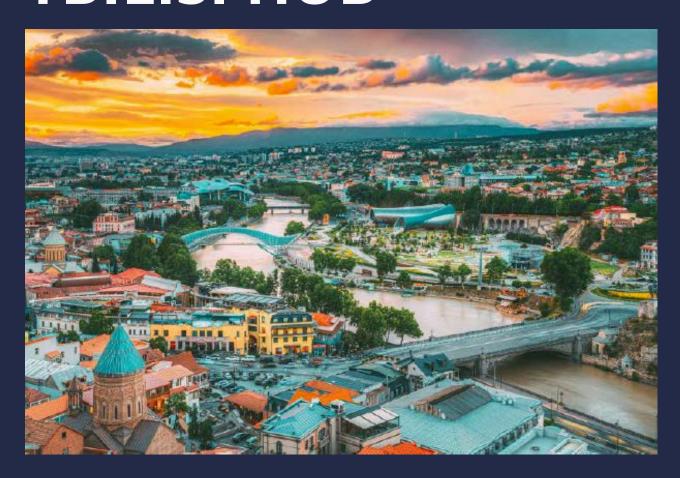
REPORT 2024

# ACADEMIA EUROPAEA TBILISI HUB



Tbilisi Hub, hosted by Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University, is the first representation of <u>Academia Europaea</u> operating outside the EU.

The mission of the AE Tbilisi Hub is to uphold Academia Europaea's values and promote pan-European interests in the region. It supports the creation, dissemination, and popularization of new scientific knowledge while introducing European research standards and mechanisms. Furthermore, the Hub strengthens the connection between science and policy development, contributing to the broader impact of scientific research and the STI sector on society.

Having a representation of Academia Europaea in Georgia plays a key role in fostering bilateral ties between the Georgian and European academic and scientific communities. Additionally, it helps young Georgian scientists gain access to the European scientific and research landscape.

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### ACADEMIA EUROPAEA



The Academia Europaea was established in 1988 and is the Pan-European Academy of Humanities, Letters and Sciences. Membership is by invitation only.

The object of Academia Europaea is the advancement and propagation of excellence scholarship the in humanities, law, the economic, social, and political sciences, mathematics. medicine. and all branches of natural and technological sciences

anywhere in the world for the public benefit and for the advancement of the education of the public of all ages in the aforesaid subjects in Europe. Currently Academia unites more then 5500 members including 88 Nobel laureates. Members are drawn from across the whole European continent and also include European scholars who are resident in other regions of the world together with foreign members resident outside Europe.

#### **CENTERS AND OFFICES**

The headquarters of Academia Europaea is located in Munich, Germany, with its Support Office in London, UK. Additionally, AE has an Information Center in Graz, Austria.

Academia Europaea operates six regional Hubs across Europe: Barcelona (Spain), Bergen (Norway), Budapest



(Hungary), Cardiff (UK), Tbilisi (Georgia), and Wrocław (Poland). These Hubs are responsible for promoting various scientific fields within their respective countries, fostering young people's interest in science, making modern scientific achievements accessible to the general public, and etc. all while upholding the values of Academia Europaea.

### TBILISI HUB



The decision to open a Hub in Tbilisi, Georgia, was unanimously approved by the Board of Academia Europaea (AE) at its annual meeting in Barcelona in 2018.

On April 24, 2019, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University and Academia Europaea. With this, Tbilisi became the fifth city to host an AE Hub, following Cardiff (UK), Barcelona (Spain), Wrocław (Poland), and Bergen (Norway). In 2020, sixth Hub was established in Budapest, Hungary.

AE Tbilisi Hub is the only one operating outside the EU and serves as Academia Europaea's representative both in Georgia and across the region.

Since its establishment, the Hub has implemented numerous important projects aimed at strengthening academic cooperation between Georgia and Europe and integrating Georgian scientists into the European research community.

### **HUB'S STRUCTURE**

AE Tbilisi Hub is led by its Academic Director, who is elected by the Hub's Scientific Advisory Board and appointed by the Rector of Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University, in coordination with the Advisory Board. The Advisory Board itself is chaired by an elected member.

