

# IREn5019 No War, No Peace: Frozen Conflicts in the Caucasus

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# The Caucasus

- Large mountainous zone,
- Small republics of the huge Soviet Union,
- Conflict countries from headline news.





# The Caucasus



# The Caucasus

- “The new world disorder”
- 8 conflicts: N-K, South Ossetia, Abkhazia, the Prigorodniy Rayon of North Ossetia and Chechnya – hundred thousand deaths, two million six hundred thousand refugees and Internally Displaces Persons.
- Ethnic based autonomous regions of Soviet era

# Geographical settings in the Caucasus

- Northern border: Krasnodar and Stavropol Krai, Russian mainland begins.
- Western border: eastern border of Ottoman empire.
- Southern border: Araxes river, Iran's northern border.
- Political map: three states- Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia plus North Caucasus, part of RF.
- 400, 000km<sup>2</sup> over 20 million people.
- North Caucasus and South or Trans-Caucasia (from Russian Zakavkaz) terms.

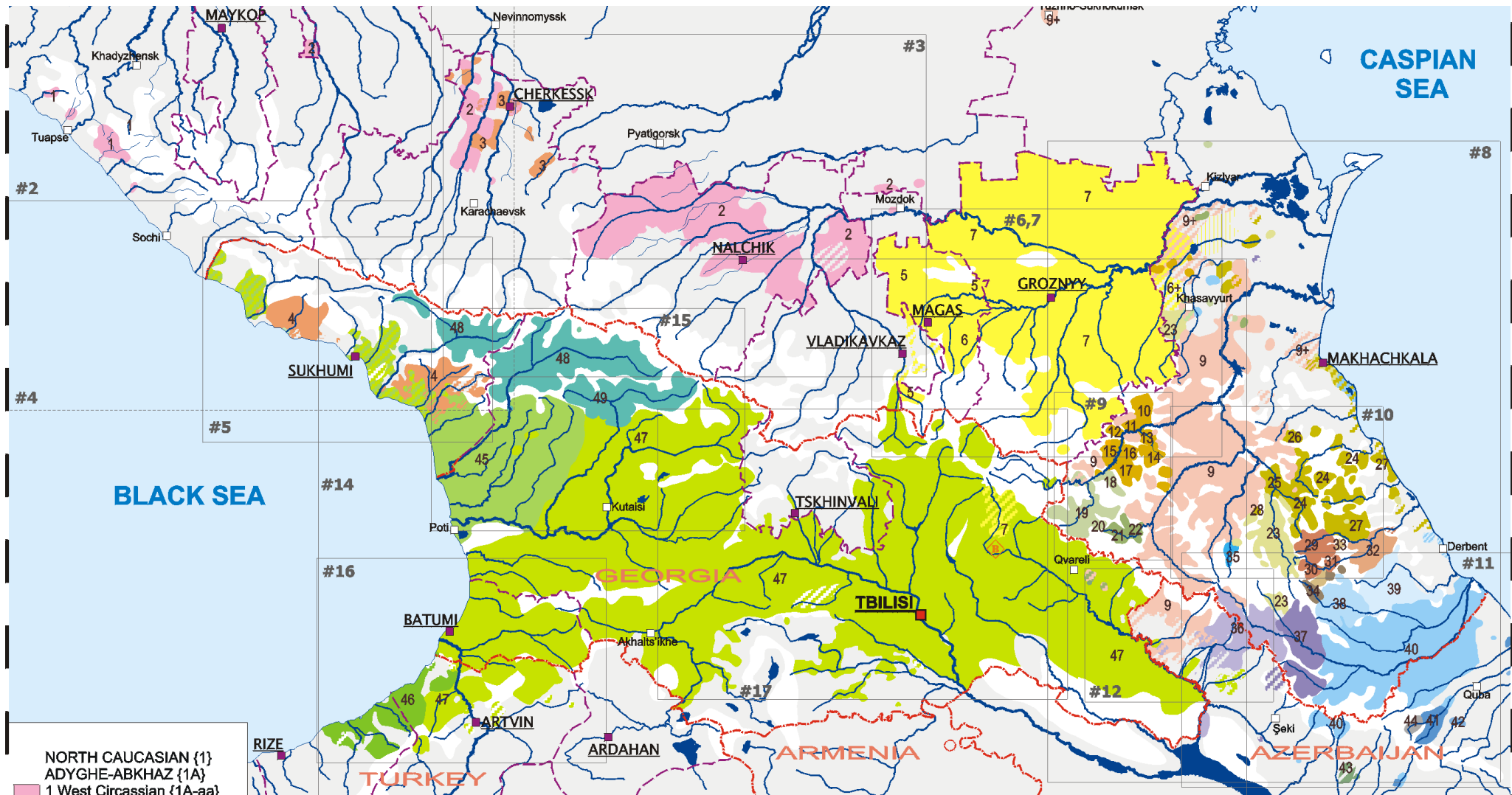
# Museum of peoples

- The North Caucasus: two groups
- 1. indigenous Caucasian peoples, the Vainakh peoples composed of Chechens, Ingush and Tsova-Tush and Daegstani peoples composed of Avars, Lezgins, Dargins and Laks and the Abkhaz and Circassian peoples.
- 2. Turkic and Iranian settlers, Ossetians and Tats.

# Ethnolinguistic Groups in the Caucasus Region







- NORTH CAUCASIAN {1}
- ADYGHE-ABKHAZ {1A}
- 1 West Circassian {1A-aa}
- 2 Kabardian {1A-ab}
- 3 Abkhaz {1A-ca}
- 4 Abaza {1A-cc}

