

## Policy Designers Network 2021

### **Ani Hovsepyan**

Brusov State University

Career Center Specialist, Lecturer at the Chair on  
Education Management and Planning  
Armenia



Ani Hovsepyan is an experienced career guidance and management, acts as career adviser/counsellor, trainer, youth worker and projects manager within the frame of various projects, initiatives locally and internationally. At present she holds the position of Career Center Specialist at the Brusov State University (BSU) and provides various trainings and seminars, career guidance to the students and graduates, young people in general. She delivers a few courses for the Master's Students at the Chair on Education Management and Planning.

She has participated in a number of national and international forums, workshops and seminars on different issues of education management, career guidance and management, education policies, entrepreneurship and innovation, labour market and employability throughout Europe. With advanced academic and professional background, she has a great experience in managing different mobility projects, educational programs, as well as national and international projects.

Ani is actively involved in research activities on current educational trends, youth participation, career guidance and management tendencies, professional orientation issues, etc. She is a founding member at the Network for Innovation in Career Guidance and Counselling in Europe, board member of the Youth Affairs Council under the Mayor of Yerevan City, Non-Key Junior Expert at the European Commission.

Ani Hovsepyan is a PhD researcher at BSU, Chair on Education Planning and Management.

## **Armenuhi Nikoghosyan**

Project Coordinator, Armenia-Turkey program  
Hrant Dink Foundation, Eurasia Partnership Foundation  
Armenia



Armenuhi Nikoghosyan works at Hrant Dink Foundation, Armenia team, as well as Eurasia Partnership Foundation – Armenia, as a Project Coordinator of Armenia-Turkey programme. Armenuhi is coordinating projects targeted at dialogue establishment between the societies of Armenia and Turkey and development of confidence building measures to find avenues for normalisation of relations between the two countries. Throughout time, she has witnessed many individual and institutional cooperation opportunities spurred between the two neighbouring country representatives, despite of no diplomatic relations and lack of direct communication. Since 2011, she has also been involved in various Armenia-Turkey reconciliation projects and conflict transformation initiatives.

Armenuhi has been engaged in research projects as well. She is a research fellow at the Oral History Center at the Institute of Archaeology and Ethnography (National Academy of Sciences of Armenia) and her research interests cover interactions between people of Armenia and Turkey, peace and conflict transformation, genocide and memory studies. She has touched upon these topics in a number of articles based on oral history and ethnography methodologies.

Armenuhi continually tries to contribute to community development. She has been one of the advocates for waste management education in Armenia, developing an extracurricular programme for local schools, by training teachers to conduct those classes. She has also exerted efforts in renovating a local park left neglected after the collapse of the Soviet Union, by restoring its public ownership via various community-driven activities.

**Ashot Gevorgyan**

President

Dignity Movement

Armenia



Ashot Gevorgyan is the President of Dignity Movement youth NGO, an Armenian liberal reformist youth-based movement trying to improve the political, legal, social and cultural order to achieve the recognition of human rights and freedoms. His academic and work expertise is in movements building, resource mobilization.

As a human rights advocate, he has more than five years of community outreach and work, eight years of experience in working with the UN bodies and for years in policy forming and strategic litigation. He is a certified trainer for trainers on human rights and experienced researcher on human rights and health.

He was one of the Czech Governmental scholarship holders and studied Political Science at the University of Hradec Králové, Czech Republic, at the faculty of Philosophy.

**Badri Belkania**

Research Fellow

Georgian Foundation for Strategic and International  
Studies Georgia



Badri Belkania is a research fellow at the Georgian Foundation for Strategic and International Studies (GFSIS). As a conflict studies and the Caucasus specialist, Badri focuses on the political and social events of the region, particularly on the conflicting areas of Abkhazia, South Ossetia and Nagorno-Karabakh.

Badri actively monitors and analyses Russian foreign policy as a principal actor of the regional developments, while conducting research and writing articles about the Kremlin's policy and influence on the post-Soviet space. Besides, Badri's current role at the organization encompasses observing political events of the North Caucasus, internal trends and the region's connections with the outer world.

