

MIGRATION NEWSLETTER No. 6

A special edition newsletter published by the ENIGMMA project

Dear Reader!



The ENIGMMA project team is pleased to introduce a special edition of the Migration Newsletter covering the ENIGMMA Summer School which took place in Kvareli, Georgia, from 28 June to 4 July 2015. It provides information on the set-up and concept of the Summer School, information about the lecturers and the content covered, interviews with and testimonials by lecturers and students, some outcomes of the event, and a whole host of great photos.

Please send us your feedback and comments, including suggestions for improvements, to the email addresses listed at the end of this newsletter.

The ENIGMMA project team would like to thank you for your interest. We hope you will enjoy this issue.

Your ICMPD ENIGMMA project team



The programme of the Summer School provided research-oriented, interdisciplinary and innovative academic workshops, working groups and projects on issues related to the migration situation and migration policy in Georgia. Keynote lectures on the main topics (human rights, social and political sciences, economics and media) were accompanied by research work, discussions and working groups on small projects.

continues on page 3

In this issue

- What was the ICMPD ENIGMMA Summer School about?
- Who was mentoring at the Summer School?
- Why should one choose the ICMPD Summer School in the future?
- Which pieces of the puzzle made up the Summer School's programme?
- What comes next?
- Contact

What was the ICMPD ENIGMMA Summer School about?

The 'International Summer School on Migration' in Kvareli was organised within the framework of the EU-funded ENIGMMA project, implemented by ICMPD in cooperation with the Secretariat of the **State Commission on Migration Issues of Georgia (SCMI)**, the EU Member States and Georgian academic experts, the **Migration Observatory at the University of Oxford** and the **Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Human Rights (BIM)**, and with the participation of representatives from **universities Maastricht, Oxford, Sorbonne, Vienna and Tbilisi**. The Summer School was mentored by ENIGMMA academic experts from the EU and Georgia. In total, 29 students of media, law, economics, demography studies, and social and political sciences from Georgia and Georgian students from abroad came to Kvareli, where they got to know each other and interesting lecturers from different universities from the EU and Georgia and take part in innovative Summer School activities and social events.

Who was mentoring at the Summer School?

The ENIGMMA Summer School was organised by the ICMPD team. The lecturers who were invited to mentor the students, give lectures and lead workshops at the Summer School represented various renowned European and Georgian research institutions. The organisers of the Summer School paid particular attention to the specific methodology of the teaching: whenever possible, various aspects of migration studies were presented and discussed by both the EU and Georgian academics, in this way transferring to the students both general and particular (Georgia-related) knowledge and experience.

The nexus between **Migration and Economics** was presented during the Summer School by **Dr. Biagio Speciale**, Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, and **Dr. Alexi Gugushvili**, St. Antony's College of the University of Oxford. Globalisation, people's mobility and migration in general have significantly changed the economics studies in recent years. "Recent dynamics in migratory flows are shaping the research questions that economists address in their works", said Dr. Speciale, "an important example is the shift in interest in academic research from the analysis of monetary remittances to the investigation of non-monetary remittances, for instance, the transfer of knowledge and cultural norms from destination to source countries. Economists are also showing a growing and recent interest in the analysis of the gender dimension of migration and in South-South migration (i.e. flows from and to less-developed regions)." However, economists should also be more

continues on page 3



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Why should one choose the ICMPD Summer School in the future?

Even if one expects a high level of lecturers and organisation before coming to the Summer School or knows in advance that the programme is interesting and relevant, one might still wonder “Is this event really so good that I should spend part of my well-deserved summer vacation attending it?” In such a case, it is best to ask some former participants and students who gave their feedback on why one should participate in ICMPD-organised summer schools:



Khatuna Buskivadze (research paper “Reintegration challenges in Georgia and human rights”) had a very positive experience at the Summer School, pointing out that it “exceeded my expectations, it was not only about intellectual

development, it was also about social development as well. The lectures were informative, the experts tried to give us an overall knowledge about migration. I liked most the workshops, which helped me to see migration from different angles and to find linkages between migration and development, human rights and the media. Besides the set timetable there were a lot of fun activities, wonderful evenings and fantastic people. I will recommend next year’s Summer School to all of my friends, because they will not only gain skills and awareness in migration issues but will also have a great chance to meet new people with different backgrounds and worldviews.”