- 9 Avar {1BB-a}
- 10 Andi {1BB-b}
- 11 Botlikh {1BB-c}

- 18 Wider Khvarshi {1BC-a}
- 19 Dido {1BC-b}
- 20 Hinukh {1BC-c}

- 26 Kadar {1BE-3}
- 27 Muirin {1BE-4}
- 28 Megeb {1BE-5}

- 35 Archi {1BF-a}
- 36 Tsakhur {1BF-b}
- 37 Rutul {1BF-c}

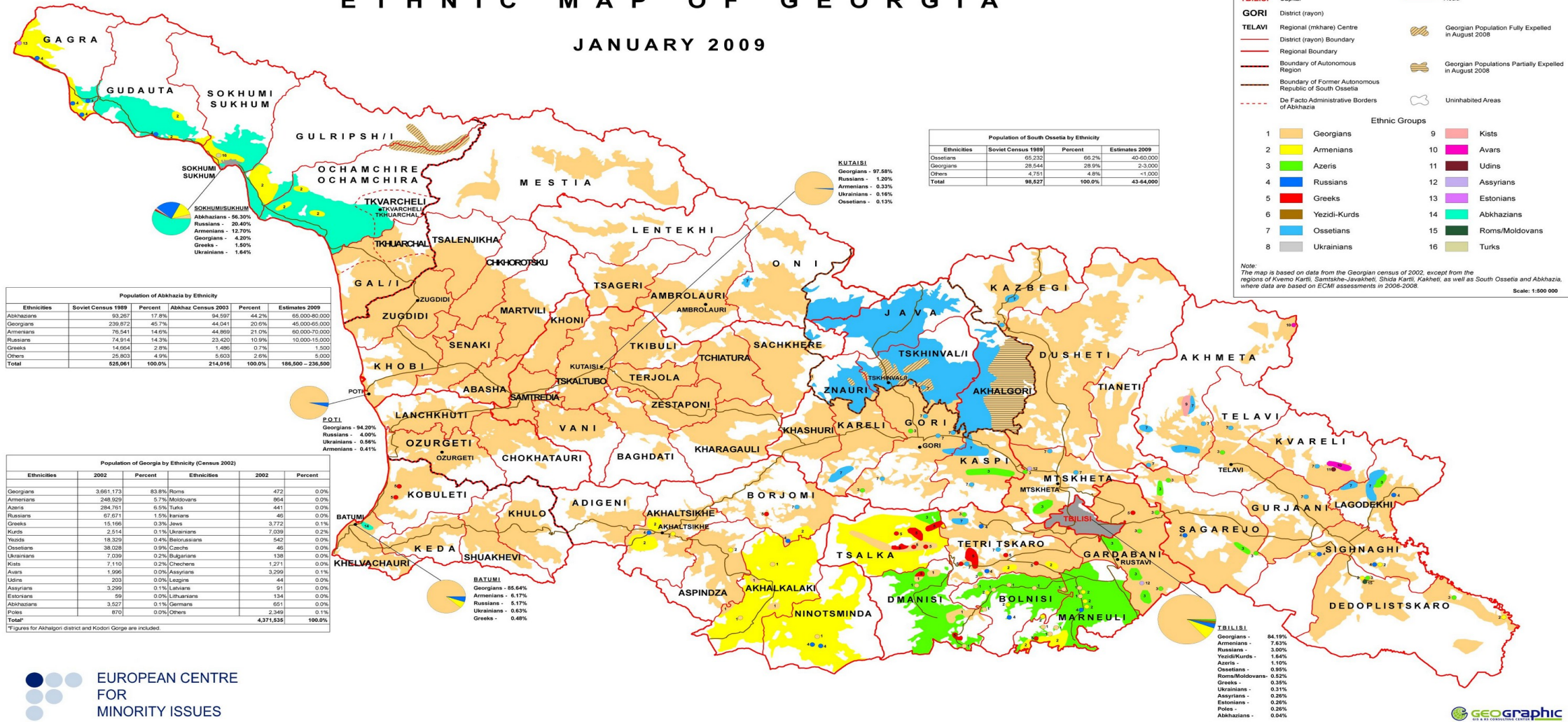
- 44 Khinalug {1BG-a}
- KARTVELIAN {2}

# The museum of people



# ETHNIC MAP OF GEORGIA

JANUARY 2009



**Map 3: Ethnic Settlement Patterns in Armenia and Azerbaijan, 1989**



# The crossroad of religions

- Islam both Shi'i and Ja'fari Shi'i Islam – majority of Azeris.
