



GEORGIAN FOUNDATION FOR STRATEGIC AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

Established in 1998, the **Georgian Foundation for Strategic and International Studies (Rondeli Foundation)** is an independent, non-profit policy think tank dedicated to helping improve public policy decision-making in Georgia through research and analysis, training of policymakers and policy analysts, and public education about the strategic issues, both domestic and international, facing Georgia and the Caucasus in the 21st century. The activities of the Foundation are aimed at promoting democracy and fostering political and economic reforms; enhancing regional cooperation; creating a friendly and secure investment environment.

Most of the Foundations' staff members are former high-ranking government officials. They possess a unique mixture of government policy expertise and academic achievement. The Foundation's significant ties with the country's political leaders and educational institutions help the Foundation raise the profile of Georgia's opportunities and problems, promote dialogue between the government and research community and train the next generation of leaders who will shape the future of the country. The Rondeli Foundation brings together experts working in multiple disciplines. In order to carry out research projects and training, the Foundation attracts leading Georgian analysts for individual and joint studies on a contract basis.

The Rondeli Foundation also serves as a forum for foreign scholars who are conducting field research related to political and economic processes in Georgia, as well as in the Caucasus at large. The Foundation offers a stimulating and hospitable environment by offering both field expertise and IT facilities to help scholars achieve their research goals.

Policy-relevant research is aimed at providing senior level officials in the country with databases, research papers and policy recommendations. Most of the research findings are available to individuals, institutions, and the wider public.

Training is designed to enhance human capital in the region, by raising the level of expertise in international economics, politics, and security issues. The Foundation broadens opportunities for promising young specialists to participate in policy planning and decision-making. The trainees, representing both governmental and non-governmental organizations, are offered evening classes in economics, foreign policy and international security. Our teaching staff includes international and local specialists and instruction is provided free of charge.

Public Outreach is an important tool for increasing our influence in the policy dialogue. The Rondeli Foundation regularly hosts discussions, public hearings and round tables.

Person responsible for VIADUCT activities: Kakha Gogolashvili, Director of EU Studies, GFSIS

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