

# University Research Capacity in Post-Soviet Countries: Case Studies of Armenia, Kazakhstan, and Russia, 19 November 2020



00:35:59 Maia Chankseliani: Dear participants, do start sharing your questions

00:38:36 Harley Balzer: Could all three presenters speak about the importance of international partnerships and the academic community's reaction to individuals who received foreign degrees?

00:39:50 Karin Johnson: Would Olga and Gulzhanat please describe or define what KZ means to do to become an international hub? Thank you.

00:40:12 Mark Johnson: Sona -- thank you for very interesting presentation. Do you have any sense of how effective the CRRC program has been (Caucasus Research Resource Centers), funded by Carnegie Corporation of New York (since 2003)? Or any sense of cumulative impact of CRRC together with other similar international aid programs for research?

00:40:52 Elaine Sharplin: What were the differences between STEM and HSS scholars?

00:40:55 richard everitt: In terms of academic partnerships - where does the data show is the most productive partnerships are with.... USA. UK China Russia? Thank you

00:41:49 Karin Johnson: (Note: I can speak with Olga and Gukzhanat offline to answer my questions. Thank you.)

00:41:51 Mokhidil Mamasolieva: My question for Armenian case: Have you been able to identify the most popular language for publishing in Armenia? Thank you!

00:42:00 alan deyoung: Are there any national and/or regional HSS conferences, and do they provide a role in improving national research cultures?

00:42:09 Mark Johnson: And to follow Harley Balzer -- an important issue is how those who receive international PhDs and return to research careers in the region are -- or are not -- able to sustain their research work, and relations with advisors and potential co-authors -- what are the key barriers to continuing such work? What could be done to improve ongoing support for such research networks?

00:42:43 Zhansaya: I am 4th year student, I'm from Kazakhstan. My question, is it important to have IELTS certificate for Armenia`s university? (My level of English is upper-intermediate)

00:47:32 Chokan Laumulin: I would like to comment, if possible, please

00:47:58 Bard Hekland: A question on Kazakhstan: To my knowledge, president Tokayev has stated that there is too much focus on higher education and a need to transfer funding to vocational training. He also seems to be more concerned with modernisation of agriculture and pay less attention to IT and advanced technologies than what was the case under Nazarbayev. Is this a correct interpretation, and if so, how does this influence the research agenda of universities in Kazakhstan?

00:48:50 Айгуль Садыкова: My name's Aigul. I am a doctoral student from KZ. Can anyone tell what makes industry-university collaboration succeed? how far are Universities in yr places interested in cooperating with employers to train competitive future specialists?

00:48:51 Mokhidil Mamasolieva: my question to all presenters: when we think of research capacity in post-Soviet universities, the first thing that comes to mind is how universities in these countries are trying to awaken epistemic curiosity to undertake research among their academic staff? As we know previously, the Academy of sciences were focal point for knowledge production and university staff were not encouraged to do research. I wonder how the universities in Armenia, Kazakhstan and Russia ensure intellectual excitement of undertaking research within their departments?

00:53:12 Kanat Yermekbayev: In the UK undergraduate students can spend one year in an industry sector. How can we transfer

00:55:30 Kanat Yermekbayev: sorry, do any of these countries have this kind of opportunities? If, not then how can we bring this to our countries? Thanks

00:55:49 Karin Johnson: @Igor, in terms of research activities going on in Russia outside the academy (industry for example), I agree. Some universities are already pursuing this.

00:56:26 Vutha Ros: I'm Vutha, a PhD candidate from the University of Hong Kong. My question is to what extent are post-Soviet social scientists able to do research which is accepted by Western scholars?

00:57:15 Neil Collins: Have there been significant changes to the governance of research ethics in Kazakhstan or Central Asia generally?

00:59:38 Akmarzhan Nogaibayeva: You mentioned about Kazakhstan becoming as a research central hub in central Asia. I am curious to know at what level Kazakhstan`s relationship with with bordering counties located in Asia?

01:04:58 Marko Turk: Thank you for interesting presentations. I have a comment related to the research results, which are very similar and comparable with the research results from the international collaborative research projects in which I participated. The projects were CAP (Changes in the Academic Profession) and EUROAC (The Academic Profession in

Europe: responses to societal challenges). Therefore, I strongly suggest to compare the results from Kazakhstan and Armenia with the research results from the projects mentioned above because you will find similarities in methodology but as more important in the results which you can use for comparison and developing further research.

My question is related to the research framework in the Russian universities. How do you perceive the importance of teaching and research nexus in university context, which has been stated in the literature for ages, if the universities are primarily focused on teaching?

01:09:16 Sherzod Khaydarov: My question is to Olga and Gulzhanat. How KZ is aiming to become an international hub, by strengthening and internationalizing national universities or by establishing private universities and foreign branch campuses?

01:12:57 Mark Johnson: Igor -- very true, especially the inevitable pull of teaching and other university (administrative) responsibilities for returning young faculty. Real challenge becomes how to locate and leverage adequate "follow-up" funding for research cooperation, co-authorship, and other activities (after PhD) that could sustain collaborative research on a genuinely peer-to-peer and mutually beneficial basis

01:16:08 Igor Fedyukin: Mark, sure, I agree

01:19:13 Victorița Trif: Thank you!

01:19:30 Akmarzhan Nogaibayeva: Thank you very much for all presenters!

01:19:55 Olga Mun: Thank you so much for attending our seminar and please feel free to e-mail us for more questions and answers :)

01:20:06 Alexandr Klyagin: thank you!

01:20:07 Nikoloz Parjanadze: Thank you, it was interesting

01:20:08 Mary Beth Marklein: Thank you all!

01:20:09 Emma Sabzalieva: What a brilliant seminar and stimulating discussion. Congratulations and thank you!

01:20:11 Vutha Ros: thank you

01:20:13 Nikoloz Parjanadze: Thank you for the chance to attend

01:20:13 Isak Froumin: thanks

01:20:17 ketevan gurchiani: Thank you!

01:20:20 Elise Ahn: Thanks to the panel and to Maia for organizing this panel!

01:20:22 CGHE Webinars: Has the Covid-19 Pandemic Accentuated Inequality in the Higher Education Sector? Evidence from India

01:20:27 Ruoqi Cao: Thank you

01:20:35 CGHE Webinars: Register here: <https://www.researchcghe.org/events/cghe-seminar/has-the-covid-19-pandemic-accentuated-inequality-in-the-higher-education-sector-evidence-from-india/>

01:20:39 Natia Sopromadze: Thank you all!

01:20:40 Sherzod Khaydarov: thank you very much for such an interesting seminar