- Sunni tradition in Dagestan. Hanafi school in Chechnya and Ingushetia, the Turkic Karachais and Balkars, the Ajars of Georgia and minority of Azeris (15-25%), minority of Ossetians (20-30%) and Abkhazians (35%).
- Judaism: Georgian Jews, Tays and Mountain Jews in Azerbaijan and Dagestan.

# The crossroad of religions

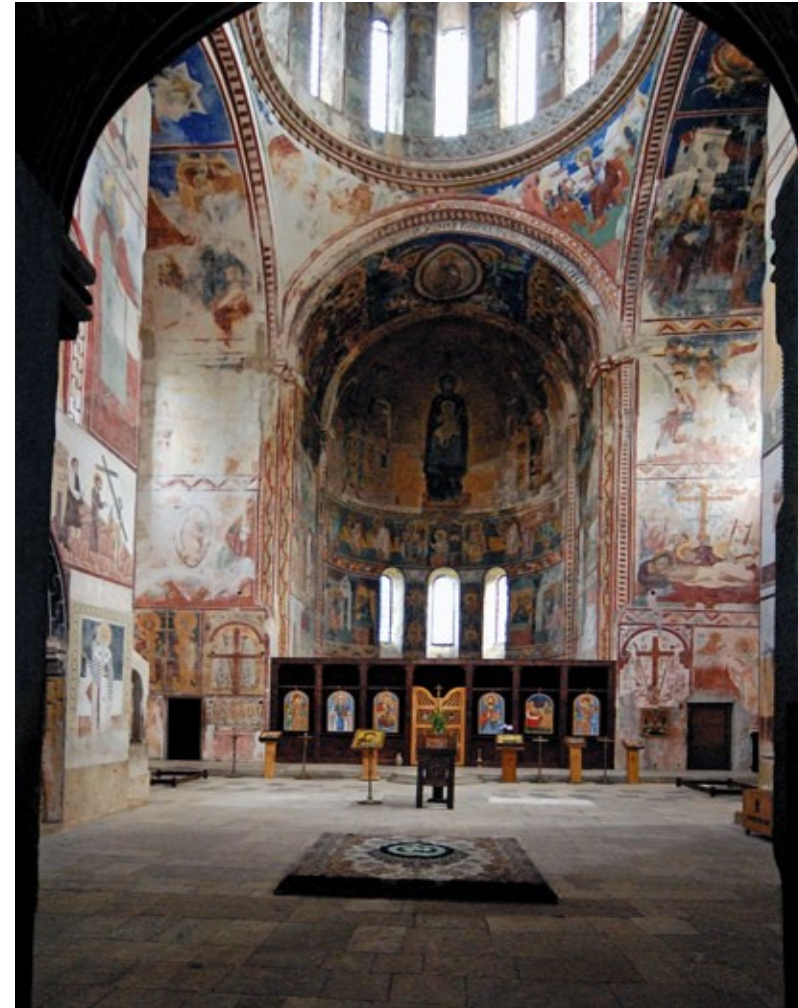
**Azerbaijan - a nation with a Turkic and majority-Muslim population.**



