

2nd ASCN Annual Conference

“Political Transformation and Social Change in the South Caucasus: Georgia and Armenia in Perspective”

29-30 June 2012, Yerevan

The Academic Swiss Caucasus Net (ASCN) is pleased to announce its 2nd Annual ASCN Conference that will take place this year in Yerevan, Armenia on 29th and 30th June 2012.

Content and Objectives

The conference aims to gather junior scholars and researchers from various disciplines of the social sciences (political science, sociology, anthropology, etc.) involved with the South Caucasus. More specifically, the conference will address the following points of interest:

- It will provide opportunities for researchers vested in Armenia and Georgia to engage, network, exchange and discuss their research projects, papers and findings;
- It will provide a forum for discussion regarding the contradictions and ambivalences of the transformation process in the South Caucasus;
- It will provide a forum for discussion regarding the challenges confronting social science researchers in the South Caucasus.

Call for Proposals

Deadline: 12 March 2012

Eligibility

- PhD students and recent PhD graduates (2008 or later) dealing with Armenia and Georgia that are eager to present and discuss their research work (especially current PhD projects and/or research results) with colleagues from the region and beyond.

The contributions to be presented must deal specifically with Armenia or Georgia. Contributions with a comparative dimension including at least one of the two countries are also accepted.

Topics

Proposals must be linked to one of the following themes:

- Migration, Diasporas and Social Inclusion
- Civil Society, Social Networks and Social Capital
- Media, Discourses and Public Space
- State Power, Governance and Democracy
- National Identity, Minorities, Religious and Cultural Capital
- Social Change (Youth Identity, Youth Employment, Change of Values, etc.)

Selected candidates will have the opportunity to present and discuss their work during one of the thematic panels. No written paper will have to be submitted for the conference; however, participants will receive guidelines for their PowerPoint presentations. Research teams financed by ASCN will also present their research projects, methodology-related issues and results. For more information about ASCN current research projects, please go to the “Research” section of the ASCN website.

Submission Instructions

All interested scholars are requested to submit an abstract (no more than 300 words) of their contribution, a 1-page C.V. and a short motivation letter. Submissions must be sent no later than **12 March 2012** to info@ascn.ch and to jan.kreuels@ascn.ch with the following email subject: *ASCN Annual Conference 2012*. All documents must be in English and must be merged into a single PDF file. The result of the selection process will be announced by **10 April 2012**.

Venue, Accommodation and Transport

The ASCN programme will cover travel and accommodation expenses for all selected participants. Opportunities for co-financing will arise should the travel costs in individual cases exceed the average expenses per participant attending the conference.

The selected participants will be informed about the programme and the specific conference panels, as well as technical details, in due time.

Website

www.ascn.ch → "Events" section

Further Information

Denis Dafflon, ASCN Programme Manager

info@ascn.ch; denis.dafflon@unifr.ch

About ASCN

ASCN is a programme aimed at promoting the social sciences and humanities in the South Caucasus (primarily Georgia and Armenia). Its different activities foster the emergence of a new generation of talented scholars. Promising junior researchers receive support through research projects, capacity-building trainings and scholarships. The programme emphasizes the advancement of individuals who, thanks to their ASCN experience, become better integrated in international academic networks. The ASCN programme is coordinated and operated by the Interfaculty Institute for Central and Eastern Europe (IICEE) at the University of Fribourg (Switzerland). It is initiated and supported by Gebert RUF Stiftung.