

*N6 June, 2026*

## PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

### EU Awareness Centre at Enlargement Days 2026

On 2–3 June 2026, Dr George Robakidze, Executive Director of the EU Awareness Centre, participated in Enlargement Days 2026, the flagship annual event of the European Committee of the Regions (CoR) on EU enlargement policy, held in Brussels. Organised under the patronage of the Cyprus Presidency of the Council of the European Union, this year's edition centred on Foreign Information Manipulation and Interference (FIMI) and its implications for the enlargement process. The event brought together local and regional authorities from EU member states and enlargement countries, alongside policymakers, civil society representatives, and technical experts.



The two-day programme brought together representatives from all EU candidate countries through dedicated Working Groups and Joint Consultative Committees: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Moldova, Montenegro, Ukraine, Albania, North Macedonia, and Türkiye. Sessions were complemented by an interactive workshop and a plenary session on the second day.



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### EU Awareness Centre at “Georgia’s European Future and the Role of Independent Media”

On 11 June 2026, Dr George Robakidze, Executive Director of the EU Awareness Centre, attended the reception “Georgia’s European Future and the Role of Independent Media,” held at the Maison du MédiaLab in Brussels.

Organised by Europe MédiaLab (Stars4Media) in partnership with Promote Georgia, the evening brought together representatives of EU institutions, diplomatic missions, and the media to examine the role of independent journalism in shaping public debate on Georgia and its relationship with the European Union.



On the margins of the reception, Dr Robakidze had the pleasure of speaking with MEP Markéta Gregorová about the current situation in Georgia. The MEP underlined her continued support for Georgia’s European future and for Georgian civil society.

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## EU Awareness Centre Attends Conference on Europe's Future Security Architecture in Vienna

On 16 June 2026, Ambassador David Dondua, Chairman of the EU Awareness Centre attended the international conference "Post-war Europe: How to Rebuild Our Security Architecture?", held in Vienna and supported by the Austrian Institute for International Affairs (oiip) and the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung's Multilateral Dialogue programme.

The conference brought together leading experts, diplomats, and researchers from across Europe to discuss the future of European security amid Russia's war against Ukraine and growing uncertainty in transatlantic relations.

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## Statements

The EU Awareness Centre congratulates Nikol Pashinyan and his pro-European team on their victory in the parliamentary elections.

We wish the people of Armenia peace, stability, and prosperity, as well as continued progress on their path toward closer integration with Europe.

We look forward to seeing Armenia further strengthen its democratic institutions and deepen its partnership with the European community. [READ MORE](#)



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The EU Awareness Centre is pleased to unveil its new official logo. The logo was designed by **Nika Kacharava**, a student of the Visual Communication Program at the School of Visual Arts, Architecture and Design - **VA[A]DS** at the **Free University of Tbilisi** as part of a university design assignment. We would like to thank the Free University of Tbilisi for supporting initiatives that connect students with real-world projects and provide valuable opportunities for practical experience.

The EU Awareness Centre warmly congratulates Ukraine and Moldova on the opening of the first cluster of accession negotiations with the European Union. This is the most significant step on both countries' European paths since they were granted candidate status in 2023 – a hard-won recognition of their reforms, resilience, and courage, achieved even as Ukraine defends itself against Russia's war of aggression and Moldova withstands sustained hybrid pressure.

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## PUBLICATIONS

### “The End of the Long 20th Century” – Ivan Krastev at CEU Vienna, 20 March 2026

On 20 March 2026, Ivan Krastev delivered the inaugural lecture of CEU’s 35th Anniversary Presidential Lecture Series at the Urania Observatory in Vienna, exploring “The End of the Long 20th Century.” The series was conceived as a public intellectual event – CEU opening its doors to the city and inviting citizens to what its president called “a veritable feast of ideas” on the most acute issues of our time. ....

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#### ALMANACH



### Hedging and Anchoring: Georgia’s Real Foreign-Policy Challenge

Former Georgian Foreign Minister Tedo Japaridze has a clear message: for a small state like Georgia, strategic flexibility is a tool – but it cannot replace strategic direction. In his new essay published on our guest portal, he introduces a concept that cuts to the heart of Georgia's current foreign policy debate: the difference between hedging and anchoring. Georgia's greatest achievements, he argues, came not from ambiguity but from clarity of purpose – and that lesson is more relevant today than ever. “A small country cannot demand relevance. It must create it.”

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### Can America Remain America? – Can Georgia Remain Georgia?

For decades, small states were advised not to mistake a change of administration in Washington for a change in America itself.

Institutions endure. Values persist. Commitments outlast elections.

But what if America itself is changing? And what does that mean for Georgia – a country that anchored its strategic identity not merely in American power, but in American principles: rule of law, constitutional government, political pluralism, individual liberty?