The implementation of projects and related managerial tasks are overseen by the Executive Director and the Hub's Manager.

Since 2024, the Academic Director of AE Tbilisi Hub has been AE member Prof. David Lordkipanidze, while AE member Prof. Zaal Kokaia serves as Chair of the Advisory Board. The position of Executive Director is held by Natia Khuluzauri, and Vakhtang Tsintsadze is the Hub's Manager.



**Prof. David Lordkipanidze**Acadmic Director



**Prof. Zaal Kokaia**Chair of the Board



**Natia Khuluzauri** Executive Director



Vakhtang Tsintsadze Manager

### SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BOARD

Hub's Scientific Advisory Board consists of 14 Georgian and foreign scientists who are members of Academia Europaea.





























#### Members of the Scientific Advisory Board:

From the first row onwards (abecedarian): Prof. Bezhan Chankvetadze; Prof. Lado Chanturia; Prof. Mikheil Chkhenkeli; Prof. Sierd Cloetingh; Prof. George Gegelashvili; Prof. Merab Kokaia; Prof. Zaal Kokaia (Chair of the Board); Prof. Eva Kondorosi; Prof. David Lordkipanidze (Acadmic Director); Prof. David Prangishvili; Prof. George Sharvashidze; Prof. Zaza Skhirtladze; Prof. Ketevan Tchanturia; Prof. Alexander Tsiskaridze

#### MEETING WITH THE SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY

On March 27, 2024 Academia Europaea Tbilisi Hub hosted an event titled Georgian Science Paving Way to Europe at the Ivane Javakhisvhili Tbilisi State University (TSU).

Occasion aimed to inform the audience about the projects implemented by the Hub since its foundation in 2019 and to present plans and new perspectives.

Deputy Minister of Education, Science and Youth of Georgia, Nodar Papukasjvili, and Rector of Ivane Javakhisvhili Tbilisi State University, Academician Jaba Samushia made opening remarks underlining that the realization of the scientific potential of Georgia is extremely important to collaborate with the international scientific institutions and expressed readiness to continue support to the Academia Europaea Tbilisi Hub.

Former Academic Director, Prof. David Prangishvili, new Academic Director, Prof. David Lordkipandize and the Chair of the Advisory Board, Prof. Zaal Kokaia discussed the role of AE Tbilisi Hub in internationalization and integration of Georgian scientists with international science institutions and the implementation of the international scientific standards in Georgia.



### **PUBLIC LECTURES**

AE Tbilisi Hub provides an opportunity to showcase developments in modern science to professionals, young scientists, and the general public while strengthening connections between Georgian and international researchers. Public lectures are delivered by both Georgian experts and leading scientists from around the world, some of whom are members of Academia Europaea.

In 2024, the Hub organized public lectures, covering a diverse range of scientific fields and topics.

#### **Medicine and Evolution**

A public lecture-seminar titled Medicine and Evolution was organized by the Tbilisi State University (TSU) and Academia Europaea Tbilisi Knowledge Hub on February 14, 2024. The occasion united two topics: Humans out of Africa: Who? When? Why? and Teeth – Key to Evolutionary Success of Mankind.

The first topic was presented by the Academic Director of the Academia Europaea Tbilisi Knowledge Hub, Academician David Lordkipanidze. He gave the public a broad overview of the path of human evolution and talked about the waves of its dispersal out of Africa. During his speech, he explained why the Dmanisi archaeological site and its' discoveries are of crucial importance to studying the evolutionary history of mankind.

During the second part of the lecture-session, Prof. Ann Margvelashvili, who is a TSU Invited Doctor, Senior Researcher of the Georgian National Museum, and the Head of the Ph.D. program of the Somatology at the University of Georgia, offered us a deeper dive into the path of human evolution by presenting one of the recent interdisciplinary studies conducted on the Dmanisi archaeological material, specifically – the dentognathic system of hominids.

Professors and students of the Tbilisi State University and Tbilisi State Medical University as well as the representatives of the Georgian National Museum and the general public attended the occasion.





