

**Open Society - Georgia Foundation,
Open Society Higher Education Support Program, and
Academic Fellowship Program**

**cordially invite you to a presentation of the
CENTRAL ASIA AND CAUCASUS RESEARCH AND TRAINING INITIATIVE**

on October 1, 2010 at 16:00

**at the Conference Hall of the Open Society – Georgia Foundation
address: 10 Chovelidze Street, Tbilisi, Tel.: 250463**

Presenters:

John Schoeberlein: Director, Harvard Program on Central Asia and the Caucasus, USA

Oleksandr Shtokvych: Senior Program Manager, Higher Education Support Program, Budapest, Hungary

Invited:

University-based scholars interested in conducting independent and innovative academic research in the social sciences and humanities in close collaboration with international scholar counterparts, especially PhD students who are at the early stages of their dissertation research performed as part of their postgraduate training in Georgia, and university faculty who have recently received PhD degrees; PhD advisers and academic leaders of the PhD programs and academic departments offering degree programs in the humanities and social sciences; young faculty who are developing proposals for applying to PhD programs in their home country.

The meeting will describe the new CARTI Fellowship program of the Open Society Foundations offering support and training for original academic research in the humanities and social sciences in Georgia. Following the general presentation of the format and priorities of the program and procedures for application, selection and support, the presenters will be available for consultation on matters of formulating the focus of research projects and designing successful research proposals for applications for CARTI Fellowships. Attendees are encouraged to get familiar with the CARTI Application documents in advance of the meeting and bring specific questions on their own project plans.

About the program:

The CARTI program provides support to young scholars in the post-Soviet countries of South Caucasus, Central Asia and Mongolia in developing ideas, capacities and skills for original academic research in the humanities and social sciences and bringing their scholarly experience to enrich university teaching. With the support of CARTI, the Fellows engage state-of-the-art resources, theories, methodologies and approaches to their research and teaching in the subjects and areas of importance to the academic and social development in the region. Further information on the program and Guidelines for Applicants can be found at www.soros.org/initiatives/hesp/focus/carti

CARTI's main target audience is beginner PhD students, who benefit from the opportunity to revise their research agendas and projects in line with the state of the art in their subject areas internationally, and receive further training in research methods, foundational theories and current scholarly approaches in their fields, academic writing, etc. Such individuals are invited to apply for Junior Fellowships. Senior Fellows of CARTI are the scholars who have recently received doctoral degrees and who wish to revise or advance their research outside the constraints of the formal graduate training/writing.

All CARTI Fellows work with International Scholars/mentors appointed by the program. The Fellowship support involves research funding, access to resources and instruments, and a one-semester internship at the International Scholar's institution (outside the target region). The Fellowships are provided for two-year periods. Currently, applications for the projects which will commence during the summer/fall of 2011. Applications are received through the On-Line Application System <https://oas.soros.org/oas/>. The deadline for submitting applications to HESP in Budapest is 10 November 2010.

CARTI is open to support projects in a wide range of subjects and topics in the humanities and social sciences. The proposed projects will typically be concerned with the study, revision and application of the foundational scholarly thinking to analysis and explanation of specific issues and research questions, rather than have an explicit policy orientation. Although the projects that have the bearing on the issues of the day and relevance to the country and region of the candidate are encouraged, the program has equal interest in exploring original interpretations and critique of the traditional and foundation scholarship in the disciplines and academic subjects, as well as projects that study other regions and countries of the world and research of comparative nature. The Senior Fellows are especially encouraged to engage in interdisciplinary exploration of a given topic/subject. While CARTI supports research and teaching in the local languages, operational knowledge of English and ability to work with academic resources and participate in training activities in the English language is highly desirable and considered an advantage in the selection process.

Further information about the program and the application guidelines are available at www.soros.org/initiatives/hesp.

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