

**“Emerging Technologies in Conflict Prevention:
Leveraging Technology for Peacebuilding in the
South Caucasus”**

Istanbul, 10-13 April 2025

11 April 2025, PANEL 1, 09.30-11.00: “The Role of Emerging Technologies in Conflict Resolution and Peacebuilding”

- The South Caucasus region, which has experienced longstanding tensions and conflicts, presents both challenges and opportunities for the integration of innovative technologies into peace processes. It is now the time to explore how the emerging technologies, such as artificial intelligence (AI), big data analytics or digital diplomacy, as well as common challenges such as the ethical implications of applying such new technologies (e.g. neurotechnology) can provide ways to support conflict resolution and peacebuilding in the region beyond the existing (geo)political divides.
- Digital tools become increasingly relevant in countering disinformation and fostering dialogue and emerging technologies can help addressing these issues more effectively. Moreover, emerging technologies could be harnessed by peace-making actors to eradicate violence and maintain peace. These types of technologies are often referred to as PeaceTech, that is technologies, such as data analytics and Artificial Intelligence (AI), which are being leveraged by peace-making actors to transform conflictual situations into landscapes of peace and security. However, this workshop should specifically exclude discussions about how emerging technologies could enhance the military capabilities of the South Caucasus republics.
- The first panel should set the stage by examining the transformative impact of emerging technologies on peacebuilding more generally. This panel will explore the capabilities of emerging technologies to support conflict prevention, conflict management, conflict mediation, and conflict resolution,

as well as peacebuilding and peace consolidation. Possible questions to be addressed in the presentations and subsequent discussions might include:

- What is PeaceTech and how relevant could it be for the South Caucasus region?
- What could cyber technologies do in support of conflict resolution and peacebuilding?
- What examples are there for the successful implementation of such technologies in support of peace in other conflict-stricken regions?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages of integrating cyber technologies in sensitive fields such as conflict resolution and peacebuilding?
- What are the advantages and challenges of using or relying on AI and other cyber technologies in the design and conclusion of peace agreements?
- How could the emerging technologies facilitate the inclusion of the public and the civil society in conflict resolution and peacebuilding efforts?
- How could cyber technologies help educate the public, and in particular the younger generation, on conflict resolution and peacebuilding?

11 April 2025, 16.15-17.30, Interactive Discussion, Part 1

- As many of you know, the Interactive Discussion is the main platform that allows this Group to develop actionable policy recommendations. The co-chairs invite all participants to make constructive proposals for policy recommendations, relevant to the topics discussed earlier today. As always, these policy recommendations will be concentrated by the co-chairs into a 4-page document and disseminated throughout the PfP Consortium network. This session is held under Chatham House rule.

- New technologies have empowered conflict resolution practitioners by providing access to diverse resources and data, enabling them to develop innovative mediation strategies, monitor cease-fire agreements, and facilitate humanitarian aid delivery. These technologies have also led to the creation of new conflict resolution tools, such as online dispute resolution platforms and virtual reality simulations. Moreover, strategic foresight tools and methodologies play a crucial role in conducting informed analyses that incorporate future insights into strategic planning and policy-making for both conflict prevention and resolution.
- The aim of this workshop is to determine the state of play and the opportunities for using cyber technologies for peacebuilding in the South Caucasus region. To that end we should take into consideration all options available **for trust building and cross-border cooperation aiming to enhance the potential for an inclusive, long-lasting peace**. These might include, but should not be limited to:
 - enhancing relevant public communication and dialogue;
 - strengthening governance and transparency;
 - early warning and conflict prevention;
 - cybersecurity;
 - digitalization of regional transit corridors;
 - eLearning, Working and Networking for Peacebuilders;
 - virtual and augmented reality for reconciliation.
- How could cyber technologies facilitate the inclusion of the public and the civil society in conflict resolution and peacebuilding efforts?
- How could cyber technologies help educate the public, and in particular the younger generation, on conflict resolution and peacebuilding?
- How could cyber technologies in general, and especially PeaceTech be harnessed to incentivize and support regional cooperation in the South Caucasus?

- How could cyber technologies/PeaceTech be used to enhance conflict resolution and peacebuilding efforts in the South Caucasus?
- How can the local academic and research organizations, and the civil society from each South Caucasus country participate in the creation, development, and implementation of PeaceTech?
- How can existing and future PeaceTech projects be supported?
- What role for the youth from the region in developing PeaceTech?