



## Event details

**Date:** Monday 14 February 2022 and Tuesday 15 February 2022

**Time:** 09:00 – 11:00 Caracas (UTC -4) / 16:00 – 18:00 Moscow (UTC +3)

**Format:** Online via Zoom. Open to all with prior registration required at:

February 14: [https://unesco-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_Laogb9rrS\\_2cYXvynV0XVw](https://unesco-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Laogb9rrS_2cYXvynV0XVw)

February 15: [https://unesco-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_d4-XAA\\_qToi9SDzQibrT8w](https://unesco-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_d4-XAA_qToi9SDzQibrT8w)

**Language:** English (Q&A will be available in English and Russian)

**Website:** <https://www.iesalc.unesco.org/en/evento/next-generation-reflections-and-future-perspectives-on-higher-education-in-the-former-soviet-union/>

## Conference objectives

It has now been thirty years since the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991. Higher education systems in the 15 ex-Soviet countries were profoundly impacted during and after this period. At the same time, ex-Soviet higher education institutions and systems have been shaped by an array of new ideas, altered funding arrangements, different governance arrangements, and international partnerships. Trends such as university rankings, privatization, and an emphasis on quality assurance are also proving influential. As we turn to the next 30 years, this could be a period of continuing convergence with globally circulating ideas and practices, a time during which the hallmarks of the past remain strong or opportunities may also be presented for these countries to take different paths towards their future higher education.

This conference is being held to mark the 30th anniversary of the collapse of the Soviet Union and to reflect on developments, trends, and future prospects in the higher education systems of the ex-Soviet space. Co-hosted by UNESCO International Institute for Higher Education

(UNESCO IESALC) and HSE University (National Research University Higher School of Economics), the conference brings together researchers, policymakers, practitioners, and other participants with an interest in higher education in this region as well as in comparative global perspective.

## Agenda

| <b>Monday 14 February 2022</b>   |  |
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| <i>Times shown are UTC -4 (Caracas) and UTC +3 (Moscow); please check your local time zone</i> |  |
| 09:00 – 09:15 (UTC-4)<br>16:00 – 16:15 (UTC+3)   | <b>Conference opening</b><br>UNESCO IESALC and HSE University  |
| 09:15 – 10:30 (UTC-4)<br>16:15 – 17:30 (UTC+3)   | <b>Roundtable: Institutional transformations in higher education</b><br>Maria Yudkevich, Vice Rector, HSE University, Russia<br>Isak Froumin, Distinguished Professor, HSE University, Russia<br>Laura Karabassova, Rector, Zhubanov University, Kazakhstan<br>Larissa Titarenko, Professor, Belarusian State University, Belarus<br>Moderator: Francesc Pedró, Director, UNESCO IESALC, Venezuela |
| 10:30 – 10:50 (UTC -4)<br>17:30 – 17:50 (UTC +3)   | <b>Open discussion</b> with all participants   |
| 10:50 – 11:00 (UTC -4)<br>17:50 – 18:00 (UTC+3)  | <b>Closing remarks</b> at the end of Day 1;<br>Day 1 participant photo   |

## Tuesday 15 February 2022

Times shown are UTC -4 (Caracas) and UTC +3 (Moscow); please check your local time zone

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| 09:00 – 09:10 (UTC-4)<br>16:00 – 16:10 (UTC+3)   | <b>Welcome to Day 2</b>   |
| 09:10 – 10:25 (UTC-4)<br>16:10 – 17:25 (UTC+3)   | <b>Roundtable: The social responsibilities of higher education</b><br>Maia Chankseliani, Associate Professor of Comparative and International Education, University of Oxford, UK<br>Ikboljon Qoraboyev, Associate Professor of International Relations, KazGUU, Kazakhstan<br>Susanna Karakhanyan, Higher Education Policy & Regulation Director, Abu Dhabi Department of Education and Knowledge, UAE<br>Bakhrom Mirkasimov, Rector, Westminster International University in Tashkent, Uzbekistan<br>Moderator: Yevgeniy Terentev, Director, Institute of Education, HSE University, Russia |
| 10:25 – 10:50 (UTC -4)<br>17:25 – 17:50 (UTC +3) | <b>Open discussion</b> with all participants  |
| 10:50 – 11:00 (UTC -4)<br>17:50 – 18:00 (UTC+3)  | <b>Closing of conference;</b><br>Day 2 participant photo  |

## Speakers



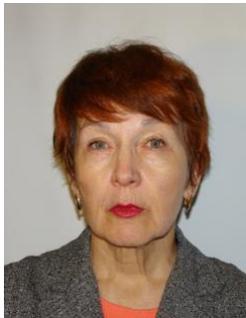
**Maria Yudkevich** is Vice-Rector of National Research University Higher School of Economics in Moscow, Russia (HSE University) and Head of the Center for Institutional Studies at HSE. Her main research interests are economics and sociology of higher education with a special emphasis on faculty contracts, university governance and markets for higher education. She is the author of works on economics and sociology of higher education and has published in leading Russian and international journals. She co-organized several large-scale international research projects that studied different higher education phenomena in comparative perspective including faculty salaries, academic inbreeding, global rankings. As Vice-Rector she coordinates basic research at HSE and is responsible for design and implementation of HSE instruments aimed to support, enhance and monitor faculty research productivity.



**Isak Froumin** is Distinguished Professor of the Institute of Education, National Research University Higher School of Economics in Moscow, Russia (HSE University). Professor Froumin has provided strategic advice on education to the Russian government as the leader of the Government Expert Committee for Strategy for the Russian education modernization through 2020. He also served as the Advisor to the Minister of Education and Science of Russian Federation from 2012 through 2016. Professor Froumin has edited and authored more than 300 publications including articles and books on educational reform and theory of education both in Russian and English. His research interests include the development of higher education systems, patterns of education development in countries with transitional economies, educational policies, educational and life trajectories.



