



## **South Caucasus & Baltic Parliamentarians' Conference Strategies for Reform and Cooperation**

**Co-organized with the Parliament of Georgia**

- Dates** 06 - 09 February, 2006
- Venue** Tbilisi, Georgia
- Background** This is a follow-up Marshall Center conference to the February 2005 conference titled, "The Baltic Region and the South Caucasus: Strategies for Cooperation and Patterns of Reform", held in Vilnius, Lithuania.
- Purpose & Objectives** This conference will help promote and continue to develop relationships between the Baltic states and South Caucasus states by sharing lessons about the processes of defense transformation and the transition to stable democracies.
- Specify requirements for effective parliamentary involvement in national security policy and budgeting processes.
  - Impart knowledge of relationships between parliaments and ministries.
  - Discuss democratic control and civilian management of the armed forces.
  - Promote democratic reform.
- Participants** Approximately 56 participants, including the speakers of parliament and ten each members of parliament from Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia; the speakers of parliament and four each members of parliament from Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania.
- Participants breakdown:
- The speakers of parliament from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania = 6
  - 5 members each of parliament from multiple parties representing the defense and security committee from Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia = 15.
  - 5 members each of parliament from multiple parties representing the budget and finance committee from Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia = 15.
  - 2 members each of parliament from two different parties representing the defense committee from Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania = 6.
  - 2 members each of parliament from two different parties representing the budget committee from Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania = 6.
  - Speakers representing: DCAF, EU, GER, NATO, NATO PA, OSCE, USA = 8
- Moderators, interpreters and staff (approximately 9 each) are not included.
- Methodology** Presentations followed by moderated question & answer sessions and panel discussions. Conference languages: English and Russian.
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