Nodar Chiabrishvili (research paper “Prospective of free movement within the EU of the people residing on the occupied territories of Georgia”) told the ICMPD ENIGMMA team: “I learned about various research

methods. I also gained knowledge in economics, which will help me to develop my other research papers in the future. The Summer School also provided information from the fields most relevant to migration studies, such as economics, law and social sciences. For me as a student interested in international law, it was a unique opportunity.”

“The scope of the Summer School was very diverse. Despite this fact, the lectures were very to the point and provided detailed information” said **Tinatin Nadareishvili** (research paper “Feminisation of migration in Georgia: reasons and outcomes”). “I have been to many training and professional courses before, but I can say with confidence that this Summer School exceeded my expectations in every way. The experts were highly skilled professionals. I was passionate about the idea I wanted to develop in my research, but due to the difficulty of my hypothesis I almost gave up. I had an intensive meeting with my supervisor and worked hard to solve the issues raised, which were connected



to data availability. But the thing which positively surprised and encouraged me a lot happened after I presented my topic to the students and experts. The experts provided professional and in-depth comments about the topic. Their openness and willingness to help doubled my motivation to develop a valuable research document.”



According to **Tatiana Sitchinava** (research paper “Economic and ecological conditions as reasons of internal migration”), “the ENIGMMA Summer School was great. I liked the agenda which was perfect because we had enough time for almost every activity: lectures, projects, consultations with our supervisors, different interesting workshops, fun games, and outdoor and evening activities. I was impressed by the ICMPD staff and by the Summer School experts whose lectures and presentations were wonderful and interesting. I have to mention that the Summer School provided me with an important experience in conducting academic research. Now I am more interested in migration processes and want to continue my studies in this field.”

Mariam Tokmazishvili (research paper “Profiling of Georgian migrants in Finland as a tool for return facilitation”) said of the Summer School: “The Summer School was a great opportunity

to experience new situations, to effectively communicate with people, establish networks and come up with novel ideas. Two important aspects made the Summer School unique: first, strictly sticking to the agenda and paying attention to minor details. Thus, participants were mobilised and engaged in every activity. The team of organisers were a good example, “role models” for respecting each other’s time and approaching everything with a great sense responsibility. Second, the experts were key drivers in enhancing participants’ motivation and stimulating critical reflections, thought through deeply and from various angles. Further, the multidisciplinary approach and diverse backgrounds of the participants were key points of the Summer School’s success.”

“The Summer School staff was amazingly qualified and friendly and ensured that the academic part of the programme was informative”, **Oleg Tortladze** (research paper “Challenges in fighting trafficking crime in human being as a form of a forced migration – with particular attention to human rights questions”) stated, sharing his opinion with us. “The programme enabled the students to be actively involved during the lectures and the interesting activities. The invited experts were extremely qualified scholars. I personally learned about many different research methods during the Summer School, and these



Summer School Programme



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research tools will help me to organise my research paper in a structured and coherent manner. In addition, I will also now be able to address properly the questions my paper is aiming to answer.”



Tamara Tsereteli (research paper “Strengthened role of civil society organisations in the development and implementation of Georgia’s migration management strategy and action plan”) said: “The Summer School on Migration

Research echoes the idea of ICMPD to bring different but exceptionally important pieces of the migration puzzle together to form a clear and complete picture. It did so by gathering representatives from different areas which are beneficiaries or can contribute to successful migration management, and through bringing together people with completely different backgrounds and experiences including students, employees of civil society organisations, staff from public institutions, representatives from the diaspora and diaspora organisations, and representatives of destination countries. The Summer School sought to approach the idea of successful migration management from different angles through understanding the idea of successful migration management, identification of main obstacles/problems and seeking ways of successful planning and implementation of important measures.”

