

George SANIKIDZE



Current title and affiliation: Professor at the Ilia State University.
Director of the G. Tsereteli Institute of Oriental Studies at the same University

Date & place of birth: October 24, 1962. Tbilisi, Georgia

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Research interests:

History and politics of the Middle Eastern countries (especially Iran); Georgian and Caucasian interactions with the Middle Eastern countries; Problems connected with Islam and Islamic movements; Question of 'Orientalism' and East-West interactions; Middle Eastern historiography.

Education:

1979–1984 Studied at the Iv. Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University, Faculty of Oriental Studies, Department of History.

Academic/Scientific Degrees:

1990 Earned 'Candidate of Sciences' degree in 'World history'. Tbilisi State University and Institute of Oriental Studies (Thesis – "The Creation of the Isma'ili State in Iran").

2001 Earned 'Doctor of Sciences' degree (PhD) in 'World history'. Tbilisi State University and Institute of Oriental Studies (Thesis – "Shi'ism and State in Iran").

Teaching/Work Experience:

2010-present Professor at the Ilia State University. Courses: 1) Islam and Politics (BA); 2) History of the Middle East (BA); 3) Middle East Today – Politics, Economy, Societies (BA); 4) Georgia and Islamic World of the Middle East (BA); 5) The Middle East – Stereotypes and Reality (BA); 6) The East and the West: History of Relations and Perceptions (MA); 7) Islam and the State in the Middle East (MA); 8) Islam and Politics in the Caucasus (MA); 9) International Terrorism (MA); 10) Seminars for PhD students.

2002-present Director of the G. Tsereteli Institute of Oriental Studies (From 2010 The Institute became the Research Institute of the Ilia State University).

2010-present Invited Professor at the Iv. Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University, Faculty of Humanities. Courses: 1) History of Ancient and Medieval Iran (2010-2017, BA); 2) History of Modern Iran (2010-2017, BA); 3) Iran Today – Politics, Economy,

	Society (2010-2017, BA); 4) Historiography of Iran (MA).
2006–2010	Professor at the Iv. Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University, Faculty of Humanities. Courses: History of Ancient and Medieval Iran; History of Modern Iran; Iran Today – Politics, Economy, Society; History of the Middle East; Georgia and Islamic World of the Middle East (BA); Religion and State in the Middle East; The East and the West during the Modern Times (MA).
2001–2005	Invited Professor at the Iv. Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University, Faculty of Oriental Studies. Courses: Introduction to International Relations; Political Processes in the Modern Middle East.
1996–2002	Dean and Professor of the Faculty of International Relations and History of the Tbilisi Institute of Asia and Africa. Courses: History of Iran; Geography of Iran; Introduction to International Relations; Islam.
1986–2002	Research Fellow at the G. Tsereteli Institute of Oriental Studies of the Georgian Academy of Sciences.

G. Sanikidze has been working as a visiting scholar at Paris-Sorbonne-III and Paris-Sorbonne-IV Universities, University of California - Berkeley, Universities of Hokkaido and Osaka.

Academic Supervising:

Five PhD theses are defended under the supervision of G. Sanikidze: of T. Karosanidze (2005); T. Japaridze (2005); T. Pitiurishvili (2009); I. Paghava (2015); Tamar Lekveishvili (2020). G. Sanikidze was co-supervisor and reviewer of the thesis of N. Mirashvili, defended in Paris-Sorbonne-I University (2008). Several MA theses are defended under the supervision of G. Sanikidze. Currently G. Sanikidze is the supervisor of 5 PhD students.

Selected Publications:

1. (Editor and the author of the preface) J.-P. Gamba, *Travel to the Caucasus*, II. Translation from French into Georgian by M. Mgaloblishvili. Tbilisi: National Academy of Sciences, 2021.
2. "Particularities of the Safavid Policy towards the Eastern Georgia." In *Idea of Iran*. Vol. 10. The Second Safavid Century. Ed. by Charles Melville. London: I.B. Tauris, 2021, 211-240. (in English).
3. "Information about Azerbaijan by the French Consul in Tbilisi Gamba, and his Assessment of the Prospects of Baku in International Trade (1820)." In *History and Culture. Facts and Values*. Collection of Articles dedicated to the Anniversary of Acad. N. Valikhanli. Ed. by F. R. Jabbarov. Baku: Nurlar, 2020, 570-579. (In Russian)
4. "G. Tsereteli Institute of Oriental Studies – 60." In: *G. Tsereteli Institute of Oriental Studies – 60. Selected Papers 1960-2020* (Ed. by G. Sanikidze), 2020, 9-22. (in English).
5. "A Historical Survey of the Georgian–Iranian Relations in the Nineteenth Century." *Ibid*, 496-511 (in English, reprint, slightly enlarged version).
6. (Co-author N. Nakhutsrishvili). "Graves of the Christian Georgians in Iran." *The Near East and Georgia*, XII. (Ed. by G. Sanikidze). Tbilisi: Ilia University Press, 2020, 103-134 (in English).
7. (Co-author N. Nakhutsrishvili). "Georgians on the Doulab Christian Cemetery of Tehran." In *Georgians on the Doulab Christian Cemetery of Tehran*. Ed. by G. Sanikidze & N. Nakhutsrishvili. Tbilisi: Ilia State University Press, 2019, 8-37 (in Georgian, summary in English).
8. (Co-author N. Nakhutsrishvili). "Additional Information about the Compagnoni Catholic Family in Georgia and in Iran." *Ibid.*, 78-83 (in Georgian, summary in English).
9. (Co-author Irine Natchkebia). "Tbilisi in the Works of French and Francophone Travelers (Second Half of the 19th C. – Beginning of the 20th C.)." *The Near East and Georgia*, XI. (Ed. by G. Sanikidze). Tbilisi: Ilia University Press, 2018, 268-309 (in Georgian), 310-325 (in English).

