

AE Tbilisi Knowledge Hub: Priorities and Plans
David Prangishvili, academic director

« Biodiversity also incorporates human cultural diversity, which can be affected by the same drivers as biodiversity, and which has impact on the diversity of genes, other species, and ecosystems »

United Nations Environmental Program, 2007, p 160.



Planetary health – the health of human civilization and the state of natural ecosystems on which it depends

AE Tbilisi Knowledge Hub aims to become a platform for multi-disciplinary scientific activities and expertise related to the biocultural - biological, ecological, cultural, linguistic - diversity in the South Caucasus, at the border of Eastern Europe with Western Asia.





The objectives will be implemented through:

- *Diverse knowledge activities, including conferences, summer schools, lecture series, and high-level expert panels with wide European participation.*
- *Support of scholars, mobilization and internationalization of the local scientific institutions, establishment and consolidation of relations between foreign and local researchers.*
- *Stimulation of linkages between the AE at large and the centers of research and scholarship of the Georgian Universities, as well as centers of learning throughout the Georgia and Europe.*
- *Close Cooperation with the Young Academy of Europe*



AE Tbilisi Knowledge Hub



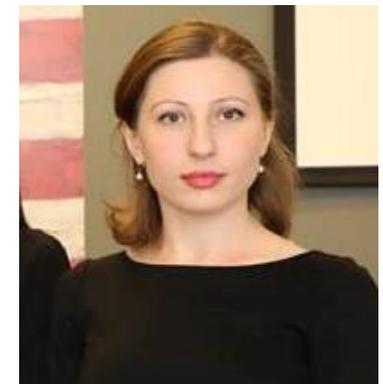
Prof. David Prangishvili, MAE
Academic Director



Nino Begiashvili
Manager



Manana Mikaberidze
Executive Officer



Maia Gelashvili
Officer



The Areas of the Expertise:

- *Reconstruction of the spatial and cultural patterns of human migrations in the region*
- *Dynamics of biogeography, faunal and floral exchange*
- *Evolution of early domestications (plants and animals)*
- *Epidemiology of communicable and non-communicable diseases in geographically and culturally distinct settings*
- *Therapeutic bacteriophages as a weapon against antibiotic-resistant bacteria.*
- *Linguistic diversity and historic-cultural data*
- *Psychology of ethnic groups and sociology of ethnic relations*
- *Innovative technological studies of cultural heritage*



Clusters of Excellence –

essential elements of the strategic plan of the Hub and a major force for its international visibility. They will be developed through focused workshops and seminars and enable multidisciplinary, international scientific networking with a full exchange of knowledge and methods.

- *Human Cultures, Health, and Microbes* ; convener David Prangishvili (International Conference, September 22-26, 2019, Tbilisi State University)
 - *Ponto-Caspian Connections : Climate, Ecology and Human Evolution*; convener David Lordkipanidze (International Workshop, November 2019, Batumi State University).
 - *Eastern Orthodox Christianity : History, Theology, Cultural Influences and Religious Practises*; convener Levan Gigineishvili.
-

Under discussion:

- *Linguistic diversity and historic-cultural data*; convener Tamaz Gamkrelidze
- *Caucasian deltas: Environmental, cultural, and economic sustainability*; convener Ricard Guerrero
?