What was the ICMPD ENIGMMA Summer School about?

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During the Summer School, experienced academic experts from the EU and Georgia provided an overview of the development of international law and human rights in regard to migration phenomena, the media and the perception of migrants in society, the economics of migration, the role of demography and social sciences in migration studies as well as links between migration and development. The students were also introduced to the latest developments in the area of migration management in Georgia. In addition, participants had the opportunity to present and discuss their research papers undertaken for this year’s Summer School; discussions and workshops were used to streamline these research papers and get new ideas for future projects.

The ENIGMMA Summer School 2015 reader will be published in October, and the most successful students will contribute their research papers to this publication. For many of them, it will be their first research-based publication and the ENIGMMA project team is proud to have contributed to this important event in the lives of these students.

In conclusion, the ENIGMMA Summer School 2015 contributed greatly to the enhancement of the academic and research skills of the participants, their presentation skills, and the collaboration between academics from the EU and Georgia and representatives of Georgian state institutions.

Who was mentoring at the Summer School?

continuation from page 1

active in giving policy advice when it comes to state migration policy. As pointed out by Dr. Gugushvili, “migration in Georgia has significant economic consequences for the country, but only a handful of high-quality studies exist showing the exact mechanisms and extent of this impact on specific components of the economy. When and if such evidence is available through new data and research methods, policymakers could adjust their thinking about migration.”



Dr. Alexi Gugushvili – Research Fellow at St. Antony’s College of the University of Oxford and Consultant for the Public Sector Governance Group at the World Bank

Alexi gave a lecture on Georgian economics in relation to migration from and to Georgia. He pointed out that remittances received in Georgia are used mainly for primary consumption and not for saving. Further, Alexi presented his research on remitters and remittance recipients in Georgia. Remitters usually belong to small-sized migrant groups, are more transnational and have more children left behind. Remittance recipients are often female and urban residents aged between 18 and 24, university graduates, unemployed, or students, and receive between 251 and 800 USD. At the end of his lecture, Alexi pointed out that a long emigration trend which is visible in Georgia reflects a general instability in the country and can affect public policies.



Dr. Biagio Speciale – Associate Professor (Maître de conférences) at the Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne

In his lecture on the economics of migration, Biagio gave an overview of recent migration trends and developments, pointing out how migration has almost doubled since 1985. UN data from 2010 shows that 60% of all migrants live in more developed regions and 40% in less developed regions. The adjustment costs of migration can be lower in some countries for certain migrants than in others due to, for example, a smaller language barrier. More educated individuals can get information on the destination country more easily, which can then also lead to lower adjustment costs. Younger people are more likely to migrate since they, statistically speaking, have more years left in the destination country. Multiple reasons for sending remittances were named by Biagio, such as repaying debt incurred by the emigration or costs for education, funding investments in the origin country, and repayment for monitoring or administration of investment assets (e.g. business and land). One of the major costs of emigration is that less developed countries are losing



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high-skilled individuals. Concerns also arise in relation to THB, undocumented migrants, and migrants' rights, to name a few.

The **Human Rights** day at the Summer School started with the lecture of **Katharina Häusler** from the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Human Rights in Vienna. It was agreed by all participants of the Summer School that state migration policy should have a human rights-centred approach. However, Katharina Häusler also mentioned that one of the biggest challenges *"is to integrate a human rights perspective into all migration policies and legal frameworks and to make sure that these commitments are implemented in practice. This includes not only a state's obligation to respect the rights of migrants but also to protect them against abuses by others and to put in place the necessary infrastructure and policies."* This was also echoed by **Dr. Ketevan Khutsishvili** of the Institute of International Law at Tbilisi State University, who devoted her lecture to the historical overview of migration legislation in Georgia over the last 20 years and recent challenges met by the Georgian legislative bodies in adjusting this legislation to the obligations of the state in the field of human rights.



