

RUCARR web conference on November 10

The parliamentary elections in Georgia – new challenges for stability and democracy

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Proposed Discussion Topics

- Brief explanation of the current electoral system in Georgia, foregrounding the recent restructuring to enhance mixed representation. Drawing from public opinion polls conducted by my organization (CRRC-Georgia), I will discuss the degree to which Georgians anticipated and approved of these changes.
- Description of the current ideological drivers of Georgia's political parties. While the country's political parties are rarely seen as differentiated along ideological lines, I will outline key differences between party platforms and discuss their hidden ideologies.
- Description of the current ideological drivers of Georgia's voting constituency. Building off No. 2 above, I will describe how Georgian voters are similarly seen as non-ideological and problematize this understanding.
- A reflection on the impacts of COVID-19 on Georgia's electoral politics and incumbent party popularity, particularly in light of upcoming November 2020 parliamentary elections.
- A reflection on various other contemporary events impacting the upcoming parliamentary elections, including domestic scandals and the eruption of violence in Nagorno-Karabakh.