10. "Iran and the South Caucasian States: Major Aspects of Interactions." In *Actas del VI congreso de la Sociedad Española de Iranología*, celebrado en Murcia los días 6 y 7 octubre de 2016. De. by A.G. Kavanagh & J.R. Vargas eds. Madrid, 2018, 97-108. (in English).
11. "Muslim Communities of Georgia: Old Problems and New Challenges." *Islamophobia Studies Journal*, 2018, Vol. 4, #2, 247-265. (in English).
12. "Tbilisi as a Bridge Between Iran and Europe, from the Nineteenth to the Early Twentieth Centuries." In *Iran and the West: Cultural Perceptions from the Sasanian time to the Islamic Republic*. Ed by D. Bagot & M. Wiskin. London: I.B.Tauris, 2018, 163-178. (in English).
13. (Co-author I. Natchkebia). Tbilisi in the Works of French and Francophone Travelers (19th C. – beginning of the 20th C.). In *Between East and West. Iranian and French Authors about 19th Century Georgia* (Ed. by G. Sanikidze). Tbilisi: Ilia State University Press, 2018, 214-313. (in Georgian, summary in English).
14. (Co-author I. Natchkebia). The Place of Georgia in European-Iranian Economic Interactions in the 19TH Century: Unfinished and Unrealized Projects. *Ibid.*, 314-344. (in Georgian, summary in English).
15. *Voyages du Chevalier Chardin en Perse et autres lieux de l'Orient (Renseignements sur la Géorgie)*. Traduction du français, introduction et commentaries par Mzia Mgaloblichvili[†] et Géorges Sanikidzé. Deuxième édition, modifié et étendu. Tbilisi: Ilia State University Press, 2018 (in Georgian, summary in French).
16. (Co-author Irine Natchkebia). Information of French Travellers about Tbilisi (First half of the 19th c.). *The Near East and Georgia*, X. (Ed. by G. Sanikidze). Tbilisi: Ilia University Press, 2017, 274-312. (In Georgian, summary in English).
17. The Significance of Georgia for Iranian-Western Commercial Relations during the 19th C. In *The Near East and Georgia*, IX. (Ed. by G. Sanikidze). Tbilisi: Ilia University Press, 2016, 159-170. (In Georgian, summary in English).
18. (Co-author N. Nakhutsrishvili). Georgia and Iran: Results of 25 Years Relations and Future Prospects. In *Ibid*, 306-328. (In Georgian, summary in English).
19. *The Islamic State and the "Great Game" in the Middle East*. Expert Opinion No. 44. GFSIS. 2015. <http://gfsis.org/media/download/library/articles/sanikidze/44-sanikidze-ENG.pdf> (In English and in Georgian).
20. (Co-author N. Nakhutsrishvili,). Mazandarani Studies in Georgia – The Past, Present and Perspectives. In *The proceeding of the first international conference on the local history of Mazandaran*. Havzhin Publishers. Sari, Islamic Republic of Iran. 2015, 672-684 (In English).
21. 19th century French Perception of Georgia: from the Treaty of Finkenstein to Trade and Tourism. In *Anthropological Researches*, (Ed. by Fr. Companjen), II. Tbilisi, 2015, 47-67 (In English).
22. Perception of History and the Evolution of the Nationalist Discourse in Iran. In *The Near East and Georgia*, VIII. (Ed. by G. Sanikidze). Tbilisi: Ilia University Press, 2015, 177-203. (In Georgian, summary in English).
23. Edward Said's 'Orientalism' – Reality and Fiction. In *Proceedings of the International Conference 'Humanities in Information Society'*, II., v. III. (Ed. by M. Giorgadze). Batumi: Sh. Rustaveli State University Press, 2014, 273-279. (In Georgian, summary in English).
24. Main Genres and Peculiarities of the Medieval Muslim Historical Writing. In *Georgian, Western and Oriental Historiographical Tradition*, (Ed. by N. Kighuradze). Tbilisi: Ilia State University Press, 2014, 59–78. (In Georgian, summary in English).
25. The 20th Century Iranian Historical Writing. In *Ibid.*, 79-106. (In Georgian, summary in English).
26. Western Perceptions of the East: Debates about Edward Said's Orientalism. In *Ibid.*, 107–166. (In