Katharina Häusler – Legal researcher at the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Human Rights in Vienna

Katharina spoke about the development of human rights approaches in national legislations and international treaties from an historical point of view: from early concepts to the current state of the art. She also explained specific definitions of different statuses of

people who are on the move. She then presented the mandates of different international organisations and institutions that carry out protective functions in the area of human rights, with a particular focus on migrants, as well as presenting the most important international case law. *"In a time of anxious public discourses about (rising) migration, it is probably most important to underline that the strongest nexus between human rights and migrants are that we are talking about humans"*, stated Katharina, going on to highlight that *"whatever the motivation for their movement – and very often the reasons for people moving are serious human rights violations – human rights law reminds us that, first and foremost, "all" humans have inherent rights. It is therefore also important not to "reduce" the nexus between migration and human rights to purely legal questions but to take also the political dimension seriously, including the political discourse about migrants but also their own right to participation."*

Dr. Ketevan Khutsishvili – Professor at the Public International Law Institute of International Law at Tbilisi State University

In her lecture, Ketevan focused on the nexus between migration and human rights from the Georgian state's perspective, and the legal regulation of migration in Georgia. Importantly, she also presented an overview of how the EU-Georgia visa dialogue and, in particular, implementation of the VLAP, affected human rights regulation and developments in Georgia, including the

recently adopted anti-discrimination legislation and human rights strategy in Georgia. Ketevan admitted that rapid developments in the legal system in Georgia sometimes push the legislative and executive bodies into the situation where they have to engage in *"learning by doing"* and emphasised which steps could be taken to avoid this wherever possible and learn from mistakes, including the importance of studying and researching migration issues from different perspectives.



Everyone agrees that **Migration and Development** are interdependent processes; therefore, the ENIGMMA Summer School devoted one of the days to discussing this nexus from the social sciences point of view. **Dr. Melissa Siegel**, from the Maastricht Graduate School of Governance, encouraged the participants to approach development *"in a holistic way, since development can encompass much more than money. Access to health care, schooling, infrastructure and services are important for the development of an individual. It is possible to have a growth in financial resources with a reduction in schooling, for instance."* Her counterpart at the Summer School, Dr. Tinatin Zurabishvili, from the Caucasus Research Resource Centre Georgia, confirmed this statement by providing research data from Georgia illustrating the importance of migration for society, the economy and policy development. Tinatin strongly believes that *"both solid academic and applied research will contribute to the development of migration policy in Georgia. Research is meant to provide data on (and, in the case of academic research, also an understanding of) various aspects of migration in Georgia (when the research is focused on migration issues), or on social attitudes and the population's economic situation (in the case of research projects of broader interest). Obviously, no policy will be efficient unless it's based on evidence."*



Dr. Melissa Siegel – Associate Professor and Head of Migration Studies at the Maastricht Graduate School of Governance and UNU-MERIT (where she heads the Migration and Development Research Group)

In her lecture, Melissa reminded the participants about different forms of migration. She highlighted where people are coming from and where they are going. Most of the recent migration is South-South (36%), South-North (35%) and North-North (23%). Melissa briefly touched upon the development of the perception of migration. Pre-1973 migration was seen rather optimistically (driver of industrialisation, equalisation, guest worker programmes). Between the years 1973 and 2000 migration was regarded more pessimistically, focusing more on brain drain, remittance dependency, Dutch disease, etc. Further, Melissa provided definitions of development and poverty, as well as dimensions of poverty and well-being. At the end of the presentation, Melissa emphasised the importance of using



a multidimensional approach to development and analysed the links between migration and the Millennium Development Goals and the Sustainable Development Goals expected to be approved in September 2015. *“The linkages between migration and development are multifaceted”, concluded Melissa, “first it is important to understand that the link is not uni-directional but that migration can lead to development (especially human development and poverty reduction) and development leads to more migration in that it is not the poorest of the poor who migrate and the countries with the largest numbers of migrants abroad are not the poorest but those that already have financial resources to move and human (capital) resources that are demanded abroad”.*



