



ATLANTIC COUNCIL

PROJECT ON GEORGIA

Over the past two years, the Atlantic Council has been leading the debate on Georgia in Washington and Europe, hosting strategy sessions and high-level events with top Georgian political leaders, and producing influential research and analysis on Georgia. In 2010, the Atlantic Council launched a **Task Force on Georgia**, which is part of the broader **Project on Georgia's Euro-Atlantic Integration**. The following is a summary of programming for the Council's **Project on Georgia's Euro-Atlantic Integration**. More detailed information can be found at www.acus.org.

High-Impact Events

The Council has organized high-level public events with Georgian leaders and private strategy sessions to address key issues surrounding Georgia's Euro-Atlantic ambitions and its territorial conflicts, including:

July 20, 2011 - Georgia Task Force off-the-record roundtable with Georgia's high-level delegation to the Security Working Group of the US-Georgia Charter on Strategic Partnership.

May 5, 2011 - Georgia Task Force off-the-record roundtable with Eka Tkeshelashvili, Deputy Prime Minister and State Minister for Reintegration of Georgia.

March 16, 2011 - Georgia Task Force working dinner with Georgian President Mikheil Saakashvili.

February 8, 2011 - Georgia Task Force off-the-record breakfast roundtable with US Ambassador to Georgia John Bass.

January 20, 2011 - Georgia Task Force working dinner with Georgian National Security Advisor Giga Bokeria, hosted by Ana Palacio.

December 10, 2010 - Georgia Task Force off-the-record roundtable luncheon discussion on NATO-Georgia relations after Lisbon with Giorgi Baramidze, Georgia's Vice Prime Minister and State Minister for European and Euro-Atlantic Integration.



President Saakashvili's public event in April 2010

November 19, 2010 - Off-the-record workshop on Georgia and Russia's WTO accession. Task force member Mamuka Tsereteli, the Director of American University's Center for Black Sea-Caspian Studies, led the workshop, which examined the current status of Russia's WTO accession process and key milestones in the negotiation process between Russia and Georgia.

Georgia Task Force

In 2010, the Atlantic Council created a high-level, bipartisan task force, co-chaired by Senator **Jeanne Shaheen** (D-NH) and Senator **Lindsey Graham** (R-SC), to assess policy toward Georgia and to make recommendations for a bipartisan policy that advances Georgia's Euro-Atlantic integration. The task force seeks to reinvigorate Western policy toward Georgia and lay out a road map for Georgia's democratization and Euro-Atlantic integration.

The task force's objective is to forge a consensus on policy among Democrats and Republicans in Washington and across political and national spectrums in Europe. The task force also aims to propose recommendations that the Georgian government, political opposition, and civil society can embrace.

November 15, 2010 - Georgia Task Force off-the-record roundtable luncheon with Irakli Alasania, a leading opposition figure and Chairman of the Our Georgia-Free Democrats. The discussion explored recent domestic developments in Georgia and their impact on US-Georgia relations.

October 1, 2010 – Georgia Task Force Briefing with Tina Kaidanow, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs; Celeste Wallander, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Russia/Ukraine/Eurasia; Danielle Garbe, National Security Council Director for Aegean and South Caucasus; and Jonathan Hale, USAID Deputy Assistant Administrator for Europe and Eurasia.

September 15, 2010 – Strategy session to launch the Georgia Task Force, hosted by Julie Finley.

September 15, 2010 – Georgia Task Force off-the-record strategy session with David Bakradze, Leader of the Georgian Parliament.

June 24, 2010 - Strategy session with Nika Vashakidze, Georgian Deputy Minister of Defense.

April 15, 2010 - Strategy session and public discussion with President Mikheil Saakashvili on “Transforming Georgia.” This event was the first under the Council’s Project on Georgia’s Euro-Atlantic Integration.

Research, Analysis, and Commentary

October 13, 2011 – The Council released the report, “Georgia in the West: A Policy Road Map to Georgia’s Euro-Atlantic Future,” which reflects the year-long findings of the Council’s Georgia Task Force, co-chaired by Senators Jeanne Shaheen and Lindsey Graham. The report makes recommendations for policymakers in Washington and key European capitals to strengthen Georgia’s ongoing integration with NATO and the European Union. It offers recommendations for the Georgian government and all sectors of Georgian society to undertake important internal reforms that advance Georgian democracy and Euro-Atlantic integration. It also lays out strategies to counter Russia’s creeping annexation of the occupied territories and solidify an international commitment to Georgia’s territorial integrity.



Georgia Task Force meets with President Saakashvili, October 2010

The Council also includes frequent coverage of Georgia on our NATOSource and New Atlanticist blogs. Executive Vice President Damon Wilson also provides regular commentary on Georgia to media outlets. Additional work includes:

February 15, 2011 - Atlantic Council Executive Vice President Damon Wilson delivered remarks at a Center for American Progress event for the release of its report on the US approach to the Georgia conflicts.

October 18-22, 2010 - An Atlantic Council delegation of the Georgia Task Force traveled to Georgia on a fact-finding mission. The delegation embarked on a comprehensive tour of Georgia’s political landscape, which included meetings with high-level government officials, political opposition figures, and representatives of civil society, independent media, and the business community.

June 9, 2010 - Atlantic Council President and CEO Fred Kempe and Damon Wilson published a review of Ronald Asmus’ book “A Little War That Shook the World” in *European Affairs*.

May 25, 2010 - Atlantic Council Senior Advisor, Ambassador Kurt Volker, penned a piece titled “An Olympic Opportunity” in *The Washington Post*. In the piece, Ambassador Volker urged US and European leaders to address the issue of Abkhazia and South Ossetia before the 2014 Olympics in Sochi, Russia.

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