- Georgian, summary in English).
27. Iranian Nuclear Program. In *The Middle East Today* (Electronic journal). (Ed. by G. Sanikidze). 2013, 1, 32-39, <http://www.iliauni.edu.ge/files/PDF3/1.pdf> (In Georgian).
 28. Some Remarks about Iranian and Turkish Crisis (End of the WWII and First Post-war Years). In *The Near East and Georgia*, VII. Tbilisi: Ilia University Press, 2012, 136-150. (In Georgian, summary in English).
 29. (Co-author and Editor), *History*, VII. Textbook for secondary school students. Tbilisi: Bakur Sulakauri Publishing, 2012-2018. (In Georgian).
 30. (Co-author and Editor), *History*, VIII. Textbook for secondary school students. Tbilisi: Bakur Sulakauri Publishing, 2012-2019. (In Georgian).
 31. (Co-author and Editor), *History*, IX. Textbook for secondary school students. Tbilisi: Bakur Sulakauri Publishing, 2012-2019. (In Georgian).
 32. (Co-author and Editor), *History*, X. Textbook for secondary school students. Tbilisi: Bakur Sulakauri Publishing, 2012-2019. (In Georgian).
 33. (Co-author and Editor), *History*, XI. Textbook for secondary school students. Tbilisi: Bakur Sulakauri Publishing, 2012-2019. (In Georgian).
 34. (Co-author and Editor), *History*, XII. Textbooks for secondary school students. Tbilisi: Bakur Sulakauri Publishing, 2012-2019. (In Georgian).
 35. Islam in Georgia in 19th- Beginning of the 20th cc. In *Proceedings of the Conference 'The Role of Georgia's Muslims in the Construction of Georgian State'*. Tbilisi, 2011, 26-41. (In Georgian).
 36. Turkey, Iran and the South Caucasus: Challenges for Regional Policy after the 2008 August War. In *Electronic Journal of Political Science Studies*. January 2011, Vol:2 No:1, 78-89. <http://www.esbadergisi.com/index.php?lang=en>.
 37. Article "Kartli" in *Encyclopaedia Iranica*, V. XV, Fasc. 6, 628-629. New York, Encyclopaedia Iranica Foundation, 2011.
 38. (Co-author and editor). *A History of the Middle East and Its Interrelations with the South Caucasus* (19th c.-beginning of 21st c.). Tbilisi: Ilia State University Press, 2011. (In Georgian).
 39. Mirzā Mohammad Taghī Kashānī. *Mosāferat-e Teflīs (Travel to Tbilisi)*. (Editor, introduction and commentaries). Qom: Marashilibrary, 2010. (In Persian).
 40. (Co-author) *History*, XI. Textbook for secondary school students, Tbilisi: Bakur Sulakauri Publishing, 2010-2011. (In Georgian).
 41. Islam et musulmans en Géorgie Contemporaine. Dans *La Géorgie entre la Perse et l'Europe*, (sous la dir. de I. Nathkhebia et F. Hellot-Bellier). Paris: L'Harmattan, 2009, 275-298. (In French).
 42. The 'Tobacco' Protest: First Oppositional Movement of the Shi'a Clergy in Iran. In *The Near East and Georgia*, VI. Tbilisi: Nakeri, 2009, 100-109. (In Georgian, summary in English).
 43. The 'Middle' and the 'Near' East: for the History of Terms. In *Ibid.*, 194-205. (In Georgian, summary in English).
 44. (Co-author N. Gelovani). *Islam (Religion, History, Civilization)*. Tbilisi State University Press, 2009. (In Georgian, summary in English).
 45. Ideological Foundations of the Safavid State. In *Scientific Paradigms*. (Ed. by G. Cheishvili). Tbilisi: Meridiani, 2009, 207-227. (In Georgian, summary in English).
 46. Orthodoxy vs Islam: Russian Imperial Policy towards Georgia's Muslims. In *Ab Imperio*, 4. Eastview Press, 2008, 267-281. (In English).
 47. An Historical Survey of Georgian-Iranian Relations in the Nineteenth Century. In *Journal of Persianate Studies*, Vol. I, No.2, Leiden: Brill, 2008, 148-173. (In English).
 48. Islamic Resurgence in the Modern Caucasian Region: 'Global' and 'Local' Islam in the Pankisi