Badri has a bachelor's degree from the Free University of Tbilisi, where he specialized in IR with a special focus on the Middle East. Badri obtained his master's degree at the University of Glasgow with a specialization in international security and conflict studies. At different times, Badri expanded his knowledge in subdisciplines of political science at the Cairo University, Dublin City University and Charles University in Prague.

Badri is actively trying to maintain an active civil and academic role in the practices performed to build the bridge between the conflicted regions and find a solution based on mutual understanding. Believing in the power of knowledge and communication, he has taken part in many different projects, conferences and workshops around the Caucasus and Europe aiming at the deeper cooperation of the different nations of the region.

## **Dmytro Tuzhanskyi**

Founder and Director

Institute for Central European Strategy

Ukraine



Dmytro Tuzhanskyi is a political analyst, founder and director of the Institute for Central European Strategy (Ukraine). Ever since graduation from Kyiv-Mohyla Academy (Master's degree in political science, European Studies), Dmytro has been professionally involved in three main areas: media, elections, and international relations.

His media experience is reflected various positions he held as journalist, copywriter, media consultant, strategist and coach with an extensive portfolio, including international projects, both commercial and civic. Dmytro built his expertise in electoral issues while working as national expert and observer on elections, OSCE/ODIHR standards certified international observer with experience of 3 international missions as LTO and STO in Russia Federation, the Kingdom of Norway and Republic of Moldova. More, Dmytro has extensive experience on assessment of the domestic and foreign politics (mainly, European and Euro-Atlantic integration), political, social, economic, media and national minority issues, decision making processes, resilience and sustainability of communities and institutions, media environment, hybrid threats, human rights, electoral procedures, reforms, etc.

For the last 10 years Dmytro has been actively studying Ukrainian-Hungarian relations and Hungary, for the last 5 years – his focus is on whole Central and Eastern Europe. In his portfolio there are cooperation with international organizations and think tanks, for instance, International Alert in Ukraine, Kennan Institute (Kyiv office), OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine, Ukrainian Prism, Internews Ukraine and Network; international media for instance The New York Times and Newsweek (USA), Le Monde (France), The Nikkei (Japan), Spiegel and ARD (Germany); main outlets in Ukraine and Hungary.

American weekly news magazine Newsweek recently published his op-ed under the title "Ukraine's Imperfect Path", which is dedicated to the difficulties of transformation of modern Ukraine after 2014.

**Erekle Iantbelidze**

Trainee, EPP Group, European Parliament  
Vice-president, Club Alpbach Georgia  
Georgia



**Erekle Iantbelidze** is a trainee in the EPP group at the European Parliament. In his position, Erekle is working for the Directorate External Policies and the Eastern Partnership Unit. He was involved in various projects and training which enabled him to become a sounder young professional.

Erekle is also holding the position of vice president at the Club Alpbach Georgia. Moreover, he is a student at the European Academy of Diplomacy and a post-graduate with an advanced master of the European Interdisciplinary Studies from the College of Europe. Previously, Erekle completed a bachelor's degree in Political Science and Philosophy at Tbilisi State University. He is committed to expanding his knowledge in foreign affairs, international politics, and research. Particularly, to increase his practical skills in the Art of Diplomacy.

Thus, the above-mentioned experiences determined his professional path and interests. Outside of his academic and professional life, Erekle is a passionate explorer of cultures with a particular interest in musical experiments.

**Igor Serotila**

Attorney trainee

Avornic & Partners Law Firm

Moldova



Igor Serotila is an aspiring attorney from Moldova, completing his traineeship at the Avornic & Partners Law Firm, where he specializes in human rights and tech law. He is also pursuing an academic career being a doctoral student at the Legal Research Institute of the Romanian Academy. For his efforts and innovative approaches in his research he was awarded the scholarship of the World Federation of Scientists in 2017, as well as the Grand Prize of the 14<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Management of Science and Engineering Management in 2020. Currently he is researching the subject of guaranteeing human rights in the context of science and technology.

In his professional career, while in public office, he has accumulated extensive knowledge on the structure and processes that are undergoing in the educational, scientific, innovational and cultural domains, as well as the legal framework that supports it. He helped shape the research and innovation policy of Moldova and contributed to the integration of the Moldovan research community into the European Research Area. He established himself as a legal professional while offering counsel within the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova, as well as in the private sector.