## Museum Island and Humboldt Forum: The current challenge of the Prussian Cultural Heritage Foundation between science and the public

On April 3, 2024, Academia Europaea Tbilisi Hub and the Goethe-Institute Georgien organized a public lecture by Prof. Hermann Partzinger, the president of the Prussian Cultural Heritage Foundation.

Prof. Hermann Partzinger, renowned scientist who fruitfully works in the direction of archaeology and cultural heritage management, was appointed as the President of the Prussian Cultural Heritage Foundation in 2008. Under his leadership various reforms were implemented in the Institution, including the full rebranding, aiming transformation of the Prussian Cultural Heritage foundation to the modern standards.

In 2014 during the interview given to the corporate magazine of the Georgian National Museum Prof. Partzinger noted: "Public engagement has many different facets. First of all, museums have to aim their programs at people within different parts of society, for example different ages, different interests and education, as well as cultural or religious backgrounds – museums must engage them all." Ten years later from this interview Georgian public had a chance to discuss the current challenges that are present between the modern society and science in the cultural institutions with him at the Goethe-Institute Georgien.

In 2018, Prof. Hermann Partzinger was appointed as the Executive President of Europa Nostra, he is the Honorary Doctor of numerous universities as well as the Honorary Member of the Science Academies all over the world. In 2023 he was elected as the foreign Member of the Georgian National Academy of Sciences in recognition of the special merits in development of the Georgian-German relationships and scientific advancement.

Welcome ceremony of Prof. Partzinger at the Georgina National Academy of Sciences was held a day prior of Hub's event.





#### The origins of cities in Eurasia: New archaeological perspectives

On September 5, 2024, Academia Europaea Tbilisi Hub in collaboration with the Georgian National Museum organized public lecture of the Abercromby Professor of Archaeology at the University of Edinburgh, Prof. Manuel Fernández-Götz, an Academia Europaea member, whose research focuses on late prehistoric and Roman societies in Europe, with a particular interest in questions of social identities, early urbanisation, and conflict archaeology.

He covered achievements that archaeology has made during the last few decades and enormous advances in the study of the deep history of earliest cities, leading to fascinating new discoveries and challenging previous assumptions. His presentation combined examples of new theoretical and methodological approaches with specific case studies that range from the 4th millennium BC Trypillia megasites in Ukraine to the 1st century BC Celtic oppida in Central-Western Europe.

The lecture was followed with an interesting discussion among the speaker and Georgian scientists.

This occasion not only deepened appreciation for the complexities of early urbanization but also reinforced the importance of international partnerships in advancing archaeological research preparing the ground for future partnership.







#### Series of lectures on Neurosciences

In October 2024, Academia Europaea Tbilisi Knowledge Hub had the honor of hosting Prof. Vladimir Parpura, a distinguished member of Academia Europaea, Distinguished Professor, and Director of the International Translational Neuroscience Research Institute at Zhejiang Chinese Medical University.

Additionally, Prof. Zaal Kokaia, Chair of the Scientific Advisory Board of AE Tbilisi Hub, Academia Europaea member, and Professor at Lund University, also visited Georgia.

Their visit provided the Hub with an excellent opportunity to organize a series of lectures on the latest advancements in neuroscientific research. These lectures were held in collaboration with Ilia State University and the Ivane Beritashvili Centre of Experimental Biomedicine.

On October 8, Prof. Parpura presented a lecture: **Astrocytes release glutamate by regulated exocytosis in health and disease.** Prof. Parpura presented the evidence that astrocytes, a subtype of glial cells in the brain, can exocytotically release the neurotransmitter glutamate and analyzed how this release is regulated. He also discussed spatiotemporal characteristics of vesicular fusion that underlie astrocyte glutamate release. In addition, he presented data on a translational project in which this release pathway can be targeted for treating astrocytoma IV (also referred to as glioblastoma mutiforme IV), the deadliest brain cancer.