- Gorge. In *Regional and Transregional Dynamism in Central Eurasia: Empires, Islam and Politics*. (Ed. by T. Yuama), Sapporo: Hokkaido University Press, 2007, 263-282. (In English).
49. Once again about the Causes of the Islamic Revolution in Iran. In *The Near East and Georgia*, V. Tbilisi: Nekeri, 2008, 160-173. (In Georgian, summary in French).
 50. Muslim Minorities of Georgia. *Proceedings of ICANAS-38*, Ankara, 2008, 279-290. (In English).
 51. (Co-author N. Kighuradze). Paolo Vita-Finzi – First Consul of Italy in Georgia (1928-1931). In *Perspective-XXI*, 9. Tbilisi, 2007, 37-44. (In Georgian, summary in French).
 52. (Co-author). *Union Catalogue of Persian, Arabic, Ottoman Turkish, Kurdish and Azerbaijan Serials and Newspapers in the Libraries of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Republic of Georgia*. Tehran: Centre for Media Studies and Researches, 2006.
 53. *Shi'ism and the State in Iran*. Tbilisi: Universal, 2005. (In Georgian, summary in French).
 54. The Shi'a Clergy during the Safavid Period. In *The Near East and Georgia*, IV. Tbilisi: Nekeri, 2005, 41-48. (In Georgian, summary in French).
 55. La pensée révolutionnaire de l'Imam Khomeyni. *Proceedings of the International Congress 'Elucidation of the Islamic Revolution'*. Tehran, 2005, 45-47, 89-91 (In French and in Persian).
 56. (Co-author E. Walker). *Islam and Islamic Practices in Georgia* (Berkeley Program in Soviet and Post-Soviet Studies. Working Paper Series), 2004; http://socrates.berkeley.edu/~bsp/publications/2004_04-sani.pdf. (In English).
 57. The Georgian 'Rose Revolution': Causes and Effects. *Caucasus and Central Asia Newsletter*, The Caucasus and Central Asia Program at the UC Berkeley, Issue 5, Winter 2004, 8-18; <http://socrates.berkeley.edu/~bsp/caucasus/newsletter/2004-05ccan.pdf>. (In English).
 58. L'Imamat et la question d'autorité dans la théologie médiévale ismaélienne. In *Mullah Sadra I World Congress, V. 9, Religion and Gnosis*. Teheran, 2004, 179-194. (In French).
 59. From Nationalism to Islamism: Iranian Oppositional Movement in 1960ies. In *Orientalist*, II (Ed. by Th. Gamkrelidze and G. Chikovani). Tbilisi: 2003-2204, 208-222. (In Georgian, summary in French).
 60. Jacques-François Gamba – First Consul of France in Tbilisi (1821-1833). In *Perspective-XXI*, 4. (Ed. by G. Chikovani and G. Sanikidze). Tbilisi: Logos, 2002, 21-29. (In Russian, summary in French).
 61. Shi'a Clergy and Political Authority in Iran. In *The Near East and Georgia*, III. Tbilisi: Chronograph, 2002, 22-51. (In Georgian, summary in French).
 62. Islam, politique et société d'après Ayatollah Khomeyni. In *Orientalist*, I. Tbilisi: 2001, 67-85. (In French).
 63. Evolution of the Political Doctrine of Imamisme. *Proceedings of the Conference dedicated to the 90th Anniversary of Prof. V. Gabashvili*. Tbilisi, 2001, 56-59. (In Georgian).
 64. *Islam and the Muslims in Georgia Nowadays*. Tbilisi: Logos, 2000. (In Georgian, summary in English).
 65. How Policy is Made (Series of Brochures "Modern Democracy – Main Theories and Concepts"). Tbilisi, 2000. (In Georgian).
 66. Political Views of Ayatollah Khomeyni. In *Typological Researches*, IV. (Ed. by M. Jiqia). Tbilisi, 2000, 352-360. (In Georgian, summary in French).
 67. Islamism, Fundamentalism, Integrism, Traditionalism – for the Definition of Concepts. In *Perspective-XXI*, 2. Tbilisi: Logos, 1999. 15-32. (In Georgian, Summary in French).
 68. *The Crisis of Kosovo*. (Brochure, appendix of Perspective-XXI, 2). Tbilisi: Logos, 1999. (In Georgian, Summary in French).
 69. The Doctrine of Imamat of Ismailis and Its Political Aspects. In *The Near East and Georgia*, II. Tbilisi: Chronograph, 1999, 88-101. (In Georgian, summary in English).

70. Co-author). *Islam. Encyclopaedic Dictionary*. Tbilisi, 1998 (in Georgian).
71. *Ayatollah Khomeyni and Islamic Revolution*. Huzur, 37. Tehran, 1998, 137-151. (In Persian).
72. (Co-author B. Nachkhebia). *Terrorism*. (Brochure). Tbilisi, 1997. (In Georgian).
73. From the History of the Social Struggle in 12th c. in Iran. In *Jevanmard*, IV. (Ed. by M. Gabashvili). Tbilisi: Metsniereba, 1991, 105-113. (In Georgian).
74. *Peculiarities of the Isma'ili Movement in 12th C. Iran*. (Brochure). Tbilisi, 1990. (In Georgian).

