

“Shifting geopolitics of the South Caucasus after Nagorno Karabakh War”

COMPASS Policy Workshop
22 December 2020

COMPASS: Comprehensive Capacity-Building in the Eastern Neighbourhood and
Central Asia: research integration, impact governance & sustainable communities



Background

The [GCRF UKRI COMPASS project](#) is an ambitious UK government capacity-building initiative, aiming to extend UK research globally, to address the challenges of growth and sustainability in the developing countries. Notably, the COMPASS project at the University of Kent, together with Cambridge University as its research partner, seeks to establish ‘**the hubs of excellence**’ at the top-level HEIs in Belarus, Azerbaijan, Uzbekistan, and Tajikistan, to enable them to act as nodes for knowledge sharing and transfer along the following three dimensions, namely *research integration, impact governance, and sustainable communities*.

COMPASS Policy Workshop “Shifting geopolitics of the South Caucasus after Nagorno Karabakh War/44 days of war” will be dedicated to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict and geopolitical shift following the 44 days of war. In late September 2020, three decades long Nagorno-Karabakh conflict went into the most violent phase since 1994. Azerbaijan and Armenia were able to reach a new cease-fire agreement through the unilateral mediation of Russia, that resulted in return of occupied territories under the control of Azerbaijan, entrance of the Russian peacekeeping force into the region of Nagorno-Karabakh, establishment of peacekeeping operation for five years with the possibility of subsequent prolongation and obligations to reopen regional communications between Armenia and Azerbaijan and most likely with Turkey.

Key Information

- **COMPASS Policy Workshop Online**

- **Social media**

Participants are encouraged to share screenshots, comments, and their thoughts on social media tagging COMPASS project [@GCRF COMPASS](#); [@GCRE](#); [@ADA University](#); [Centre of Excellence in EU Studies](#)

PROGRAM

“Shifting geopolitics of the South Caucasus after Nagorno-Karabakh War”

COMPASS Policy Workshop

22 December 2020; 15.00 – 17.30 (GMT+4)

Link:

15.00 – 15.15	Welcome and introduction Mr. Fariz Ismailzade, ADA University Executive Vice Rector and COMPASS Project Associate
15.15 – 16.00	Strategic overview of the South Caucasus from different perspectives: Western and Russian Strategies for the South Caucasus Dr. Anar Valiyev, Dean, ADA University and COMPASS Project Associate Dr Svante Cornell, Director of Central Asia-Caucasus Institute & Silk Road Studies Program Joint Center Prof. Elena Korosteleva, Professor of International Politics, University of Kent and GCRF COMPASS Principal Investigator Dr. Kavus Abushov, Associate Professor, ADA University and COMPASS Project Associate
16.00 – 17.00	Perspectives on the geopolitical developments & environment in the South Caucasus after the Nagorno-Karabakh War Dr. Farid Shafiyev, Chairman of the Center of Analysis of International Relations Dr Robert Cutler Dr. Murat Ozkaleli, Associate Professor, ADA University Dr. Azer Babayev, Assistant Professor of Political Science, ADA University
17.00-17.30	Q&A and Closing remarks Mr. Fariz Ismailzade

Speaker Biographies (in an order of appearance)

Fariz Ismailzade, Vice-Rector, ADA University, Azerbaijan



Fariz Ismailzade is Vice Rector for External, Government and Student affairs at the ADA University (since 2011). He has joined ADA in 2006 and worked in the positions of Director of Executive Education (2006-2010) and Executive Dean (2010-2011). Mr. Ismailzade is currently pursuing a Doctoral Degree at the Maastricht School of Management. He holds an Executive MBA from IE Business School (Spain), and a Master's Degree in Social and Economic Development from Washington University in St. Louis, and a BA in Political Science from Western University in Baku with one-year interim studies at Wesleyan University in Connecticut.

Mr. Ismailzade has done research at the Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) in Washington, D.C and the Embassy of Azerbaijan in the US. His research interests include political affairs in the Caucasus and Central Asia, energy security, and development.

Professor Elena Korosteleva, Principal Investigator (Kent), GCRF COMPASS



Elena Korosteleva is Professor of International Politics and Jean Monnet Chair of European Politics, at the School of Politics and International Relations, University of Kent. Elena is also LSE IDEAS Visiting Professor; executive member of the GLOBSEC IAB and co-founder/ co-director of the Global Europe Centre at Kent. She is the Principal Investigator of the GCRF RCUK COMPASS project (2017-21), a Co-I for the H2020 UPTAKE project grant (2016-19) and a PI for the ERASMUS+ mobility project with BSU (2018-19).

Elena's research presently focuses on the concepts of governance/governmentality; capacity-building; resilience; democracy promotion and sustainability. Most recent monographs include *The Politics and The Political of the Eastern Partnership Initiative: re-shaping the agenda* (Routledge 2018); *The European Union and its Eastern Neighbours: towards a more ambitious partnership?* (Routledge 2014); and *EU Policies in the Eastern Neighbourhood: the practices perspective* (Routledge 2014).