



PRESS RELEASE

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European Union Targeted Initiative on Export Controls of Dual-Use Materials and Technologies in GUAM Countries

First Students Graduate from a New Master's Course on 'Global Politics and Security Studies' at Caucasus International University (CIU) in Tbilisi, Georgia

July 31, 2023 - The MA Program in "Global Politics and Security Studies" at Caucasus International University (CIU) has achieved a significant milestone with the successful completion of its first stage graduation on July 13, 2023. The program, launched on March 29, 2021, under the aegis of the STCU joint project with CIU, has produced its first batch of highly skilled graduates.

The Final Exam Commission, comprising distinguished experts in international relations, security studies, and political science, evaluated the three graduates and their respective MA thesis papers. The successful students and their thesis supervisors are as follows:

Mr. Zhantore Maksut (Kazakhstan) - Thesis: "Global and National Security Threats: The Case of CBRN Terrorism" - Supervisor: Dr. Vakhtang Maisaia, Professor of CIU - Score: 97 points.

Mr. Aleksandre Mgaloblishvili (Georgia) - Thesis: "WDM Proliferation Impact on Geostrategic Stability Environment/Nuclear Security Dilemma at Global Level (The USA-Russia-China)" - Supervisor: Dr. Vakhtang Kapanadze, Professor of CIU - Score: 91 points.

Mr. Revaz Laghidze (Georgia) - Thesis: "Cybersecurity and Nuclear Terror Policy in the 21st Century Global Security" - Supervisor: Dr. Aliko Guchua, Associate Professor of CIU - Score: 85 points.

These talented graduates will receive the academic degree of Master of Art in Security Studies, specializing in "CBRN Non-Proliferation Policy."

The success of the first stage of this educational program, in conjunction with the STCU, marks a significant stride in promoting strategic stability and combating CBRN threats and risks. The endorsement of the MA study program by the 2023 Vilnius NATO Summit Communique further reinforces its importance in the field of expertise and academic direction.

Throughout the program, students benefited from practical exposure at the "Strategic Studies Institute for Research CBRN Threats and Risks" attached to CIU. The institute served as a platform for engaging in research, discussions, and providing valuable recommendations to governmental and non-governmental entities on pertinent security issues.

As the CIU and STCU joint project continues to make progress since its launch on August 7, 2021, the program management team eagerly anticipates the third wave of recruitment, with a particular focus on attracting foreign students, including those from Kazakhstan.

The program was developed under a Targeted Initiative on Export Controls of Dual-Use Materials and Technologies funded by the European Commission and implemented by the Science and Technology Center in Ukraine (STCU) for the GUAM Countries (Georgia, Ukraine, Azerbaijan, Moldova). The Targeted Initiative implements the EU Global Strategy (https://eeas.europa.eu/topics/eu-global-strategy/49323_en) and the EU Strategy against the Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction (<https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST%2015708%202003%20INIT/EN/pdf>).

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This project is implemented by the Science and Technology Center in Ukraine
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The STCU is an intergovernmental organisation that is funded by the European Union and the US Government and aims to advance global peace and prosperity through cooperative Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear (CBRN) risk mitigation by supporting civilian science and technology partnerships and collaboration that address global security threats and advance non-proliferation in Ukraine, Georgia, Moldova and Azerbaijan.