Articles accepted for Publication:

1. "Georgia's Relations with Turkey and Iran. In: Georgia's Foreign Policy in the 21st Century: Challenges for a Small State." Ed. by Tracey German, Stephen F. Jones, Kornely Kakachia. London: McMillan, 126-159.
- Up to 100 articles and interviews in Georgian and foreign press.

Editorial works:

- *The Near East and Georgia*, Annual multilingual academic journal (editor-in-chief from 2005).
- *The Middle East Today*, Electronic journal (in Georgian) ((editor-in-chief from 2014).
- *Georgians on the Doulab Christian Cemetery of Tehran*. Tbilisi: Ilia State University Press, 2019.
- *Between East and West. Iranian and French Authors about 19th Century Georgia*. Tbilisi: Ilia State University Press, 2018.
- Amoev. K., *Yezids and their religion*. Tbilisi: Neker, 2017.
- Gamba, J. F., *Voyage Dans La Russie Méridionale, Et Particulièrement Dans Les Provinces Situées Au-Delà Du Caucase, Fait Depuis 1820 Jusqu'en 1824*, V.II (Translation from French into Georgian by Mgaloblishvili, M.) (in print).

Translation:

- Rayamon Aron. *Paix et guerre entre les nations* (translated from French into Georgian). Tbilisi: Mars, 2009, 834 p.

Selected Conference Papers:

1. Between Scylla and Charybdis: Georgian princes and Russian-Persian confrontation at the beginning of the 19th century. *International Conference "Oriental Studies at the Crossroads of Civilisations."* M.P.Dragomanov National Pedagogical University, Kiev, 26/05/2021 (on-line, zoom platform).
2. Georgia and Iran: Results of 30 Years Relations and New Challenges. On-line conference Challenges and Achievements of Independence and State Building in Korea and Georgia. Ilia State University, Georgia, Hankuk University of Foreign Studies, Republic of Korea, 31/03/2021. (on-line, zoom platform).
3. The First Consul of France in Tbilisi Jacques-François Gamba (1821-1833) about the Perspectives of the Georgian-Iranian trade Relations." *International Conference dedicated to the 60th Anniversary of the Foundation of the G. Tsereteli Institute of Oriental Studies*. Tbilisi, December 17-19, 2020 (on-line, zoom platform).
4. Iran and the Nagorno-Karabagh Conflict. *International Conference dedicated to the 60th Anniversary of the Foundation of the G. Tsereteli Institute of Oriental Studies*. Tbilisi, 17-19/12/

2020 (on-line, zoom platform).

5. On the Edge of Empires: Georgia between Ottoman Empire and Safavid Iran in Early Modern Times. Online Conference 'Intellectuals and Lost State Sovereignty: Movements for Cultural Enlightenment and Preservation of National Languages', Ilia State University, Georgia, Hankuk University of Foreign Studies, Republic of Korea, 10/12/2020. 2020 (on-line, webex platform).
6. Iran and the South Caucasian Countries: Different Realities, Different Opportunities. *ASMEA Thirteenth Annual Conference Understanding the Regions: Politics, Identity, and History of the Middle East and Africa*. Washington D.C., 18 -20/11/2020. (on-line, zoom platform).
7. (Co-author). "Documents about Georgia in the Archives and Libraries of Iran" – Preliminary Results of the Implication of the Project. *International Conference 'East and West: Linguistic, Cultural, Historical Interactions' dedicated to the 90th anniversary of Academician Thomas V. Gamkrelidze*. Tbilisi, December 12-15, 2019.
8. Activities of Akaki Khoshtaria in Iran – the Case of 'Rupento' (according to the newly discovered archival materials). *Ibid.*
9. Some aspects of interactions of Iran with Independent South Caucasian Republics (1918-1921). *Ninth European Conference of Iranian Studies (ECIS 9)*. Institute of Iranian Studies, Freie Universität Berlin, September 9-13, 2019.
10. Perception of the Ottoman Empire in the Georgian historiography. *International Round-table 'Caucasian and Central Asian Perceptions of Ottoman Empire'*, organized by French Institute of Anatolian Studies, Istanbul, June 27, 2019.
11. Peculiarities of the Safavid Policy towards the Eastern Georgia. *International Symposium 'The Idea of Iran: The Safavid Era'*. Organized by the London Middle Eastern Institute (SOAS) and University of Cambridge, London, May 11-12, 2019.
12. A Window to the West and to the East: Iranian and European Perceptions of the 19th C. Tbilisi. *International Conference 'Intellectual and cultural relations between Iran and Central Asia and the Caucasus'*. Organized by Tehran University, Tehran, May 1-2, 2019.
13. European Religious Orientalism towards the Oriental Christianity in the Early Modern Times: the Case of Georgia. International Conference *Orientalism, Neo-Orientalism and Post-Orientalism in African, Middle East, Latin American, Asian/Chinese Studies (dedicated to 15th Anniversary of Memory of Edward Said (1935-2003) and 40th Anniversary of His Book (1978))*. Shanghai University, Institute of Global Studies, May, 17-18, 2018.
14. Georgia and Iran: Reflections on the Past 25 Years' Relations. *8th Biennial Conference of the Association for the Study of the Persianate Societies*. Tbilisi, March, 15-18, 2018.
15. Muslim Communities of Georgia: Old Problems and New Challenges. *International Conference 'Islamophobia and the End of Liberalism'*. UC Berkeley, April 21-23, 2017.
16. Muslims and the State in Nowadays Georgia: Local Problems and Global Challenges. *5th Global International Studies Conference*. Taipei, National Taiwan University, April, 1-3, 2017.
17. Iran and the South Caucasian States: Results of 25 Years Relations and New Challenges. *VI Congreso Internacional de la Sociedad Española de Iranología*. Universidad De Murcia, Murcia (Spain), October, 6-7, 2016.
18. In the Search of the Lost Kingdom: Activities of Georgian Princes during the 1804-1813 Russo-Persian War. *Eleventh Biennial Iranian Studies Conference*. University of Vienna, August, 2-5, 2016.
19. Economy and politics: European Trade with Iran via Georgia during the 1st half of the 19th c. *International Conference „Great Game“ and Georgia: East-West Political, Cultural and Economic Interactions during the First Half of the 19th C.* organized by by the G. Tsereteli Institute of Oriental Studies of the Ilia State University and the Pambrock College of the Oxford University.

