

# News and Numbers from CRRC

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## Will You Be My Friend? Gauging Perceptions of Interethnic Friendship in the South Caucasus

With ever-increasing globalized societies, ethnically homogeneous states are fewer and fewer. Increased mobility has resulted in freer movement for migration and travel, and advances in technology have made constant communication easy across the globe. No doubt, these developments have made friendships between different nationalities more common, and even taken for granted in many places. Yet traditional values persist, and by examining attitudes towards this phenomenon, we can gain an understanding of a country's social dynamics as well as predicting potential conflicts. [Read more...](#)

## Ask CRRC

When presenting our work or talking about it informally, we are asked fairly similar questions: do you do your interviewing in all of the country? How do you select the respondents? How do you know they are not lying to you? Are people willing to say things critical of the government? How do you design a questionnaire?

These are extremely important questions, because they will influence whether you can take our survey results at face value. We have decided to give you more regular updates on what we do, and how we do it. So, here is the first question asked:

Q: What's the difference between a survey and a census? [Read more...](#)

## Is the Caucasus in Europe or Asia? | Tim Straight at TEDxYerevan

A particularly intriguing talk at TEDxYerevan was given by Tim Straight, Honorary Consul of Norway and Finland to Armenia. Is the Caucasus in Europe or in Asia? Tim highlighted that there are five countries that defy easy categorization: Russia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, and also Turkey. Tim explores how the dividing lines fall according to corporations, mapmakers and values. [Read more...](#)

## Survey of PhD Students in Georgia

We recently undertook a small online survey of PhD students at Georgia's two major universities. This comes at a time when significant programs and support are already available to Georgian PhD students: CSS is launching a new PhD program, ASCN is offering significant research opportunities, the US Embassy will launch a program with Ilia State University, and now there is CARTI as a further opportunity.

The survey was done in Georgian, had 108 respondents, who probably are representative of active and engaged PhD students in Tbilisi, by virtue of responding to the request for participation. One should, of course, be cautious about generalizing from the results. [Read more...](#)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- CRRC Research Publication Fellowship in Armenia Announced! See the announcement [here](#).
- [Researchers' Roundtable](#), Tbilisi, Georgia, October 18 (ENG).

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CRRC, a program of Eurasia Partnership Foundation, is a network of resource, research and training centers established in 2003 in the South Caucasus with the goal of strengthening social science research and public policy analysis in the South Caucasus. The program is supported by Carnegie Corporation of New York.

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