Dr. Tinatin Zurabishvili – Research Director at Caucasus Research Resource Centre Georgia

Tinatin focused on the different disciplines of social sciences in her lecture and highlighted the findings of the CRRRC Caucasus Barometer carried out each year in Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Barometer measures the dynamics of public opinion on

major social issues in the three countries. Surprisingly, although migration plays an important role in Georgia’s society, economy and policy development, the respondents in the Caucasus Barometer in Georgia did not name migration as one of the most important issues for Georgia at the moment. *“In my opinion”, Tinatin explained, “this is because people do not consider migration as a “problem” or an issue – rather, migration has been one of the main, and in some periods THE main, coping strategies of the population, something that has helped many families, hence, migration is a solution rather than a problem. It is important to note that people (the population en masse) do not normally think in macro-economic terms, nor do people usually consider brain drain/labour force drain/depopulation issues unless these become really “close” to their everyday lives, and this would also be part of the explanation. Hence, there are various reasons that explain this finding, and it would be very hard to say what the importance of each of the possible reasons is. Another very important explanation is that there are other issues that people see as much more problematic – and that are much “closer” to their everyday problems. These are, first of all, issues related to various aspects of poverty/unemployment/economic problems. These issues somehow overshadow other ones, including migration – but also including crucially important issues such as, for instance, quality of education or health care.”*

The final day of the Summer School dealt with issues related to **Migration and Media**, or how migration and migrants are pictured in the mass media and why it is important for society to have evidence-based media reports. This topic was presented to the participants by **Rob McNeil** of the Migration Observatory of COMPAS at the University of Oxford. According to Rob, *“the media plays a critical role in framing a state’s discourse on migration, both directly (through the critique of, or support for, policies and rhetoric) and indirectly (through its influence*

on the attitudes of the voting public in a democracy) framing state discourse on migration. But it is not a one-way street. The media is also profoundly influenced by national policy discourse and political rhetoric on the issue, and the emergence of an overall national narrative on the subject tends to be the result of a combination of drivers involving media, policymakers and public opinion.”



Rob McNeil – Head of Media and Communications at the Migration Observatory, based at COMPAS at the University of Oxford

In his lecture, Rob also spoke about the relationship between the media, policy-making, society and public opinion. He pointed out that media, policy and public perceptions influence each other and that media is the easiest element

to influence. However, policymakers’ perception of migrants and migration can also be shaped by media: *“Policymakers are human beings, affected by the same emotional triggers as other human beings, and as such media representations that depict migrants in either a positive or a negative light are likely to affect these policymakers’ views. A moving documentary or a shocking exposé can have significant policy ramifications for years to come.”*

At the end of his lecture, Rob presented the ‘Migration in Media’ project conducted by COMPAS with data from 2010 to 2012. The project aimed to establish what language the national media in the UK used to describe immigrants, asylum seekers, migrants and refugees. Textual data for analysis was taken from 20 newspapers and the co-occurrence of words used was measured. The findings indicated that the word “illegal” was often used in connection with the word “immigrants” and the word “failed” in connection with “asylum seeker”, showing that a certain negative rhetoric exists concerning immigrants. Rob also explained why it is important to monitor, analyse and understand the language of the media on migration: *“An increase in negative and divisive rhetoric can prove an effective means of securing media coverage for policymakers or other ideologues, and make an immigration story seem shocking or important, which may sell newspapers or help to increase audience share. This in turn can lead to a hardening of public opinion and increased pressure on policymakers to deliver simplistic solutions.”* It is a hard task to break this cycle, taking into account the commercial nature of media products; media organisations adjust themselves to the views of their primary audience and, as Rob underlined, *“the views which were propagated by that media organisation in the first place”, making it therefore “unsustainable for a media outlet to produce materials that are at odds with the views of their audience”.*



Which pieces of the puzzle made up the Summer School's programme?