Igor adheres to a stoic way of being. He tries to root his action and practice everyday virtues such as wisdom, courage, temperance and justice, while being open for the future and opportunities to foster leadership and excellence.

Besides his professional and research activity, Igor dedicates his time to consolidate the rule of law in Moldova, being a certified trainer for electoral law and processes for public servants involved in elections. He volunteers on the regular at the municipal dog rescue center.

When he isn't providing legal counsel or solving legal challenges, Igor loves to travel, play basketball and sometimes terrible chess.

**Iryna Domnenko**

Project Manager and Head

Institute of Analysis and Advocacy Resource Center  
Ukraine



Iryna Domnenko is a project manager and head of the Institute of Analysis and Advocacy resource center. She joined the non-governmental sector six years ago; since then, she has gone from local project assistant to the international project manager. She is currently working on projects related to budget advocacy and public health in Eastern Europe and Central Asia and projects aimed at increasing the organizational capacity of NGOs in Ukraine. Iryna is a participant and presenter of the IAA experience at international conferences. She also participates in internships and advanced training as a manager and as a facilitator trainer. Currently, Iryna is developing a resource center in the IAA - training and consulting products for NGOs and businesses. In 2017, with the participation of Iryna, the Budget Advocacy School was created, which was attended by more than 250 participants from 8 countries in the EECA region. The resource center develops educational products in the areas of not only budget advocacy but also good governance, fundraising, institutional development, and analytics.



**Karen Tovmasyan**

Public Relations, Communications and Networking Expert

OxYGen Foundation

Armenia



Karen Tovmasyan is a Public Relations, Communications and Networking Specialist, currently employed as National Expert on Communications and Visibility for EU funded “Consolidation of the Justice System in Armenia” project operated by the German Foundation for International Legal Cooperation (IRZ), Expertise France and the Court Administration of Republic of Latvia.

As Communications and Visibility Expert of the project he is responsible for the coordination of the communication, visibility and media-related tasks of Project activities in accordance with the EU Visibility Guidelines.

Previously he has worked as Communications, Networking and Social Media Expert for an independent advocacy and development foundation, an OXFAM spin-off in Armenia OxYGen Foundation, one of the leading civil society organisations of Armenia.

He has also worked as Public Relations Specialist for the leading think-tanks in Armenia such as the Caucasus Research Resource Center-Armenia and the Centre for European Studies at the Yerevan State University.

In 2021 he was also elected a Board Member of one of the main political parties in the country the Armenian National Congress party (ANC). ANC is a liberal party and a member of the international Liberal family, such as the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats of Europe (ALDE), Liberal Youth of Europe (LYMEC), and the International Federation of Liberal Youth (IFLRY). Karen also works as a freelance journalist, cooperating with a number of regional and international media organizations. He has two master’s degrees, one in international relations and history, and the other in Journalism and Media Management.

**Ketevan Goletiani**

Program Coordinator  
National Democratic Institute  
Georgia



Ketevan Goletiani works as a program coordinator at National Democratic Institute (NDI) Georgia office, bringing expertise in democracy and governance, parliaments, openness and transparency, gender issues and citizen outreach. Ketevan contributes to supporting Parliament in strengthening its legislative-making, oversight and representative functions, developing evidence-based and responsive policies, and parliament's overall institutional development. Diverse experience in non-profit and international sectors shaped her leadership, management, communication, analytical skills, and political instincts, and turned her into a committed and responsible young leader.

Ketevan, throughout her academic career, has studied at Tbilisi State University, University of Tartu, University College Dublin, and German Institute of Administrative Sciences of Speyer. She holds honors degrees in political science (BA) and public administration (MA). Not only has Ketevan supported democratic and good governance reforms in her country, but she has also played an active and positive role in a wider community. Back in 2019, as a response to Russian flight ban to Georgia, Ketevan with her friends launched one of the biggest social campaigns called Spend Your Summer in Georgia (now Spend 4 Seasons in Georgia), aimed at stimulating and promoting Georgia's tourism industry. By mobilizing hundreds of thousands of people, throughout the last 2 years the campaign has successfully supported the tourism sector and continues to contribute to diversifying the market and promoting Georgia's image worldwide.