- Tbilisi, September, 30 – October 2, 2015.
20. Iran and the South Caucasus during the Post WWI Years and in the 1920ies. *The 7th Biennial Convention of the Association for the Study of Persianate Societies*. Istanbul, September 08-11, 2015.
 21. Muslim Communities in Georgia: A Comparative Study. *The 9th World Congress of the International Council for Central and East European Studies*. Makuhari (Japan), August 3-8, 2015.
 22. Tbilisi as a Bridge between Iran and Europe in the 19th C. *International Conference Iran and the West: Converging Perspectives*. University of Warwick. Coventry (UK), July 1-3, 2015.
 23. Iran and Georgia: Perspectives of Interactions in the 21th C. *International Conference 'Looking back and ahead: an insight into Iranian influence in the Caucasus'* organized by the G. Tsereteli Institute of Oriental Studies of the Ilia State University and Observatory of the Caucasus/French Institute of Anatolian Studies. Tbilisi, October 1-2, 2014.
 24. Edward Said's 'Orientalism' – Reality and Fiction. *International Conference 'Humanities in Information Society', II*. Batumi, October 28-30, 2014.
 25. At the Beginnings of the 'Cold War': Reflections on Iranian and Turkish Crises. *Seventh Annual ASMEA Conference 'Searching for Balance in the Middle East and Africa'*. Washington, D.C., October 30 – November 1, 2014.
 26. Iran and the South Caucasus: Challenges for Regional Policy in the 21st Century. *The 10th Biennial Iranian Studies Conference organized by International Society for Iranian Studies*. Montreal, August, 6-9, 2014.
 27. At the Crossroad of the East and the West: Activities of the Iranian Community in the 19th C. Tbilisi. *The International Conference of Iranian Studies 'Power of Identity. Iranian World in Research.'* Warsaw, 21-23/04/1014.
 28. Turkey, Iran and Muslim Minorities of Georgia. Sixth Annual ASMEA Conference -Tides of Change: Looking Back and Forging Ahead in the Middle East and Africa. Washington, D.C., November, 21-23, 2013.
 29. Some Remarks about Iranian and Turkish Crises. *The Sixth Biennial Convention of the Association for the Study of Persianate Societies*. Sarajevo, September, 1-6, 2013.
 30. The Islamic Factor in the Politics of Iran and Turkey toward Georgia. *The Ninth Biennial Iranian Studies Conference organized by International Society for Iranian Studies (ISIS) in partnership with Iran Heritage Foundation*. Istanbul, 01-04/08/2012.
 31. Bahrain uprising and Iran. *Joint workshop of the Moshe Dayan Center for Middle Eastern and African Studies of the Tel Aviv University and the G. Tsereteli Institute of Oriental Studies of the Ilia State University and 'The Arab Spring: Causes and Effects.'* Tel Aviv, March 26- 27, 2012.
 32. New Trends in Iranian Policy towards the South Caucasus. *The Fifth Biennial Convention of the 'Association for the Study of Persianate Societies*. Hyderabad (India), January 4-8, 2012.
 33. The Azeri Community of Georgia: History and Modern Political Realities. *International Seminar 'Azerbaijan Republic 2010: Regional Role, Extraregional Importance'*, Organized by Caucasus Studies Institute of the Tehran University. Tehran, November 19, 2011.
 34. Between East and West: 19th French Perception of Georgia. *International Symposium 'Encounters between the Caucasus and the West: Image and Reality.'* Amsterdam, April 23-24, 2010.
 35. Iran, Turkey and the South Caucasus: Challenges for Regional Policy after 2008 August War. *World Congress for Middle Eastern Studies*. Barcelona, July 19-24, 2010.
 36. Iran and the Conflicts in the South Caucasus. *International Congress of Contemporary Research on the Middle East Studies*, Organized by the German Middle East Association for Contemporary Research and Documentation (DAVO). Bonne, October 8-10, 2009.