The ICMPD ENIGMMA Summer School offered participants an innovative and diverse programme. The organisers decided that only sitting at a desk and listening to lecturers would not be the most efficient learning method. Therefore, each of the participants had also signed up for different workshops led by the participating lecturers during the afternoon sessions; on research methods, human rights, migration and development, migration and media. In order to improve the quality of the research which the participants started to carry out in preparation for the Summer School, everyone had an opportunity to meet and discuss their future papers with the professors mentoring their individual work. Finally, in order to have a complete learning circle, participants were offered the chance to test "learning by doing", through an experiential learning method – they had to complete small projects related to the Summer School topics. The results of some of these activities are outlined below.

Project 'How to prepare PR information on migration issues', coordinated by Rob McNeil



Ten students chose to participate in the project 'How to develop PR information on migration issues' led by Rob McNeil. This project was designed to introduce the students generally to how to develop a public information

strategy which aims to help an organisation not only effectively communicate the results of a particular action, but also to achieve its organisational objectives and in the long run support its mission. After that, it was explained to the students how, based on the strategy, a press release – a message to the public and society – should be developed. The students were working on the public information strategy for the Summer School and a part of their work – the press release – is presented below. This press release, developed by the actual participants of the Summer School, was later used by the ICMPD ENIGMMA team to inform the Georgian media and society about the event and was published on the websites of state institutions and other organisations, as well as by some Georgian media organisations.

EU-funded ENIGMMA project trains a new generation of migration specialists in Georgia

At the end of June 2015, leading academics from around the world came to Kvareli, Georgia, to train a new generation of young migration experts in migration management. The aim of the training was to support Georgia's development efforts, especially in the field of migration management and research.

Experts representing the Oxford University in the UK, the Maastricht Graduate School of Governance in the Netherlands, the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Human Rights in Austria, as well as the University of Vienna, the Sorbonne University in France, Tbilisi State University, international and

national NGOs and Georgian Government agencies came to the Royal Batoni Hotel in Kvareli to conduct theoretical and practical workshops for 30 Georgian students in areas related to international migration.

Students came from various parts of the world. The Summer School included youth from Georgian universities, Georgian students from Austria, Greece, Finland, Norway, and the USA as well as young professionals pursuing careers at state institutions, NGOs and civil society organisations. Workshops and lectures were held on human rights, the linkages between migration and development, media and migration, the economics of migration, social sciences and migration research methods. The course was designed and implemented by the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD), based in Vienna, Austria, with an official representation in Tbilisi, Georgia.

Violeta Wagner, Head of the Summer School and Project Manager at ICMPD said: "This was an amazing opportunity for young Georgian students and professionals to learn from some of the world's leading experts on migration. The better Georgia is able to manage both immigration and emigration, the better it will be able to cooperate with other countries both within and outside the EU, which will bring benefits for all Georgians."

Dr. Melissa Siegel, Head of Migration Studies at the Maastricht Graduate School of Governance said: "It is crucial for the development of Georgia and its relationship with the EU that migration issues are effectively managed. This summer school has provided a vital resource for Georgia – a core group of future Georgian migration specialists who can help move the country forward."

The Summer School was held at the Royal Batoni Hotel in Kvareli, as part of the EU-funded Enhancing Georgia's Migration Management (ENIGMMA) project. A second ENIGMMA summer school will also take place in summer 2016.

Evaluation Survey Project, coordinated by Roland Hosner

Roland Hosner, Research Officer at ICMPD, was involved in the organisation and implementation of the Summer School in order to provide participants with basic knowledge on quantitative methods. However, the majority of the participants were students who had very little experience in how to carry out a survey, how to formulate questions and how to evaluate the results. Therefore, in addition to the workshops, the organisers offered the participants the opportunity to carry out their first survey within the Summer School-specific project.