On 11 October at the Ivane Beritashvili Centre of Experimental Biomedicine, Prof. Parpura and Prof. Kokaia delivered lectures on Carbon nanotubes in translational astrogeology and How to make new oligodendrocytes and why?"

in their respective order. **Prof. Parpura's** lecture focused on carbon nanotubes (CNTs), which have shown promise in neurobiology and biomedicine. Their structural stability and ease of chemical modification make them compatible with biological applications. Prof. Parpura discussed the effects that chemically functionalized CNTs, applied as a colloidal solute or used as strata, have on the morphological and functional (glutamate uptake and vesicular recycling) properties of astrocytes, with an insight into the potential use of CNTs in neural prostheses, as well as in the preclinical treatment of astrocytoma/glioblastoma and traumatic brain injury model.

Prof. Kokaia talked about oligodendrocytes, which are specialized glial cells in the central nervous system (CNS) producing myelin, the insulating sheath that enhances the speed and efficiency of electrical signal transmission between neurons. As we learned the lecture. their importance is underscored in con-



ditions such as stroke and multiple sclerosis (MS), where myelin damage leads to impaired neuronal function and neurological deficits.

The lectures by Professors Parpura and Kokaia offered an invaluable glimpse into the cutting-edge developments in neuroscience, reaffirming the vital role of interdisciplinary research and international cooperation in addressing the most pressing challenges in brain science today. As we continue to explore the complexities of the brain, events like these will inspire the next generation of scientists and pave the way for innovations that could change the course of human health.





#### Series of Sessions

### Innovations in Science and Georgia's Competitive Fields and Directions

On 30th July and 3rd August, a series of sessions were held for the students of the KIU-GITA Innovation and Startup Acceleration Summer School.

Sessions were organized by the Academia Europaea Tbilisi Hub, Ivane Javakhisvhili Tbilisi State University, the Georgian National Museum, and Kutaisi International University (KIU) with the support of the Ministry of Education, Science and Youth of Georgia.

During the sessions, moderated by Prof. David Lordkipanidze, students had an opportunity to hear from the leading scientists of various fields about the connection between modern technologies and science, culture, climate change, and other challenges of today.

The meetings aimed to present modern scientific standards on the examples of specific, international, and multidisciplinary research projects and demonstrate the importance and role of modern technologies in those particular projects.

On 30th July lecture of the Director of the Rathgen Research Laboratory with the National Museums Berlin, Prof. Stefan Simon was concerned to Climate Change and Cultural Heritage.



He talked about the challenges that museums face when creating appropriate conditions for museum objects in relation to climate change and discussed how Germany is trying to respond to those challenges by using modern technologies.

Senior Researcher of the Georgian National Museum, Prof. Ann Margvelashvili talked about the use of modern digital technologies in bordering sciences such as paleontology, archaeology, and clinical medicine on the example of the

archaeological site of Dmanisi and hominins unearthed there dating back 1.8 million years, that often are represented at the covers of the leading scientific and science-popular publications.

Researcher of the Georgian National Museum, Dr. Giorgi Bedianashvili talked about the entanglement of past and new technologies and explained how arcgae-



ologists use modern technologies to study one of the most important periods of human history, the Bronze Age on the example of the Bronze Age Rabati Settlement in Southwest of Georgia.

On 3 August at the auditorium of the Kutaisi International University students had a chance to attend a seminar by the Professor of Lund University, Neuroscientist, Zaal Kokaia, who talked about modern technologies in neuroscience. It was interesting for the students to learn that genetic engineering, cell reprogramming, and microfluidic chips are used in neuroscience for modeling diseases. Prof. Zaal Kokaia's lecture was naturally continued by the seminar of the Professor of Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State



University, Neurologist, Alexander Tsiskaridze, who talked about the use of modern technologies in clinical neurology, such as dissolving the clots and extraction of it from the blood vessel, or detection of the disease at its early stage, giving the chance of a full recovery to a patient.

Honorary Professor of the Pasteur Institute, Paris, Virologist David Pra-

ngishvili discussed the potential of viruses to be the source of technological advancement. Prof. Prangishvili underlined the future of phages that have a longlisting tradition in Georgia and were named among the most promising future technologies at the World Economic Forum in 2023.