37. Between two Worlds: Westernization of the Iranian Community of Tbilisi in the 19th C. *Annual Conference on Iranian Studies at the University of Osaka*. July 27, 2009.
38. Iran and the South Caucasus: Historical Heritage and Modern Political Realities. *International Conference 'The Iranian Revolution: Thirty Years'*, organized by the Center of the Middle Eastern Studies of the Rutgers University. New Brunswick (USA), February 7-8, 2009.
39. Understanding the Current Situation in Georgia: Roots and Results of the Conflict. *The 16th International Conference on Central Asia and the Caucasus 'Confrontation in the Caucasus: Roots, Dimensions and Implications'* organized by the Institute for Political and International Studies. Tehran, 28-29/10/ 2008.
40. Iranians in 19th C. Tbilisi. *International Conference 'Middle East and Caucasus: History, Reality, Perspectives', Dedicated to 50th Anniversary of the Foundation of the Institute of Oriental Studies of the Armenian National Academy of Science*. Yerevan, November 5-6, 2008.
41. Orthodoxy versus Islam: Russian Imperial Policy towards Georgia's Muslims during the 19th Century. *International Workshop 'Russia and Islam in the Archives of Eurasia'*, organized by the Harriman Institute, Columbia University. New York, December 1-2, 2007.
42. Muslim Minorities of Georgia. *International Congress of Asian and North African Studies (ICANAS 38)*. Ankara, September 10-15, 2007.
43. 'Islam mondialisé' et relations intra- et interconfessionnelles en Géorgie. *Colloque international 'Dialogue, Culture et Mondialisation'*, organisé par Groupe d'Etudes Orientales, Slaves et Neo-hellénique de l'Université Mark Bloch de Strasbourg. Strasbourg, November 22-24, 2005.
44. Islamic Resurgence in Caucasus: New Actors and Modern Political Realities. *International Workshop 'New Horizons in Central Eurasian Studies'*, organized by Slavic Research Center of the Hokkaido University and Faculty of Law and Letters of the University of Tokyo. July 10-11, 2005.
45. Concerning Some Peculiarities of the 'New Terrorism'. *International Conference Dedicated to the 100 Years Anniversary of Academician G. Tsereteli*. G. Tsereteli Institute of Oriental Studies, Tbilisi, December 3-5, 2004.
46. Islam and Interconfessional Relations in Georgia. *Conference at the Institute of Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies of the University of California, Berkeley*. Berkeley, April 14, 2004.
47. Alexander Dumas in Tbilisi. *International Conference 'Tbilisi in the 19th Century: History and Culture'*, organized by Università Ca' Foscari Venezia, Dipartimento di studi Eurasiatici. Venice, June 26-28, 2003.
48. Jacques François Gamba – Premier consul de France à Tbilissi. *International Conference 'Tbilisi in the 19th Century'*, organized by G. Tsereteli Institute of Oriental Studies, G. Chubinasvili Institute of the History of Georgian Art, in the frame of the project supported by INTAS). Tbilisi, June 10-13, 2002.
49. L'Imamat et la question d'autorité dans la théologie medievale ismaélienne. *I World Congress on Mulla Sadra. Islam-West Philosophical Dialogue*. Tehran, May 19-24, 2001.
50. Les chiites en Géorgie. *International Round-Table 'Goergia between Iran and Europe'*, organized by CNRS, UMR "Monde iranien" (France), G. Tsereteli Institute of Oriental Studies an Tbilisi Institute of Asia and Africa. Tbilisi, April 20-21, 2001.

G. Sanikidze has presented papers on up to 80 papers on local and international scientific forums. He was the head and the member of organizational committees, the discussant and the moderator of several academic forums.

G. Sanikidze has delivered lectures in Paris-Sorbonne-III and IV Universities; University of California, Berkeley; University of Montana; Hokkaido, Vaseda and Osaka Universities (Japan); Universities Iberoamericana and Anahuak (Mexico).

