

**FOURTH INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON
GEOPOLITICS OF SMALL STATES IN THE 21ST CENTURY**

Dates: November 1 – 2, 2021

Venue: Russian-Armenian University

Time zone: GMT+4 (Yerevan time)

Organized by

Russian-Armenian University

IPSA Research Committee on Geopolitics

Program

November 1	
9:30 – 10:30 am	Registration
10:30 – 11:00 am	<i>Welcome speeches:</i> Armen Darbinian , Rector of Russian-Armenian University, Doctor of Sciences, Professor Igor Okunev , Co-Chair of IPSA RC41 – Geopolitics, Director at the Center for Spatial Analysis in International Relations, Institute for International Studies, MGIMO University Ruben Elamiryan , Chairperson and Associate Professor at the Department of World Politics and International Relations of Russian-Armenian University, Executive Officer of IPSA RC41 – Geopolitics
11:00 am – 12:20 pm	<i>General Panel with keynote speakers</i> Igor Okunev , Director at the Center for Spatial Analysis in International Relations, Institute for International Studies, MGIMO University Tomáš Weiss (virtually), Head of the European Studies Department anymore. My current position is of the Deputy Director for Research at the Institute of International Studies, Charles University Ivan Danilin (virtually), Head of Department of science and innovation, Head of Sector of Innovation Policy, Institute of World Economy and International Relations of the Russian Academy of Sciences

	Nimrod Rosler , Head and Lecturer at the International Program in Conflict Resolution and Mediation, Tel Aviv University
12:20 – 13:00	Coffee Break
13:00 – 14:00	<p>Session 1: Small States in the developing new world order</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> Dr. Igor Okunev</p> <p><i>Speakers:</i> Vassilis Kappis, From Bridge-Builder to Frontier State: Small state grand strategy adjustment during geopolitical tensions Sarkis Karaguezian, Why small state matter in international politics? Krista Wiegand (virtually), Small States and the Use of Lawfare in Territorial & Maritime Disputes Michael Strauss, Maritime Zones as Sources of Geopolitical Strengths and Challenges for Small States Ruzanna Hayrapetova, Niche diplomacy of Small States in Meta – geopolitics</p>
14:00 – 15:00	Lunch
15:00 – 16:00	<p>Session 2: Technology, Innovations, and Environment</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> Dr. Vassilis Kappis</p> <p><i>Speakers:</i> Anahit Parzyan, Armenia in Cyberspace: Small state, Big Opportunities? Sylvie Lembe (virtually), Which future for Small States of the Sahel in a digitalized world Noel Foster (virtually), Polarization for Paralysis: How Foreign Information Campaigns Shift Foreign Political Behaviors in the Baltic States Dmitry Nechiporuk (virtually), Environmental International Regimes and the Small States of the Baltic Sea Regions</p>
16:00 – 16:30	Coffee Break
16:30 – 17:30	<p>Session 3: Small States and the European Union</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> Dr. Nora Gevorgyan</p> <p><i>Speakers:</i> Nuno Morgado (virtually), Western Europe in changing: the Portuguese geopolitical design beyond the EU membership “consensus” George Tiugea (virtually), How Can Small States Survive Among Great Powers. The Case of Romania – An Eastern European Small State Thananan Khantee (virtually), China’s Belt and Road Initiative (BRI): The Political Challenge for Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) Countries</p>

	<p>Máté Szalai and Nikolett Garai, Visegrad Soft Power? Examining the virtual enlargement of the Visegrad Group</p> <p>Harutyun Voskanyan (virtually), Small state versus big challenges: the peculiarities of national security policy of Latvia</p>
17:30 – 18:30	<p>Session 4: South Caucasus, Central Asia, and Middle East</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i></p> <p>Major Sarkis Karaguezian</p> <p><i>Speakers:</i></p> <p>Eduard Abrahamyan (virtually), Small Power Conduct: Understanding the External Strategies of Small State in Enduring Conflict: The case of Armenia and Azerbaijan 2018-2020</p> <p>Archil Sikharulidze, Georgia In-Between: Turkish-Russian “Cooperative-Rivalry”</p> <p>Jason Strakes (virtually), Engaging with Adversaries in the Armenia-Azerbaijan and Israel-Palestine Conflicts: Positive Externalities of Minor-Power Rivalry Linkages?</p> <p>Mher Sahakyan, Belt and Road Initiative and Central Asia</p> <p>Yeghia Tashjian, Lebanon: The Mirror of Middle Eastern Battleground; the Case of Lebanese-Armenian Community during the 1958 Crisis</p>
19:15 – 21:00	Dinner for Participants (the name of the restaurant will be added later)
November 2	
9 – 10:00 am	Registration
10:00 – 11:00 am	<p>Session 5: Geopolitics of Small States: Case of Armenia</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i></p> <p>Archil Sikharulidze</p> <p><i>Speakers:</i></p> <p>Norayr Dunamalyan, Three levels of the small state’s integration: the experience of Armenia</p> <p>Nora Gevorgyan, Surviving as Small States between Global Powers: Armenia on the Crossroads of the EU and the EAEU</p> <p>Narek Sukiasyan, A two-filter framework for the study of small states’ foreign policy behaviour: Case of Armenia</p> <p>Ruben Elamiryan, Small States and International Uncertainty: Armenia in the Changing Regional Security Architecture</p>
11:00 am – 12:30 pm	<p>Online Panel: Geopolitics of Small States in the 21st Century</p> <p><i>Moderator</i></p> <p>Lily Ong, MGIMO, MFA Russia</p> <p><i>Speakers</i></p> <p>Ambassador Vladimir Goncharenko, Ambassador Of Russia to Brunei</p> <p>Ambassador Bilahari Kausikan Former Singapore's Permanent Secretary to the UN</p>

	Former Singapore's Ambassador to Russia Ambassador Clive Agius Former Malta's Ambassador to the United States Current Malta's Ambassador to Russia
12:30 – 13:00	Coffee Break
13:00 – 14:00	Session 5: Small States in Asia Pacific region <i>Moderator:</i> Dr. Mher Sahakyan <i>Speakers:</i> Asantha Senavirathna (virtually), Geopolitics of China's relation with South Asia in the 21st Century: Foreign Policy Implications for the Small States in the Region Selim Yilmaz (virtually), Malaysia in the Belt and Road Initiative: An Offensive Realist Analysis on Small State Behaviour Karori Singh (virtually), Guarding against Vulnerabilities: Theory Defying Experience of Sri Lankan Foreign Policy Mark Kinra (virtually), An Analysis of the Viability of Kashmir as an Independent Nation-State
14:00 – 15:00	Lunch
15:00 – 16:00	Session 6: Small States and Non-Traditional Actors in the developing geopolitical environment Moderator: <i>Speakers</i> Petros Petrikkos and Marinos Papaioakeim (virtually), Small States "Under Threat" in Non-Traditional Security Settings: Power Projection through International Organisations Mare Ushkovska , Country Branding and Diasporas as Tools of Power for Small Countries in the International Arena Flávio Liraand and Diego Hernández Nilson , Explaining Uruguay's geopolitics and international relations under the "Shelter Theory" approach Hilary Brieffa (virtually), The Mediterranean Interlocutor: Malta's Grand Strategy
17:00 – 18:00	Closing ceremony

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS WITH AFFILIATIONS

ANAHIT PARZYAN, PhD, Executive director "Nork" technology center

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