Professor of Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University, lawyer Lado Chanturia as the Judge of the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg discussed information

technologies, artificial intellect, and human rights in the case law of the Court of Strasbourg on the examples of interesting cases.

At the modern auditorium of the Vani Archaeological Museum, near Kutaisi students attended three more lectures: Professor of the University of Florence, Vertebrate Palaeontologist Lorenzo Rook



discussed modern technologies and paleontology with the students, though, if a few days before main characters of Prof. Ann Margvelashvili's lecture were hominins from Dmanisi, Prof. Lorenzo Rook presented 1.8 million years old canine family members and showed the images of five ideally preserved skulls that were studded with the modern technologies: "though, unfortunately, they have not yet ended up at the cover of the Science Magazine, unlike to hominins," – joked he in the end.

Transforming Heritage into Competitiveness of Georgia – was the title of the joint seminar given by Prof. David Lordkipanidze and the President of the America-Georgia Business Council and Adjunct Professor at American University in Washington D.C., Mamuka Tsereteli. Speakers believe that Georgia is a perfect place to study an unexplored space of a strategic connection between heritage, transdisciplinary scientific research of natural and cultural development, technological development and innovation, and societies' efforts to achieve sustainable improvements in human well-being. "We argue that modern-day Georgia offers a unique opportunity to transform research and knowledge about the natural and human heritage, into competitiveness of Georgia." – noted Prof. Lordkipanidze.

The golden logo of the European Museum Forum shimmering at the doors of the Vani Archaeological Museum serves as obvious proof of those words – Vani Archeolo-



gical Museum was awarded the prestigious Silletto Prize for Community Participation and Engagement during the 2023 European Museum of the Year Award.

In the end of three-day intensive sessions Prof. Lordkipanidze provided a special guided tour around the Vani Archaeological Museum for the participants, giving the Students a chance to make parallels between the ways of communication of the cultural heritage and use of modern techno-

logies, while interacting with the scientists in the informal environment to develop new ides in regards of using technology in science.









### International Seminars

AE Tbilisi Hub fosters knowledge and experience sharing among professionals by organizing international seminars. These meetings play a crucial role in building international professional networks and facilitating future collaborations.

#### Georgia needs eating disorder clinical services

A two-day workshop titled: "Georgia needs eating disorder clinical services" was held by the multidisciplinary team from the leading eating disorder National Service representatives at Maudsley, UK at the Tbilisi State University on May 7 and 8, of the current year.

The workshop was initiated by a member of the Scientific Advisory Board of the Academia Europaea Tbilisi Hub, Prof. Ketevan Tchanturia Professor of Psychology at Kings College London and lead consultant psychologist at Maudsley Hospital. Prof Tchanturia is also visiting academic in the Illia State University. The workshop was hosted by Prof. Tamar Gagoshidze faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences of the Tbilisi State University.

During the two-day program the workshop participants heard updated research about eating disorders (ED) and discussed the subject covering the topics of how ED can be identified, what are the psychological and physical risks of ED, effective services for the treatment of ED, ways of early intervention, how to deal with comorbidities and why it is important to take them into account to treat ED.

Speakers discussed complex clinical cases, practical strategies, research innovations as well as cultural context how to adapt and calibrate best clinical practice in Georgian context.

Georgian multidisciplinary professionals who work with patients with eating disorders and are interested in further development of ED services and introduction of modern international standards of the above-mentioned services in Georgia.





#### **Everything in a Museum Communicates**

On December 3, AE Tbilisi Hub, ICOM International Committee for Marketing and Public Relations (MPR), ICOM Georgia, and the Georgian National Museum organized the international workshop Everything in a Museum Communicates.

Led by ICOM-MPR Board Member and Executive Director of AE Tbilisi Hub, Natia Khuluzauri, and ICOM-MPR Board Member, Branding, Design, and Communication Consultant, Luis Marcelo Mendes, the intensive program helped participants understand the role of communication in museums, science, and culture. Through interactive discussions and hands-on activities, attendees explored how effective communication strategies enhance audience engagement and institutional impact.