Roland Hosner – Research Officer at ICMPD

Roland gave a lecture on quantitative methods and their applicability to specific research topics. He illustrated why and how one can use statistics and pointed out some common mistakes that tend to be made when developing and interpreting statistical data. In addition, he elaborated on the characteristics



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of qualitative and quantitative research methods and data analysis. Looking back on the week in Kvareli, Roland concluded: *“The summer school was a thorough success and the participants were highly motivated. It is a pleasure to teach in such a positive atmosphere and when the organisation is so smooth.”*

Setting up an evaluation survey is not a trivial task. Besides managing the project design and survey logistics, timing and accuracy are essential. The project group for the evaluation survey provided 10 students with the opportunity to acquire first-hand experience in designing, drafting and implementing a small-scale survey, field work, coding, data entry, analysis and presenting descriptive results. Given the short timeframe of the project, the week’s diverse agenda and the goal of presenting first findings on the last day of the ENIGMMA Summer School, the group showed commitment as well as enthusiasm and succeeded brilliantly. Specifically, they were tasked to carry out a survey evaluating the Summer School.



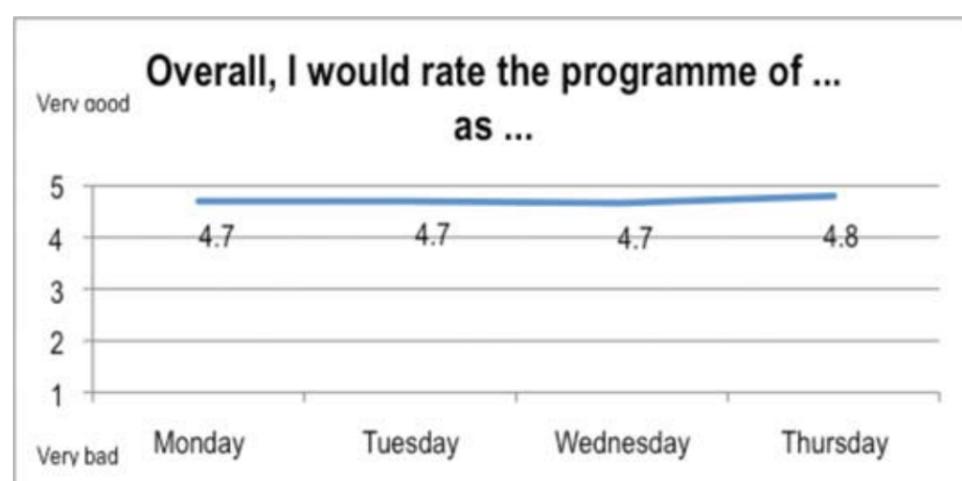
The agreed design foresaw daily quantitative surveys among all students, covering most parts of the programme. The standardised questionnaires included items on lectures, workshops and working groups organised by experts,

projects, students’ presentations, social activities and overall satisfaction as well as basic demographics. Open questions targeted highlights of the programme and suggestions for improvement. A final survey on Friday (among students as well as experts) complemented the project with an overall evaluation of the programme, organisation and content.