**Laura Karabassova** was appointed Rector of Zhubanov University, Kazakhstan, in 2021. As an administrator, Laura manages one of the regional universities located in the Western Kazakhstan region. Laura's research interests are in multilingualism in higher and secondary education, CLIL, language policies and education, the role of teaching staff in realization of reforms, Bologna reforms in Kazakhstan. Author of works on major trilingual reform in Kazakhstan published in international journals and Kazakhstan.



**Larissa G. Titarenko** is a Professor in the Department of Sociology, Belarusian State University (Minsk, Belarus) and holds a doctorate in Sociology. Her research interests include higher education, history of sociology, sociology of youth, gender, culture. Dr Titarenko has participated in several international projects, and taught sociology in the US, Poland, Finland. She has published 5 textbooks, over 500 articles in 8 languages and more than 10 monographs in Russian and English.



**Maia Chankseliani** is Associate Professor of Comparative and International Education at the University of Oxford, UK. She researches societal, institutional, and policy forces that shape tertiary education and the potential of tertiary education and research for transforming societies. Maia Chankseliani has worked on a number of externally funded research projects and consultancies involving the UK Government agencies responsible for education and skills, UKRI/ESRC, British Council, US State Department, World Bank, Qatar Foundation, USAID, UNICEF, the European Commission. Maia Chankseliani is Associate Editor of International Journal of Educational Research. She serves on the Executive Committee of the Education and Development Forum (UKFIET). Twitter: [@MChankseliani](https://twitter.com/MChankseliani).



**Ikboljon Qoraboyev** (PhD, University of Toulouse) is Associate Professor of International Relations at the Higher School of Economics of M. Narikbayev KAZGUU University in Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan, and Associate Research Fellow of the United Nations University Institute on Comparative Regional Integration Studies (UNU-CRIS), Belgium. He is also a member of International Experts Council of 'El-Yurt Umidi' Foundation, created to promote human capital development under the Agency for Public Service Development of Uzbekistan. His research interests span across comparative regionalism studies, international relations and international law with a particular focus on Eurasia and Central Asia. His recent publications covered topics such as global governance, higher education and development, the Belt and Road Initiative from the perspective of comparative regionalism and engagement of domestic courts with international law.



**Susanna Karakhanyan**, PhD, is Higher Education Policy & Regulation Director at the Abu Dhabi Department of Education and Knowledge, UAE. She is Immediate Past President of the International Network of Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (INQAAHE). Dr Karakhanyan's expertise revolves around tertiary education in general and policymaking, governance and quality assurance in particular. She has worked with around 35 governments on capacity building, external reviews of governance structures, legal and policy frameworks and QA systems. She has led projects for the Council of Europe, UNESCO, the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, Open Society Institute, IREX and others. Dr. Karakhanyan holds an M.S.Ed in Educational Administration/Leadership from the University of Pennsylvania, USA and a PhD in Social Sciences from Radboud University Nijmegen, Netherlands.



**Bakhrom Mirkasimov** is Rector of Westminster International University in Tashkent (WIUT), Uzbekistan and a Global Labor Organization Fellow. Previously he was Deputy Rector for Research and Innovation and Principal Lecturer at WIUT. He is Managing Editor of the new international peer-reviewed open-access journal [Silk Road: A Journal of Eurasian Development](#). He was a Research Scholar at CERGE-EI, Duke University, Leibniz University, and Leibniz Institute of Agricultural Development in Transition Economies. He has worked at the German Institute for Economic Research and consulted for the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, Asian Development Bank, World Bank, UN Development Program, UN Population Fund, International Labor Organization, and International Food Policy Research Institute. He studied economics at Humboldt University, Vanderbilt University, and Boise State University, and has published widely.

## Moderators

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**Francesc Pedró** is the Director of the UNESCO International Institute for Higher Education in Latin America and the Caribbean (UNESCO-IESALC) since 2019. Previously, he led the education policy team at UNESCO and worked as senior policy analyst at the OECD center for Educational Research and Innovation (CERI). Francesc got his M.Ed. from the Autonomous University of Barcelona, a Ph.D. in Comparative Education from UNED and a Postdoc in Comparative Public Policy at the University of London Institute of Education. He acted as Pro-Vice-Chancellor at the Open University of Catalonia and is a Professor of Comparative Education Policies at the Pompeu Fabra University.



**Evgeniy Terentev** is a director of Institute of Education, National Research University Higher School of Economics Moscow, Russia (HSE University). He graduated from National Research University Higher School of Economics, Department of Sociology. Received a PhD in Sociology in 2016. His main research interests include student experience at higher education institutions, reforms of doctoral education in Russia and worldwide, transformation of academic profession.

## Outcomes

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The conference will contribute to increased interactions and networks among researchers, students, policymakers, and others in the higher education community, both within and beyond the ex-Soviet space.

Through the international reach of the hosts UNESCO IESALC and HSE University, the conference will also play an important role in bringing knowledge and sharing expertise among colleagues who typically occupy different epistemological and linguistic spaces.

To support engagement and knowledge sharing during and after the conference, the conference will be recorded and made available on UNESCO IESALC's website and YouTube channel.

A special issue of the informational publication *Higher Education in Russia and Beyond*, published by HSE University, will be released in April 2022.

For any questions, please contact Dana Abdrasheva, [d.abdrasheva@unesco.org](mailto:d.abdrasheva@unesco.org) or Darya Platonova, [dplatonova@hse.ru](mailto:dplatonova@hse.ru).