Twenty professionals from various countries took part, developing skills in cultural and scientific communication. The workshop also examined modern trends in science communication, emphasizing strategies for knowledge dissemination and public engagement. Participants analyzed case studies and best practices from leading institutions worldwide.

Funded by ICOM SAREC, the initiative aimed to support museum professionals involved in communication, including museum communicators, science communicators, directors, curators, and educators.

At the end of the workshop, participants received certificates recognizing their involvement.









#### Biocultural History and the Future of the Black Sea

On December 9, AE Tbilisi Hub, in collaboration with the Leibniz Institute for Biodiversity Change, Ilia State University, and the Rewind.earth Initiative, organized the international seminar: Biocultural History and the Future of the Black Sea.

This interdisciplinary seminar brought together scientists studying the biological and cultural evolution of the region, as well as its ecological challenges. Participants explored pressing environmental issues in the face of climate change and discussed innovative, interdisciplinary solutions that integrate modern technologies into scientific research.

The event echoed key discussions from the 29th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP29), with a specific focus on the Black Sea region.

Academic Director of AE Tbilisi Hub, Prof. David Lortkipanidze, presented an overview of the region's biocultural heritage and outlined his vision for addressing its challenges.

His approach emphasizes both scientific research and public engagement, with AE Tbilisi Hub playing a central role in fostering awareness and action.



#### International Conferences

One of the key priorities of the AE Tbilisi Hub is organizing and participating in international conferences, both in Georgia and abroad. These conferences play a crucial role in representing Georgia on the global scientific stage and serve as a foundation for new international collaborations.

#### The Power of the Ponto-Caspian Bio-Cultural Heritage

On November 21-22, the Academic Director of AE Tbilisi Hub Prof. David Lordkipanidze took part in the 29th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP29) to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, held in Baku, Azerbaijan.

The exhibition titled: "The Power of the Ponto-Caspian Bio-Cultural Heritage" highlighting interconnected factors such as heritage, scientific research, technological development, and efforts of societies to ensure the achievement of environmentally sustainable improvements in human well-being was created within the partnership of AE Tbilisi Hub, the Georgian National Museum, UN Climate Change Conference, 2024 (COP29) Organizing Committee, the JPI on Cultural Heritage and Global Change (EU Commission), RCH Partnership (EU Partnership) and Rewind Initiative.

The same space featured the Keynote presentation by Prof. David Lorkdipanidze and the discussion panel: "Bio-Cultural Heritage for the Future: Mobilizing the Past for the Climate Resilience".

Prof. David Lordkipanidze's participation in COP29 highlighted the importance of bringing together cultural heritage, science, and innovation to address the growing challenges of climate change.









#### **Building Bridges 2025**

From November 25-29, 2024, the 35th Annual Conference of Academia Europaea, Building Bridges 2024, took place at the University of Science and Technology in Wrocław, Poland. Natia Khuluzauri, Executive Director of AE Tbilisi Hub, participated in the event.

On November 26, during the General Assembly of Academia Europaea Natia Khuluzauri presented a report on AE Tbilisi Hub's 2024 activities and outlined future plans of the Hub.

Earler, during the day, she took part in a working meeting for AE Hubs, where participants discussed the Academy's strategic direction, opportunities for deeper collaboration, and the development of a shared roadmap for achieving common goals.

Throughout the conference, the Executive Director of AE Tbilisi Hub engaged with Academy members, exploring potential collaborations and joint projects to further strengthen the Hub's international partnerships.









#### **Museum Communications at a Crossroads**

From December 4-7, AE Tbilisi Hub, ICOM International Committee for Marketing and Public Relations (MPR), ICOM Georgia, the Georgian National Museum, Tbilisi Museums Union, and the Georgian Museum of Fine Arts jointly organized the international conference: Museum Communications at a Crossroads: Empowering Our Communities in Times of Change and Crisis in Tbilisi, Georgia.