**The Armenian Apostolic Church**



# Georgia – Orthodox Christianity







# Languages



# Languages

## The Georgian alphabet

ა	ბ	გ	დ
A	B	G	D
ე	ვ	ზ	თ
E	V	Z	E
ი	კ	ლ	
I	K	L	
მ	ნ	ო	პ
M	N	O	P
ჟ	რ	ს	ტ
ZH	R	S	T
უ	ფ	ყ	ქ
V	U	P	K
ღ	ყ	შ	ჩ
GH	Q	SH	CH
ც	ძ	წ	ჭ
TS	DZ	TS	CH
ხ	ჯ	ღ	ვ
X	Q	J	H
ჟ	ფ	ზ	ც
H	F	SH	E

## The Armenian alphabet

THE ARMENIAN ALPHABET					
Ա	ա	aip	Մ	մ	men
Բ	բ	pen	Յ	յ	he
Գ	գ	kim	Ը	ն	noo
Դ	դ	tah	Շ	շ	shah
Ե	ե	yech	Ո	ո	vo
Զ	զ	zah	Պ	պ	chah
Է	է	ai	Պ	պ	bay
Ը	ը	yet	Պ	չ	chay
Թ	թ	to	Պ	ռ	rrah
Պ	ժ	zhay	Ս	ս	say
Ի	ի	ini	Վ	վ	vev
Լ	լ	lune	Ս	ս	dune
Խ	խ	kh	Ր	ր	ray
Ծ	ծ	dzah	Տ	տ	tso
Կ	կ	ghen	Ն	ն	hune
Հ	հ	ho	Փ	փ	pure
Ն	ն	tsah	Փ	ֆ	kay
Շ	ճ	ghad	Օ	օ	o
Պ	ղ	jay	Ֆ	ֆ	fay