**Marie Eliadze**

Executive Director

The Margaret Thatcher Centre of Georgia  
Georgia



Marie Eliadze is the Executive Director of The Margaret Thatcher Centre of Georgia, that is a non-profit, non-partisan think-tank, dedicated to increase the understanding of economic freedom and liberal principles across the communities in Georgia. Marie Eliadze has extensive work experience in public and private sectors, with a focus on peacebuilding, policy analysis, strategic communications, and area studies.

In 2012 she has earned Master of Science in Russian & East European Studies from University of Oxford and since then has been involved into area-based research. Marie Eliadze has a passion for writing and is the author of two books.

In 2017 she has published a book “From Moratorium to War” that analyses the causes of Russian aggression against Georgia in a view of the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (CFE).

More, Marie is dedicated to Academia and teaches the graduate students at local universities of Georgia. Since the establishment of The Margaret Thatcher Centre of Georgia, her work has reached thousands of target communities, engaging them into activities in defence of individual freedom and economic prosperity.

**Nataliia Vyniarchuk**

Project Manager

Reforms Delivery Office, Cabinet of Ministers in Ukraine

Ukraine



Nataliia Vyniarchuk is a part of the Reforms Delivery Office that is an advisory body to the Cabinet of Ministers in Ukraine and a part of the Ukraine Reform Architecture where she works as a project manager. She is responsible for system of international technical assistance coordination and streamlining cooperation on development finance in Ukraine. She grew interested in the role of the development cooperation in European Union integration process and the politics of development aid during her post-graduate studies at the College of Europe and traineeship in European Investment Bank focusing on policy alignment of lending operations at the EU Neighborhood Department and both social and gender dimension of climate investment at the Environmental, Climate and Social Office.

During her several years in the civil society sector work, she contributed to organizations fostering political accountability and anti-corruption action, civic tech initiative promoting transparent public procurement and empowering digital local activism as well as project on youth and social entrepreneurship.

Her experience and expertise have developed mainly throughout her project management record, but also by attending seminars on good governance and sustainable public management, development investment.

## **Olga Anghelici**

Student, Master of Public Health  
Imperial College London  
Moldova



Olga Anghelici is an experienced international development professional with a solid background in project management, communications and public-private partnerships acquired over years of assignments carried out under the auspices of the United Nations System in Vienna, Monaco, Geneva and Chisinau. Her career in the international public service started in 2011 and unfolded within specialised UN agencies such as IAEA, UNOPS, UNFPA and UNODC, where she navigated a spectrum of topics including climate change and ocean acidification, environmental economics, peaceful uses of nuclear sciences, public health and malaria eradication, and gender-sensitive social policies.

Olga holds a number of academic credentials in various disciplines and is currently pursuing a Master of Public Health at Imperial College London and another postgraduate qualification in Science Communication at the University of Cambridge. She has a special interest in a complexity of inter-dependent, synergistic and antagonistic issues under the sustainable development umbrella and endeavours to promote a multi-sectoral approach to alleviating bottlenecks and designing viable, human-centred and community-driven solutions. Her work has always placed emphasis on ways to address inequalities and deprivation, and identify means to resolve them through comprehensive, participatory strategies.

Olga has had the chance to lead several overarching regional and global platforms seeking to mobilize political will and resources, and to bridge the gaps between stakeholders by facilitating constructive dialogue, capacity building, reciprocal knowledge building and sharing of best practices. She feels at ease liaising with governments and international organizations, private sector and civil society organizations, academia and media, contributing to the establishment of new collaboration efforts and their fruitful development.

**Olha Nykorak**

Project and Program Manager, Development Department  
Ukrainian Catholic University  
Ukraine



Olha Nykorak is a Project and Program Manager at the Development Department of Ukrainian Catholic University, where she coordinates educational projects. She manages to combine practice and research work as a Ph.D. student (constitutional law branch) and an analyst.

