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EU FP7 Programme
**“Exploring the Security-
Democracy Nexus
in the Caucasus”**
CASCADE Project

CASCADE is a European EU-funded research project led by the Fondation Maison des Sciences de l'Homme (scientific coordinator: Dr. Laure Delcour). **CASCADE** was selected under the EU FP7 call for proposal "Security and democracy in the neighbourhood: The case of the Caucasus." The total value of the project is €2.5 million. The duration is 3 years (2014-2017).

Project approach

The project will de-compartmentalise research on the Caucasus by exploring linkages between societal challenges, political developments and conflicts and investigating the interactions between the North and South Caucasus, as well as between the Caucasus and its wider neighbourhood. On the basis of a strong comparative and interdisciplinary approach, **CASCADE** will seek to provide a more accurate understanding of how democracy and security are perceived, understood, experienced and exploited as political and social resources by Caucasus actors and other actors involved in the region. Drawing upon extensive fieldwork in the North and South Caucasus, including in the conflict areas and de facto States, **CASCADE** will generate a wealth of empirical data as well as new and important insights into security and democracy in the Caucasus. The project's outcomes will also be largely policy-driven and **CASCADE**'s impact will be considerable in terms of shaping EU policy toward the Caucasus. The project will act as a knowledge hub to spur debate and bring together academic and policy communities from Europe and the Caucasus.

Project objectives

The **CASCADE** project will 1) scrutinise Caucasian states and societies for the root causes of conflict and insecurity, 2) conduct synergetic research on democracy and security in the Caucasus, 3) analyse the links between the region and its wider neighbourhood, 4) provide forward-looking analysis on regional security and democratisation processes, and 5) develop a set of proposals on how the EU could enhance its role in the region.

Consortium

Led by the Fondation Maison des Sciences de l'Homme (FMSH), **CASCADE** brings together 8 research centres and institutes from across the EU, Russia and the Caucasus:

- Centre for Russian and East European Studies, University of Birmingham (CREES, UoB, United Kingdom)
- Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI, Sweden)
- Friedrich Schiller University Jena (FSU, Germany)
- Institute of Geography, Russian Academy of Sciences (IGRAS, Russian Federation)
- The Regional Center for Strategic Studies (RCSS, Georgia)
- Georgian Foundation for Strategic and International Studies (GFSIS, Georgia)
- International Centre for Human Development (ICHHD, Armenia)



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**Fondation Maison des sciences de l'homme
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UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM

**Centre for Russian and East European
Studies, University of Birmingham
(CREES, UoB, United Kingdom)**



STOCKHOLM INTERNATIONAL
PEACE RESEARCH INSTITUTE

**Stockholm International Peace Research
Institute (SIPRI, Sweden)**



Friedrich-Schiller-
Universität Jena

**Friedrich Schiller University Jena (FSU,
Germany)**



**Institute of Geography, Russian Academy
of Sciences (IGRAS, Russian Federation)**



**The Regional Center for Strategic Studies
(RCSS, Georgia)**



**Georgian Foundation for Strategic and
International Studies (GFSIS, Georgia)**



**International Center for Human
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