CENTRE FOR EAST EUROPEAN STUDIES
UNIVERSITY OF WARSAW
POLISH INSTITUTE OF NATIONAL REMEMBRANCE
IN COOPERATION WITH
THE EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND IN TBILISI,
THE EMBASSY OF GEORGIA IN WARSAW
and POLISH INSTITUTE IN TBILISI

have the honour to invite to

THE 4TH CONFERENCE
OF THE POLISH-GEORGIAN HISTORIANS’ COMMISSION

Saint Grigol Peradze Family Home Museum in Bakurtsikhe
TBILISI-GORI-BAKURTSIKHE 22-25 XI 2019
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22
Georgian National Youth Palace, originally the Viceroyale Palace, Tbilisi
(3.00 – 8.00 PM)

3:00 PM
Opening of the Conference
Rev. Henryk Paprocki, Orthodox Theological Seminary in Warsaw
Włodzimierz SULEJA, Polish Institute of National Remembrance, Warsaw
David KOLBAIA, Chairman of the Polish-Georgian Historians’ Commission, Center for East European Studies University Warsaw

SESSION I (3.00 – 4.00 PM)

Moderation:
Otar JANELIDZE, Georgian National Museum, Tbilisi; Wojciech MATERSKI, Institute of Political Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences
Rev. Henryk PAPROCKI, Orthodox Theological Seminary in Warsaw

Some circumstances of archimandrite Grzegorz Peradze’s arrest and stay in the Pawiak prison (in Polish).
Grzegorz MAZUR, Jagiellonian University in Kraków
Tytus Filipowicz (1873-1953). Head of the Polish Diplomatic Mission in the South Caucasus (in Polish).
Shorena MURUSIDZE, Korneli Kekelidze National Centre of Manuscripts, Tbilisi
Sergo Kurulishvili’s Letters – research materials for the history of the Georgian Committee in Poland (in Georgian).

10.30 – 11.00 AM break

SESSION II (4.00 – 5.00 PM)

Moderation:
Włodzimierz SULEJA, Polish Institute of National Remembrance, Henryk PAPROCKI, Orthodox Theological Seminary in Warsaw
Wojciech MATERSKI, Institute of Political Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw

The Independent Caucasian Brigade of the Polish Army 1917-1918 (in Polish).
Dimitri SILAKADZE, National Archives of Georgia, Tbilisi

History of the Georgian Officers of the Polish Army in the Russian-Georgian War of 1921 (in Georgian).
Paweł OLSZEWSKI, Jan Kochanowski University, the Branch in Piotrkow Trybunalski

Poles in Georgia and in the Southern Caucasus in 1914-1921 - the beginnings of Polish-Georgian relations in the interwar period (in Polish).

6.00 PM
Presentation of the new publications of the Polish Institute of National Remembrance by the Polish-Georgian Historical Commission Collected Works, Volume I
Opening of the Exhibition: St. Grigol Peradze (1899-1942) – Martyr, Theologian, Writer, Ecumenist
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23
Georgia’s National Defence Academy in Gori
(10.00 AM – 3.00 PM)

Opening of the Exhibition: Georgian Contract Officers in the Polish Army 1919-1939
1.00 PM  Visiting at the Gori State Teaching University by the Polish-Georgian Historical Commission members and Polish Institute of National Remembrance representatives

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24

1.0 PM  Visiting the Palace of King Heraclius II (1720-1798) in Telavi

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25

(10.00 – 12.00 AM)

SESSION III (10.00 – 11.15 PM)
Moderation: Grzegorz MAZUR, Jagiellonian University; Dimitri SILAKADZE, National Archives of Georgia

Otar JANELIDZE, Georgian National Museum, Tbilisi
Georges MAMOULIA, L'Ecole des hautes études en sciences sociales (EHESS), Paris
The origin and development of the Prometheus movement based on archival materials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Polish Republic (in Georgian).

Paweł LIBERA, Polish Institute of National Remembrance, Warsaw
Biographies of Georgian contract officers in the Polish Army (1919-1939) (in Polish).

David KOLBAIA. Centre for East European Studies University of Warsaw

11.15 AM  Presentation of the latest publication of the Polish Institute of National Remembrance

11.45 AM  Closing of the Conference, address by: David KOLBAIA, Chairman of the Polish-Georgian Historians' Commission

12.00 AM  Opening of the Conference: Repression against Religion in the Communist Countries in the 20th century and of the Exhibition: St. Grigol Peradze (1899 — 1942), Martyr, Theologian, Writer, Ecumenist
Exhibition author - David KOLBAIA
“...In 28 January 1921, the Polish government recognized the Georgian Republic de jure. This occurred just a short time before the Soviet Red Army entered Georgia and independence was lost once more. Following a month of heavy defensive fighting, the Georgian government was forced to leave the country and go into exile. A significant number of Georgian émigrés, among them Georgian Army officers and officer-cadets, found their way to Poland, which became their second home. They served in the Polish Army as contracted officers, ran businesses, medical practices, traded in goods, and studied and lectured at universities. Many of them knotted their future even more tightly to Poland, marrying Polish wives and starting families. Nonetheless, each one of them remained loyal to their lost homeland and was active in Georgian and Polish-Georgian organizations and associations for the independence of Georgia, such as the Georgian Committee in Poland (Komitet Gruziński w Polsce), the Polish-Georgian Club, (Klub Gruzińsko-Polski) and the Association of Georgian Students in Poland (Koło Studentów Gruzińskich w Polsce). These activities were supported both institutionally, as well as by many well-known political and cultural figures, including Tadeusz Hołówka, Stefan Żeromski, Waclaw Sierakowski and others. Georgian independence was a prevalent topic in inter-war Poland; much discussed and much written about. Many popular science-type works dedicated to Georgia, as well as anniversary Sunday papers (Amirani, Pro Patria, Pro Georgia), were published at the time. While the weekly, Voice of the East (Głos Wschodu), edited by Sergo Kurulishvili, was primarily dedicated to Georgian matters, other publications such as Alliance (Przymierze) or East-Orient (Wschód-Orient) also devoted them much attention. The issue of Georgia, especially current events, were discussed on the pages of the majority of the most popular press publications, particularly in the 1920s. The period of 1918–1939, proved to be an especially significant period in the history of relations between the two countries, quite different from previous periods and rich in critical events for both Poland and Georgia.

In 1918, after more than one hundred years of slavery, both countries regained their independence. Georgia would shortly go on to lose its freshly regained independence in 1921, when the Soviet Army entered Tbilisi, practically closing the way east – to the Caucasus and Georgia – for Poles. At the same time, the road opened westwards as a wave of Georgian émigrés fled to Poland. In the early 1920s, after the fall of the Georgian Republic, the Georgian Committee (Komitet Gruziński) was created in Poland, remaining active throughout the entire inter-war period. The Committee was especially active in publishing, educating Polish society on Georgian history and culture, as well as keeping the issue of Georgian independence alive.”

David Kolbaia Pod skrzydłami Rzeczypospolitej. Emigracja gruzińska w Polsce 1921-1939, IPN, Warszawa 2019