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#### ALMANACH

### Protecting Democracy Through Media Pluralism

Across the European Union, media pluralism is under simultaneous pressure from two directions: state-driven capture—where governing majorities systematically dismantle editorial independence—and market-driven concentration –where a handful of conglomerates absorb the remaining outlets.

National regulatory frameworks have proven uneven and, in several member states...

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#### ALMANACH



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## PUBLICATIONS

### How an Unchallenged Consensus Became Georgia's Greatest Vulnerability

Georgia has always known where it belongs. Long before the European Union existed, long before NATO was founded, Georgians identified with European civilisation and its values. This is not a recent political choice – it is intertwined in the country's history. Whenever Georgia faced a fundamental civilisational decision, it chose the Western path. The earliest such moment came in the fourth century AD, when Georgia embraced Christianity – a choice that reflected not just faith, but a deeper affinity with the values and ...

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OPINION PAPER



OPINION PAPER

### A Corridor Without a Country: Georgia's Vanishing Place in Europe's Connectivity Agenda

On 23 June 2026, the EU launched its Connectivity Agenda Platform in Brussels to develop the trade corridor linking Europe to Central Asia through the South Caucasus. Governments from across the region took their seats. One country was absent – Georgia. Brussels has been explicit that engagement depends on reform. By dismantling democratic safeguards, enacting Russian-style rule and suspending the accession process, the "Georgian Dream" government

forfeited Georgia's place in the very project its geography was meant to anchor. The empty chair in Brussels was not Europe's verdict on Georgia. It was Georgian Dream's verdict on Georgia's future . ...

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RESEARCH

### Russian Foreign Information Manipulation and Interference (FIMI) Operations across the EU's Eastern Neighbourhood

The EU Awareness Centre is pleased to announce the launch of its dedicated **Research hub** – a structured framework for our ongoing analytical work. The Research Series brings together our evidence-based papers, analytical outputs, and policy-relevant findings across the key topics at the heart of EUAC's mission: democratic resilience, disinformation, and European integration.

This research programme examines how foreign actors seek to manipulate information environments, influence public opinion, and interfere in democratic processes – covering state-sponsored influence operations, coordinated disinformation campaigns, covert online networks, and strategic narratives employed across Europe and beyond.

The first paper in this research series is "**Russian Foreign Information Manipulation and Interference (FIMI) Operations across the EU's Eastern Neighbourhood**". Through evidence-based analysis, we monitor and document coordinated information activities that aim to distort public debate, undermine trust in institutions, polarise societies, or advance geopolitical objectives. Our research covers a broad range of actors, methods, and platforms. This includes the study of state-sponsored influence operations, disinformation campaigns, covert online networks, manipulated media, strategic narratives, and other forms of information interference ...

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## F O R U M

### FORUM



### Georgia at 35: Lessons of a Generation

The EU Awareness Centre is launching its first structured intellectual **Forum** – a space for honest, serious, and open debate on the questions that matter most.

We begin with Georgia.

Thirty-five years after regaining independence, Georgia stands at a moment of profound strategic reflection. But the questions it raises are universal:

How do small states survive and thrive under great-power pressure? What does genuine democratic resilience require? And what does three and a half decades of experience teach – if we are willing to read the record honestly?

Our inaugural forum opens with an original essay by **Amb. Tedo Japaridze** – former National Security Adviser, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador to the U.S., and one of the most experienced strategic voices of his generation. "[The Anchor Before the Vectors: Georgia's Strategic Choice in a Changing World](#)" makes a deceptively simple argument: before debating how to navigate the world, a nation must first know who it is and where it belongs.

Followed by the response of **Amb. David Dondua** "[The Anchor Before the Vectors: Georgia's Strategic Choice in a Changing World](#)," where he argues that Georgia's choice of Europe was never primarily a question of foreign policy. It was a question of state-building. We are inviting voices from across the region and beyond to respond. Practitioners, analysts, diplomats, scholars – all serious and diverse perspectives are welcome.

## Facts vs Manipulation

### Manipulation 7

Another case identified by the EU Awareness Centre in which political statements do not align with the facts. The Speaker of the Georgian Parliament, Shalva Papuashvili, claimed that the European Union intends to make Georgia a "second-class nation" and is introducing "legal segregation" between member states. However, the facts reveal the opposite."... [READ MORE](#)



### Manipulation 8

On 24 June 2026, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) adopted Resolution 2664 on the functioning of democratic institutions in Georgia. Within 48 hours, four leading Georgian Dream figures denounced it in near-identical terms – calling it "biased," "disinformation," "interference" in a sovereign state, and "practically copied" from the European Parliament. Yet not one of them named a single factual error in the text. An analysis of the documented record shows that the resolution merely describes actions the government openly takes.

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