## Changes in the Azerbaijan Alphabet Sequence in the 20th Century

Arabic 7th century - 1929		Early Latin 1923 - 1939		Cyrillic 1939 - 1991		New Latin since 1991	
English equivalency	Letter	English equivalency	Letter	English equivalency	Letter	English equivalency	Letter
a <sub>-art</sub>	آ	a	Aa	a	Аа	a	Aa
b	ب	b	Bb	b	Бб	b	Bb
p	پ	ch	Cc	v	Вв	j	Cc
t	ت	j	Çç	q	Гг	ch	Çç
s	س	d	Dd	gh	Гг	d	Dd
j	ج	e	Ee	d	Дд	e	Ee
ch	چ	ae	Əə	e	Ее	ae	Əə
h	ه	f	Ff	ae	Əə	f	Ff
kh <sub>-Scottish Gaelic</sub>	خ	g	Gg	zh	Жж	g	Gg
d	د	gh	Qq	z	Зз	gh	Qq
z	ذ	h	Hh	i <sub>-ing</sub>	Ии	h	Hh
r	ر	i <sub>-ing</sub>	Ii	i <sub>-Macedonian</sub>	Ыы	kh	Xx
z	ز	i <sub>-Macedonian</sub>	Ьь	y	Јј	i <sub>-Macedonian</sub>	Її
zh <sub>-parthian</sub>	ژ	y	Jj	k	Кк	i <sub>-ing</sub>	İi
s	س	k	Kk	g	Кк	zh	Јј
sh	ش	l	Ll	l	Лл	k	Kk
s	س	m	Mm	м	Мм	q	Qq
z	ذ	n	Nn	н	Нн	l	Ll
t	ت	o <sub>-hole</sub>	Oo	o <sub>-hole</sub>	Оо	м	Mm
z	ذ	o <sub>-word</sub>	Өө	o <sub>-word</sub>	Өө	n	Nn
ae <sub>-cat</sub>	ع	p	Pp	p	Пп	o <sub>-hole</sub>	Оо
gh	غ	q	Qq	r	Рр	o <sub>-word</sub>	Оо
f	ف	r	Rr	s	Сс	p	Pp
q	ق	s	Ss	t	Тт	r	Rr
k	ك	sh	Şş	u <sub>-put</sub>	Уу	s	Ss
g	گ	t	Tt	u <sub>-hole</sub>	Уу	sh	Şş
ng <sub>-spring</sub>	نگ	u <sub>-put</sub>	Uu	f	Фф	t	Tt
l	ل	u <sub>-hole</sub>	Yy	kh	Xx	u <sub>-put</sub>	Uu
m	م	v	Vv	h	Һһ	u <sub>-hole</sub>	Uu
n	ن	kh	Xx	ch	Чч	v	Vv
o	و	z	Zz	j	Її	y	Yy
h	ه	zh	Zz	sh	Шш	z	Zz
y, i	ي, ا	apostrophe	'	apostrophe	'	apostrophe	'

# Early history

- The advanced economy and favorable geographic and natural conditions of the area attracted the Byzantine, Persian, Mongol, Ottoman and Russian empires.
- Ancient countries of Caucasus: Armenia, Iberia, Colchis and Albania.



## Culture

The area was home to the well-developed bronze culture known as the Colchian culture.

Golden bracelets, c 5-4 centuries BC.



# Course goals

- By the end of the semester, students will be able to identify, analyze and evaluate who were the conflict parties? What were the parties' incompatible goals, values and interests? What were the trigger events and issues at stake? How the conflicts evolved and why they have never been resolved?
- The learning outcomes of the course will enable students upon completion to:
  - 1. Engage **critically with different theories** of ethnic conflicts.
  - 2. Obtain a broad knowledge of the **conflict escalations process** in the Caucasus region.
  - 3. Acquire insights of how political developments, socio-economic process and systemic features resulted into the outbreak of violence.
  - 4. Examine the nature of conflicts in the Caucasus with respect to **factors that generates** those conflicts and their change in time.
  - 5. Acquire knowledge of **international engagement** towards conflict settlement and establishment of democratic institutions in the Caucasus.

# Requirements

- Readings: Students are responsible for completing all readings before every class and coming to class prepared to discuss issues indicated for every session.
- Attendance: “spot attendance”.
- Take home exercises: There will be two take-home assignments during the semester. The length of the assignment should vary between 1800 and 3600 characters. Each of the assignments will be graded between 0 and 10 points.
  1. Are the conflicts in the Caucasus ethnic? If yes, explain why? If not, what type are the conflicts in this region? (choose only one conflict) Due to: 21 November 2020.
  2. Based on comparison of Russian and Western engagement in the Caucasus conflicts explain, which strategy is more successful for building sustainable stability in this region? Due to 12 December 2021.
- Presentation (10 points): Each student is required to present one presentation from the assigned literature for 10-12 minutes.
- Final written test: The final written test will contain 10 open questions from the mandatory literature. You will have a maximum of 60 minutes to complete the written test. There will be several terms of final examination in the Information System. Final Grading: The maximum is 60 points; the minimum to complete the course is 35 points.
- A 56 – 60 points , B 51 - 55 points , C 46 - 50 points , D 41 – 45 points , E 36 – 40 points , F less than 36 points.