Unique experience and scientific supervision were obtained by Olha during her stay at Tartu University and Warsaw University as a visiting scholar. Aspirations to make the world a better place and analytical skills were combined in legislation-drafting work and designing analytical reports on religious rights and constitutional complaints.

**Sona Mkhitarian**

Researcher

Yerevan State University/ Universite Catholique de Louvain  
Armenia

Sona Mkhitarian is currently a PhD student at the Faculty of International relations at Yerevan State University (Armenia) and UCLouvain (Belgium), researching the stance and discourse of pan-European political parties on the Eastern Partnership initiative. She has combined her PhD studies with her work activities at Political Dialogue NGO, a successful civic-tech organization based in Yerevan as well as carrying research projects for other local CSOs. Previously, she worked at the National Assembly of Republic of Armenia, OSCE/ODIHR election observation missions deployed in Armenia, international CSOs and Armenian think-tanks. After getting her Master's degree in advanced studies in political communication from Complutense University of Madrid, Sona got actively engaged in civil society activities promoting effective and action-stimulating communication approaches to policy audiences. Her professional interests lay in the sphere of European and Armenian political culture, political participation of women and youth, the role of political parties in democratization processes, effects of traditional and social media on political behavior as well as intercultural communication. She has participated in various seminars and trainings and has authored scientific articles on the above-mentioned topics.

**Tako Jobava**

Senior Specialist, Communications Department  
Administration of the President of Georgia  
Georgia



Tako Jobava is a senior specialist of the Communications Department at the Administration of the President of Georgia, where she works to address existing challenges facing the country both domestically and internationally. Georgia advancement on its Euro-Atlantic path is one of the main fields of her work at the Administration, along with strengthening democratic values and institutions of the nation

She is also a visiting lecturer at the Caucasus University and International Black Sea University, where she teaches security studies, international relations and racial studies. Her position in the academia has enabled her to connect with Georgian youth by sharing her international academic as well as professional experience with them.

Tako works to encourage the youth to take bold and innovative steps for their personal, academic and professional growth; she works with students from multiple Georgian universities to connect them with international community and stakeholders from various fields across the world.



## **Yaromyr Udod**

Program Development Officer

Ukraine Confidence Building Initiative (UCBI II)

funded by USAID, implemented by Chemonics



Yaromyr Udod is an international development professional who started off his professional path as a field programmatic worker in conflict-affected East Ukraine. There, he was collaborating with local and international stakeholders in assisting local communities in the region. As of September 2021, he continues working for the USAID's "Ukraine Confidence Building Initiative"(UCBI II) as a Program Development Officer.

Yaromyr is currently leading a program portfolio focusing mainly on peacebuilding efforts ranging from supporting advocacy and communications up to direct support to Ukraine's Ministry of Reintegration of Temporarily Occupied Territories. Moreover, while receiving his Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Social Sciences, Yaromyr was involved in human rights work, such as by volunteering and interning with Amnesty International Ukraine. During his latest years of university studies, he has also assisted in the research of the Fulbright Visiting scholar Jordan Gans-Morse who was studying motivations for public service in post-Soviet countries. Yaromyr is motivated to further develop his career in the Peace and Development nexus.

## **Yuliya Zemlytska**

Principal Counsellor, Governance and Political Affairs European Bank for Reconstruction and Development  
Ukraine



Yuliya Zemlytska is a Principal Counsellor at the Governance and Political Affairs department of European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD). In this role, she helps design and deliver Bank's technical cooperation programs with a focus on reforms of state-owned enterprises across EBRD countries of operations. Previously she spent many years developing and implementing policy and social impact programs with World Bank, EU-funded project, Ukrainian Government, and several non-profits.

Initially trained as a lawyer in Ukraine, Yuliya holds an LL.M. from Leiden University in the Netherlands and master's in public policy from National University of Singapore. Her interdisciplinary background and experience of living in six different jurisdictions (including three continents) enabled her to develop a strong comparative perspective on a variety of policy problems. She is passionate about bridging data, economics and law to leverage solutions to social challenges and market failures.

When not running policy programs or social impact initiatives, she is most frequently found wandering around with her camera, doing all kinds of sports, practicing yoga and meditation. She is an avid traveller (been to 58 countries) and particularly enjoys hiking and outdoors.