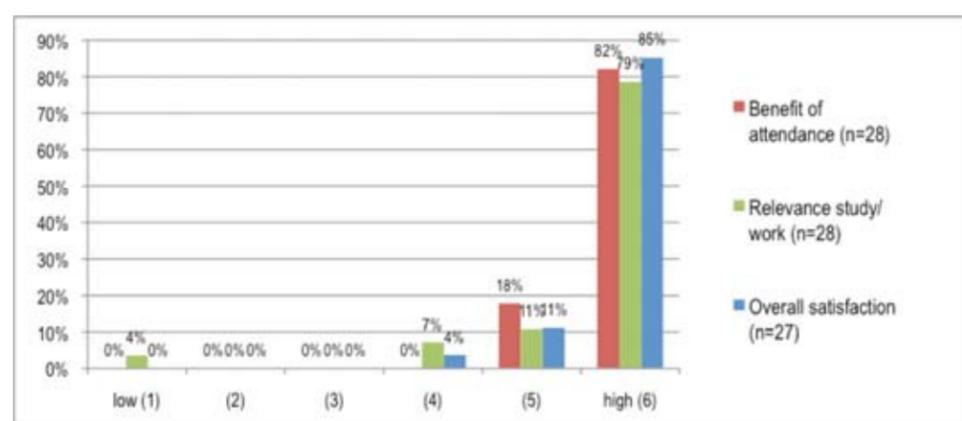
Response rates were high on Tuesday (74%), Wednesday (89%) and Friday (100%), and lower on Thursday (54%) due to an attractive evening programme.

In general, satisfaction with the overall programme as well as the selected presentations, groups and activities was consistently high among all participants. The thematic morning lectures on migration and development, economics, media, human rights, statistics and migration management were clearly a highlight of the programme both for students and experts, visible from both responses to the open-ended questions and mean ratings of between 4.0 and 4.9 (on a 5-point scale, with 1 for very bad and 5 for very good).

The working groups (4.7 mean), workshops (4.7) and projects (4.8) were also highly appreciated. These positive ratings are evident not only from the high level of agreement with individual questions, but also from the low response variation. The overall rating for the first four days of the Summer School shows almost identical high ratings (means from 4.7 to 4.8) and correspondingly low variation (standard deviation from 0.4 to 0.6).



The distribution of responses is also skewed to the left for overall questions on the relevance of the Summer School for participants’ future study or work, the benefit of attendance and summary satisfaction. Four out of five students assessed very highly the relevance of the programme and saw great benefit in their participation. The question on overall satisfaction reveals an even broader consensus: 85% of participants expressed very high satisfaction while none of the participants were dissatisfied.



Gender, age and migration experience did not show large effects on overall evaluation questions. Despite highly positive ratings and low response variation for most items, patterns were visible for students’ expectations and their perceived benefit – these two factors showed the highest correlation with overall satisfaction, with students whose expectations were met and who saw the most benefit in participating giving the most positive ratings.

This leads to the conclusion that a tailored programme and professional implementation are success factors for a summer school.

Finally, the Summer School also featured a lot of fun activities; not only in the evening, but during the working sessions, too!

The participants had the opportunity to make their own khinkali and churchkhela. Then, a wine tasting of local wines from the Kakheti region was organised. In addition, the ENIGMMA team prepared easy-going, fun, interesting and also some quite difficult games and ice-breakers. One of the evenings, the students had to solve a scavenger hunt where the clues and questions were hidden all over the hotel. All of the participants, including the experts, had a great time with these activities – a fact that was also proved by the evaluation survey!





The ENIGMMA team would like to cordially thank all Summer School students, experts and support staff for this wonderful event and for their dedication, motivation, curiosity, flexibility and involvement in all the activities. We hope that the Summer School contributed positively to both the students' academic and professional development.



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What comes next?



A second 'International Summer School on Migration Research' will be organised for summer 2016. The ENIGMMA team will take all lessons learned and best practices from previous ICMPD Summer Schools, and

in particular the ENIGMMA 2015 event, into account in order to organise the best Summer School possible based on all the suggestions from experts and students. Further, the best research papers developed for the Summer School will be included in the ENIGMMA Summer School Reader to be published in autumn 2015.



More information on the ENIGMMA project, its activities and achievements can be found on the project website. Additionally, the ENIGMMA team will regularly update you with the recent developments in the migration field in Georgia and not only, and migration related topics such as labour migration, diaspora policy, visa policy and consular affairs, human rights and personal data protection, etc.

Visit our project website: <http://www.enigma.ge/>



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