The conference opened with a keynote speech by Prof. David Lortkipanidze, Academic Director of AE Tbilisi Hub, who discussed Georgia's biocultural heritage and ongoing scientific research in the field. He also explored how these studies can contribute to the promotion of the country and its cultural legacy.

Natia Khuluzauri, Executive Director of AE Tbilisi Hub, moderated both, the keynote session and the scientific panel discussion, where experts examined modern approaches to science communication and the implementation of effective communication strategies through real-world examples.

The conference brought together around 100 delegates, with 40 speakers from different countries presenting their insights.

Annual conferences organized by ICOM's International Committees serve as vital platforms for fostering collaboration between professionals in culture and science while showcasing the latest trends and methodologies.

Hosting the 2024 ICOM MPR Annual Conference in Tbilisi, which gathered leading experts in scientific and cultural communication, was a prestigious milestone for Georgia, reinforcing its role in the global museum and academic community.





### Translational and Clinical Medicine - Digitalization and Artificial Intelligence in Medical Education and Research

AE Tbilisi Hub served as an information partner for the 2nd International Scientific Conference: Translational and Clinical Medicine – Digitalization and Artificial Intelligence in Medical Education and Research, held at Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University from May 23-25, 2024.

The conference brought together members of the International Advisory Board of the TSU Faculty of Medicine from 12 countries worldwide. Its primary goal was to share international expertise with the Georgian medical community, including TSU faculty, researchers, and students, on the advancements achieved through artificial intelligence and digital technologies in medical science and healthcare.

Discussions focused on the integration of digital tools in medical education, research, and clinical practice, highlighting the potential of Al-driven innovations to enhance healthcare delivery and scientific progress.



### **Publication**

In 2020, the project: Gelati Academy – The Medieval Center for Science and Education Amidst Eastern and Western Christianity was launched through the initiative of AE Tbilisi Hub and the Christian Oriental Research Center at the Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University.

The main goal of the project is to introduce the Gelati Academy to the global community as one of the oldest and most significant scientific and educational centers in the Christian world.

As part of the project, AE Tbilisi Hub organized a hybrid conference for young scientists titled Gelati Academy – Its Era and Heritage on April 28, 2023, at Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University.

In 2024, the work on the publication: Gelati – The Heritage of David the Builder was completed. It has been edited by Academia Europaea member and TSU Prof. Zaza Skhirtladze.

The publication is set to be presented to the public in the first quarter of 2025.







### Science Popularization

One of the key priorities of AE Tbilisi Hub is the popularization of science and sharing the latest scientific advancements with the general public.

To achieve this, the Hub collaborates with leading media outlets in Georgia that uphold high journalistic standards and whose objectives align with the Hub's mission.

These media partners include National Geographic Magazine – Georgia, the Georgian Public Broadcaster, and EuroNews Georgia. The Hub regularly provides these outlets with updates on the latest scientific news and upcoming events.

Prof. David Lortkipanidze, Academic Director of AE Tbilisi Hub, leads the popular science project: History Told by Objects, which is featured as an author's column in National Geographic Magazine – Georgia, while In collaboration with the Georgian Public Broadcaster, it is also adapted for television and radio formats.

Additionally, AE Tbilisi Hub works with National Geographic Magazine – Georgia to organize verioues events aiming for science popularisation.



### Collaboration

In 2024 Academia Europaea Tbilisi Hub Partnered with following institutions:

- Ivane Javakhisvhili Tbilisi State University
- Ilia State University
- Kutaisi International University (KIU)
- Batumi Shota Rustaveli State University
- Ivane Beritashvili Centre of Experimental Biomedicine
- Innovation and Startup Acceleration Summer School
- The Georgian National Museum
- Tbilisi Museums Union
- The Society Iveriisa
- Goethe-Institute Georgien
- ICOM (International Council of Museums)
- ICOM MPR (International Committee for Marketing and Public Relations)
- COP 29
- Joint Programming Initiative (JPI) on Cultural Heritage and Global Change (EU Commission)
- Resilient Cultural Heritage (RCH) Partnership (EU Partnership)
- Rewind Initiative



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