Major fellowships and awards:

2020	ASMEA (Association for Study of the Middle East Africa) Research program grant (Project: “Peculiarities of the Iran’s Policy towards the South Caucasian Countries: Different realities, Different Opportunities”) (individual)
2020-2022	Joint project of the Hankuk University of Foreign Studies (Korea) and of the Ilia State University Georgia and Korea: “Parallels in the Historical Experience of Colonialism, Struggle for Independence, Liberation and State Building” (participant)
2019-2022	Grant of the “Rustaveli National Scientific Foundation” for the project ‘Documents about Georgia in the Archives and Libraries of Iran’ (Project coordinator)
2017-2018	Grant of the “Rustaveli National Scientific Foundation” for the project ‘Georgian Sector of the Christian Cemeteries Complex in Tehran (Historical-Cultural Study, Fixation of Problems of Conservation and Outlining ways of Their Resolution)’ (Project leader).
2016-2018	Grant of the “Rustaveli National Scientific Foundation” for the project ‘Between East and West: Iranian and French Authors about 19th Century Georgia.’ (Participant).
2013-2014	Grant of the “Rustaveli National Scientific Foundation” for the project ‘Georgian, Western and Oriental Historiographical Tradition: Comparative Studies’. (Participant).
2012	Received ‘Farabi International Award’ in the field of Islamic and Iranian studies (Iran, supported by UNESCO).
2011	Grant of UC Berkeley-CRRC Field Development Project. Work on the project “Orientalism’ and Caucasus: Georgia Between East and West”.
2009	Stipend of the ‘Japan Foundation’. Visiting scholar at the Institute of World Languages of the Osaka University. Work on the Project “Japan and the Problems of the Greater Middle East”.
2009-2010	Grant of the “Rustaveli National Scientific Foundation” for the project “History of the Middle East and Its Relations with the South Caucasus”
2009	Grant of “Open Society – Georgia Foundation” for project “Photoimages of 19 th c. Georgia – Collection from the Golestan Palace of Tehran”
2006	Stipend of ‘Maison des Sciences de l’Homme’. Visiting scholar at the Institute of Iranian Studies of the Paris-Sorbonne-III University, France. Member of the UMR “Monde Iranien et Indien”
2005	Grant of the CDC program of the Central European University (Budapest, Hungary). Preparation of the course for graduate students “History as a Science”.
2005	Stipend of the Hokkaido University (Japan). Visiting scholar at the Slavic Research Center of the Hokkaido University. Work on the Project “Islamic Radicalism in the Post-Soviet Countries”
2003.X-2004.VI	Fulbright Stipend. Visiting scholar at the Institute of Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies of the University of California, Berkeley, USA Work on the Project “Islam, Globalization and the Caucasus”.
2003 (II-V)	Stipend of ‘Maison des Sciences de l’Homme’. Visiting scholar at the Institute of Iranian Studies of the Paris-Sorbonne-III University, France. Member of the UMR “Monde Iranien et Indien”.
2002	Grant of the “Open Society – Georgia Foundation” for the Project “Islam and Muslims in Ajara” (Head of the research group).
2001-2003	Grant of INTAS (Foundation of European Union). Participation in the International Project “Tbilisi in 19 th c. – History and Culture” (Head of the research group of the G. Tsereteli Institute of Oriental Studies).

- 2001 Grant of the Institute of International Social History of the Amsterdam University, Netherlands. Preparation of the catalogue of Oriental serials and newspapers in the libraries of Georgia.
- 2000-2001 Stipend of the “Social Science Support Program” of the “Open Society – Georgia Foundation”. Preparation of the textbook for graduate students “International Relations Today. Globalization of World Politics”.
- 1998-1999 Grant of “Eurasia Foundation”. Participation in the Project of Social Research Center “Modern Democracy: Main Theories and Concepts”.
- 1996-1997 ‘Diderot’ Stipend of ‘Maison des Sciences de l’Homme’. Visiting Scholar at the Department of Arabian and Islamic Studies of the Paris-Sorbonne-IV University, France. Member of the UMR “Civilisation islamique”.
- 1997-2005 Grants of the Georgian National Academy of Sciences.

Trainings:

- 2010 Teaching the 'Spatial Turn': Critical Concept for a Globalizing world. Budapest, International Center for Alternative Culture. ReSET Project.
- 2009 Challenges for the Study of Religion in the Multiconfessional Societies. Budapest, Curriculum Resource Center.
- 2008 Development of Strategies of Electronic Learning. Tbilisi, InWent (Capacity Building International, Germany).
- 2002 Summer school in the Central European University “Civil Society and Private Sector in the Global Governance”. Budapest.
- 2002 Summer School of the Center For Social Sciences “Development of MA Courses in Social Sciences”. Bakuriani.
- 2001 Winter School of the Center For Social Sciences “How to Teach Social Sciences”. Likani.

Organizational Membership:

- 2007– present Member of the “Association for the Study of Persianate Societies” (Head of the Regional branch).
- 2013 – present Member of the “Association for the Study of the Middle East and Africa”.
- 2010– present Member of the “International Society for Iranian Studies”
- 2016– present Member of the “Central Eurasian Studies Society”

Knowledge of Foreign Languages:

French (fluent), Russian (fluent), English (fluent), Persian (intermediary).

Computer Skills:

Microsoft Word, Excell, PowerPoint, Adobe Acrobat, Google drive etc.

